

**The William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program
Subsidized or Unsubsidized Direct Student Loans
Ursinus College – Office of Financial Aid**

You are eligible for federal student loans but have not borrowed federal student loans in the past. If you wish to borrow a Federal Student Loan for the 2026-2027 academic year, please review your eligibility and complete the required steps as outlined below. Please contact the Office of Financial Aid with any questions at financialaid@ursinus.edu or 610-409-3600.

Loans through this federal government sponsored student loan program are in the student's name and do not require a co-signer or credit check. The interest rate on Direct Subsidized and Direct Unsubsidized loans disbursed on or after July 1, 2026, and before July 1, 2027, is 6.52%.

Subsidized loans are awarded to students with financial need. No interest is charged while the student is enrolled at least half-time in school.

Unsubsidized loans are awarded to students who do not have financial need. Interest on unsubsidized loans accrues while a student is enrolled in school.

FEDERAL LOANS – ANNUAL LIMITS*

Federal Direct Loan	Dependent Student	Independent or Dependent Student whose parent is unable to obtain a PLUS Loan
First Year	\$5,500 of which no more than \$3,500 may be subsidized.	\$9,500 of which no more than \$3,500 may be subsidized.
Second Year	\$6,500 of which no more than \$4,500 may be subsidized.	\$10,500 of which no more than \$4,500 may be subsidized.
Third Year and Beyond	\$7,500 of which no more than \$5,500 may be subsidized.	\$12,500 of which no more than \$5,500 may be subsidized.

**Federal Direct Subsidized/Unsubsidized Loans will also have a 1.057% origination fee withheld through September 30, 2026 – new origination fees take effect October 1 and the Federal Department of Education will announce new fees prior to this date.*

Note: If a student's parent is unable to obtain a PLUS loan, the student may qualify for additional unsubsidized Federal Direct Student Loans. At the first-year and sophomore levels, the student may borrow up to a maximum of \$4,000 in additional funds each year. During the junior and senior years, the amount increases to \$5,000 per year. The repayment period for all Direct Student Loans (both subsidized and unsubsidized) is 10 years. Each loan has a grace period of 6 months after half-time enrollment ends.

Obtaining a Federal Direct Loan, Step-By-Step

Step 1: Complete your Entrance Counseling online: First time borrowers must complete Entrance Counseling prior to applying for the Federal Direct Loan. Visit www.studentaid.gov, click on "Complete Aid Process", "Complete Entrance Counseling." Your results will be sent to Ursinus College electronically. Parents should NOT complete the session on behalf of their student, as this federal requirement is designed to benefit each student's understating of his/her rights and repayment responsibilities.

Step 2: Complete your Master Promissory Note (MPN) online: Borrowers must complete the Master Promissory Note (MPN) at www.studentaid.gov. If you are continuing your application after completing the Entrance Counseling session you will not need to "log in" for a second time. Simply proceed to "Complete Aid Process", then "Sign Loan Agreement (MPN)".

Step 3: Contact Office of Financial Aid to Reinstate Loans: Borrowers must contact the Ursinus College Office of Financial Aid in writing by email at financialaid@ursinus.edu to request the reinstatement of their loan eligibility for the 2025-2026 academic year.

- Provide all requested information.

*****Please note, Ursinus College Office of Financial Aid will receive electronic notification that you have completed the Entrance Counseling and MPN, but we will not reinstate loans until you have requested their reinstatement.**