

Federal Direct PLUS Loan Option **(for parents of dependent students only)**

1. A Federal Direct PLUS loan may be an option for a parent to fill the gap between financial aid awards and school costs for the student. It is only available to parents of dependent undergraduate students. The parent is the borrower (not the student) and must meet certain credit criteria. Parents may borrow up to the cost of education less any other financial aid the student is eligible for.
2. A parent must first fill out a credit application on the website, <https://studentloans.gov>. Follow the instructions to “**Apply for a PLUS Loan**” under the “**Parent Borrowers**” tab. The RSHS Financial Aid Office will be notified electronically in approx. 24-48 hours of the application result.
3. If the PLUS loan is approved (and the parent elects to move forward with the process), the parent will use their FSA ID to “**Complete Loan Agreement for a PLUS Loan (MPN)**” and to “**Complete PLUS Credit Counseling**” also under the “**Parent Borrowers**” tab.
4. If the PLUS loan is denied for credit reasons, the parent will receive a denial notice. (Note: the MPN and Credit Counseling are NOT required if the PLUS loan is denied.) If this occurs, the dependent student may receive an additional Federal Unsubsidized Direct loan up to \$4,000 for the academic year if desired.
5. The student is required to stop by the Financial Aid Office to sign an updated Award letter as needed depending on the PLUS application results.

*If you have any questions, please contact Linda Ross in the Financial Aid Office at **484-628-0106** or email her at linda.ross@towerheath.org .*