

Follow these steps to apply for federal student aid:

Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at StudentAid.ed.gov. Include the Syracuse University school code: **002882**.

Sign the FAFSA electronically using your Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID. You can create an FSA ID on the [Federal Student Aid website](https://www.federalstudentaid.gov), or when logging in to the FAFSA.

View your Financial Aid To-Do List on [MySlice](https://myslice.syr.edu), Syracuse University's online self-service system. Your To-Do List contains the required forms and documents needed to apply for your [Federal Direct Student Loan](https://myslice.syr.edu).

- To sign on to [MySlice](https://myslice.syr.edu), first activate your SU Net ID. (If you have not yet activated your Net ID, you can do so now at the University's [Information Technology Services site](https://www.syr.edu/it).)

Complete the Syracuse University [Federal Direct Loan](https://myslice.syr.edu) application found on your [MySlice](https://myslice.syr.edu) Financial Aid To-Do List, "Grad FA App-Online Programs."

If you wish to receive the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan, complete Entrance Counseling and electronically sign the Loan Agreement Master Promissory Note (MPN) at [StudentLoans.gov](https://www.studentloans.gov).

- Both the Entrance Counseling and MPN must be completed in order for funds to be disbursed to your student account at Syracuse University.
- If you have previously borrowed federal student loans, be sure to update your lender(s) with contact information and enrollment status (for loan deferment purposes). Loan servicer contact information can be found on the [National Student Loan Data System](https://www.nsls.gov) (NSLDS).

Your [MySlice](https://myslice.syr.edu) Financial Aid To-Do List will display other requirements for loan approval. Please check it weekly. If a Master Promissory Note and/or Entrance Counseling session is required, you'll find instructions on your To-Do List.

Evaluate your need for additional funding such as the Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan through the Department of Education, or private education loans through various lenders of your choice.

Note: *The Direct Graduate PLUS Loan is credit-based. Please visit StudentAid.ed.gov for detailed information regarding PLUS loan credit requirements.*

- Prior to borrowing through the Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan program, you may need to review your credit reports for potential issues. Note: Contact any of the following credit bureaus for information: Experian, Equifax or TransUnion.
- The Direct Graduate PLUS Loan credit decision expires within 180 days from applying. While you may apply for the Direct Graduate PLUS Loan within six months of the start of your program, we recommend you wait until you have been admitted and have received your award letter for the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan. Information can be found on the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS).

Once you have made the decision to apply for the Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan, complete the [Direct PLUS loan request](https://myslice.syr.edu).

- If approved for the Direct Graduate PLUS Loan, complete a separate Loan Agreement (MPN) for this loan.
- If declined for the Direct Graduate PLUS Loan, you can re-apply with a co-signer (endorser) or appeal the denial through the Department of Education.

Other Important Information

- Check your [MySlice](https://myslice.syr.edu) To-Do List often.
- Keep your address and contact information updated on [MySlice](https://myslice.syr.edu) and with your lenders (for loan deferment purposes).
- Read more about financial aid on [Syracuse University's Financial Aid website](https://www.syr.edu/financialaid).