

## 2025-2026 FEDERAL DIRECT PARENT PLUS LOAN INSTRUCTIONS

Parents of Dependent FAFSA filers are eligible to apply for a Federal Direct PLUS Loan which can be used towards his/her education at Catawba College. The Federal Direct PLUS Loan is a federally sponsored loan that is available to the parents of dependent undergraduate students. It **features a fixed interest rate and long-term repayment options**. The interest rate will be determined by July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025. While parents of all income levels are eligible, a credit-worthiness evaluation is required. Parents may borrow up to the cost of attendance minus any other aid received by the student annually. All Federal Direct PLUS Loans are subject to an origination fee of 4.276%, which is automatically deducted from each disbursement before crediting to the student's account. Dependent undergraduate students also must be enrolled at Catawba for at least 6 or more credit hours in any semester to be eligible.

### APPLICATION PROCESS FOR A FEDERAL DIRECT PLUS LOAN AT CATAWBA COLLEGE

1. The Student must have successfully submitted the 2025-2026 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) which is available online at [www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov).
2. Either biological or adoptive parent of a dependent undergraduate student is eligible to apply for this loan. Step-parents can apply for this loan if they are an adoptive parent or their financial information is listed on the FAFSA.
3. The Parent applying for this loan must have a valid FSA ID. Parents can apply for a FSA ID at <https://fsaid.ed.gov/>.
4. Parents must go through a credit application process online at [www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov).
  - a. Parent must 'Log In' to the site using your personal information and FSA ID.
  - b. Once signed in, click the link that states 'Apply for a Direct PLUS Loan', then hit 'Start' by the Parent Direct PLUS Loan Application option.
  - c. On the credit application, before you submit, be certain that your name as **parent** is clearly listed on the application as the **borrower**. Also, be certain that your student's full name, date of birth, and social security number are correctly listed on your credit application. Incomplete or incorrect student information can cause delays or ultimately prohibit your PLUS loan from processing at Catawba College. Parents have the option to apply for a 'Maximum Amount' up to cost of attendance or a specific amount.
  - d. The loan year on your credit application must be specified as the 2025-2026 academic year. Loan periods are defined as the following:
    - i. Full Academic Year: August 2025 – May 2026
    - ii. Fall Only: August 2025 – December 2025
    - iii. Spring Only: January 2026 – May 2026
    - iv. Summer: May 2026 – July 2026
  - e. Successfully complete and submit all sections of the credit application, including the Default Certification section. Populate the school's information as Catawba College.
5. If your loan is approved, you must complete and submit the Parent PLUS Loan Master Promissory Note (MPN) at [www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov). Catawba will electronically receive the results of your credit application and submitted MPN within 48 hours.
6. Print and save a copy of your credit notification and MPN for your permanent records. **Also, make a special note of your Loan Application/Reference Number.**
7. Parents who are approved for a Federal Direct PLUS Loan with an endorser or with an approved credit appeal MUST complete online PLUS Loan Entrance Counseling at [www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov).

**If your Federal Direct PLUS Loan is APPROVED and/or ENDORSED, please fill out the attached PLUS Request form and Parent Authorization form for Catawba College and send to:**

Financial Aid Office  
Catawba College  
2300 West Innes Street  
Salisbury, NC 28144  
Scan/Email: [finaid@catawba.edu](mailto:finaid@catawba.edu)



Established in 1851

Scholarship.  
Character.  
Culture.  
Service.

**2025-2026 FEDERAL DIRECT PARENT PLUS LOAN REQUEST FORM**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Student ID# \_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT/BORROWER INFORMATION**

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Last First Middle*

Parent Date of Birth (MM/DD/YY): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Contact Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

2025-2026 Federal Direct PLUS Loan Application/Reference Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Provided upon credit approval from [www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov).*

Loan Period (check only one): \_\_\_\_\_ Fall & Spring \_\_\_\_\_ Fall Only \_\_\_\_\_ Spring Only \_\_\_\_\_ Summer

**SELECT ONLY 1 OF THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS:**

<p>CERTIFY <b><u>MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE AMOUNT</u></b> UP TO COST OF ATTENDANCE</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>By selecting this option you acknowledge that Cost of Attendance is inclusive of tuition, housing, books, transportation, and living expenses (both billable and non-billable charges). <b>Amount cannot exceed Cost of Attendance OR your credit approval amount (whichever is less)</b></p>	<p>CERTIFY A <b><u>SPECIFIC LOAN AMOUNT</u></b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____</p> <p>By selecting this option you authorize Catawba College to ONLY certify the amount you list above. Loan amounts can be adjusted with written authorization from the borrower. <b>Amount cannot exceed Cost of Attendance OR your credit approval amount (whichever is less)</b></p>
---	--

**PARENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & AUTHORIZATION**

I attest that all information listed above is accurate. I hereby authorize Catawba College to certify a Federal Direct PLUS Loan in my name on behalf of my student for the 2025-2026 academic year.

Parent Borrower Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

<b><u>FOR OFFICE USE ONLY</u></b>		
Loan Period-	PLUS Entrance Counseling - <input type="checkbox"/> Required <input type="checkbox"/> Waived	RHACOMM <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Fall/Spring <input type="checkbox"/> Summer		Initial _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Fall Only	PLUS Loan Total- _____	Date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Spring Only	Comments _____	



Established in 1851

Scholarship.  
Character.  
Culture.  
Service.

**TITLE IV FEDERAL STUDENT AID PARENTAL AUTHORIZATION FORM**

All parents approved for the Direct Parent PLUS Loan, a loan included in the Title IV Federal Student Loan programs, are required to complete a Title IV Authorization Form. Your authorization form provides Catawba College instructions on how to apply excess Title IV funds to your student’s account.

Federal Regulations require Catawba College to apply Title IV funds to qualifying charges only, such as: tuition, student fees, room, and board billed by Catawba College. Other qualifying charges can include books, or other school supplies.

Any Title IV funds remaining after these qualifying charges have been paid are considered “excess Title IV funds”. You may choose to authorize Catawba College to apply excess Title IV funds to other non-qualifying charges such as: library fines, parking fines, and other various fees. To avoid any confusion regarding the payment of outstanding charges, we suggest students authorize Catawba College to apply any excess Title IV funds to all charges.

**TITLE IV AUTHORIZATION**

I authorize Catawba College to apply my excess Title IV funds created by my Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan to all outstanding non-qualifying charges that are charged to my student’s account. **(Check only one.)**

**Yes**, apply my excess Parent PLUS funds to all outstanding charges, qualifying and non-qualifying.

**No**, do not apply my excess Parent PLUS funds to non-qualifying charges. I understand that my excess Parent PLUS funds will be refunded back to the student and we will be billed for any outstanding non-qualifying charges on my student’s account.

Federal Title IV financial aid funds are restricted to payment of current academic year tuition, fees, room, and board. Catawba students are not permitted to use FSA funds for prior year expenses in any amount.

Your authorization will remain in effect during the 2025-2026 academic year, and you may cancel or modify your authorization at any time.

STUDENT NAME (please print): \_\_\_\_\_ STUDENT ID# \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT NAME (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_