

# Direct Loan Counseling



## Counseling Overview

First-time student borrowers must complete entrance counseling before they can receive the first disbursement of a Direct Loan, and all student Direct Loan borrowers must complete exit counseling shortly before they cease to be enrolled on at least a half-time basis. There is a special counseling requirement for student and parent Direct PLUS Loan borrowers who meet the requirements to receive a Direct PLUS Loan after having been determined to have an adverse credit history.

## Entrance Counseling

Entrance counseling is required for all first-time student Direct Subsidized Loan, Direct Unsubsidized Loan, and student Direct PLUS Loan borrowers. Entrance counseling is not required for parent Direct PLUS Loan borrowers.

For this purpose, a first-time Direct Subsidized Loan or Direct Unsubsidized Loan borrower is someone who has not received a prior Direct Subsidized Loan, Direct Unsubsidized Loan, Subsidized Federal Stafford Loan, Unsubsidized Federal Stafford Loan, or Federal Supplemental Loans for Students (SLS) Loan. In the case of a graduate or professional student who requests a Direct PLUS Loan, a first-time Direct PLUS Loan borrower is someone who has not received a prior student Direct PLUS Loan or student Federal PLUS Loan. Subsidized and Unsubsidized Federal Stafford Loans, Federal SLS Loans, and Federal PLUS Loans are loan types that were made under the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program before the authority to make new FFEL Program loans ended effective July 1, 2010.

Entrance counseling provides borrowers with comprehensive information on the terms and conditions of the loan they are about to receive, and their responsibility to repay the loan.

<https://studentaid.gov/entrance-counseling/>

## Exit Counseling

A Direct Subsidized Loan, Direct Unsubsidized Loan, or student Direct PLUS Loan borrower who is graduating, leaving school, or dropping below half-time enrollment is required to complete exit counseling. If the student withdraws without notifying ASN, we must confirm that you have completed online counseling or mail exit counseling material to you at your last known address. We may also email the information to your home (not school) email address.

<https://studentaid.gov/exit-counseling/>