Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loans are made through the U.S. Department of Education. The Parent PLUS loan may cover the difference between the cost of attendance minus any other aid received, which is reflected on the financial aid offer notification. Borrower (the parent) must complete the following two steps. The parent must apply at studentaid.gov and not have an adverse credit history. The student must complete the FAFSA in order to receive a Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan. Applications for the upcoming academic year become available after June 1st. For further information on Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loans, visit studentaid.gov.

- Log onto studentaid.gov using the parent's FSA ID and password.
- Once logged in, choose Apply for a Parent PLUS Loan application. This will start the credit check process for all borrowers and will direct new borrowers to complete a Master Promissory Note (MPN).
- Benedictine University will be notified of the approval, the Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan is certified and added to the student’s financial aid offer within 7-10 days.
- If the credit check is denied, additional information will be provided to your parent by contacting the Federal Direct Loan Servicing Center at 1-800-557-7394; the parent can receive more specific information regarding the decision.

Apply for a Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan Application

Step 1:
Section 1: Loan Information: Student Information; Authorization for School to Use Loan funds; School and Loan Information
Section 2: Borrower Information: Parent’s demographic information
Section 3: Review: Information entered
Section 4: Credit Check and Submit: Certifications
Complete the Master Promissory Note (MPN)

Step 2:
Section 1: Borrower Information -- remember, the borrower is the parent
Section 2: School Information -- enter Benedictine University, Illinois
Section 3: Requires two personal references with different U.S. addresses
Section 4: Review – information entered
Section 5: Sign & Submit – Agree to the Terms and Conditions and sign the MPN before you can submit it.

If you are denied a Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan you can take one the following actions:

a. Get an endorser. Select “I will obtain an endorser”. The endorser will need to establish their own FSA ID. If approved, you will need to complete a Master Promissory Note and PLUS Credit Counseling.

b. File an appeal. Select “I want to provide documentation of extenuating circumstance.” If approved, you will need to complete a Master Promissory Note and PLUS Credit Counseling.

c. Not interested in obtaining PLUS loan. Select “I do not wish to pursue a PLUS loan at this time.” Your student may receive up to $4,000 per award year in an additional Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan.

If you need assistance with these steps, please contact Federal Direct Loan Applicant Services at 1-800-557-7394.