

Federal Direct Loan Questions and Answers

The Student Financial Aid Office staff is here to answer any questions you may have on Federal Direct Loans or how this impacts you. You may contact us at finaid@louisville.edu or 502-852-5511. We have provided responses to a few frequently asked questions on the Federal Direct Loan Program below.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q1. What will happen to the existing loans that I have borrowed from other lenders?

After graduation you have a choice. You may either make individual payments to your previous lender(s) and to the Department of Education for your Direct Loans, or you can consolidate your loans into one payment. You may consolidate all your loans with your previous lender, or with the Department of Education. However, many private lenders have discontinued their consolidation services at this time.

Q2. Do I have to complete another Master Promissory Note (MPN)?

Yes, you must sign a new Direct Loan Master Promissory Note because you will now be borrowing from a new lender, the federal government. This will be the last promissory note you will have to sign as long as you continue to attend UofL. The Federal Direct Loan Master Promissory Note (MPN) process is completed on-line at:

<https://dlenote.ed.gov/emprn/index.jsp>. You will be required to use your U.S. Department of Education issued PIN to complete an electronic MPN. If you are a graduate or professional student who borrows from both the Stafford and Graduate PLUS loan programs, you will need to sign two MPN's, one for the Stafford Loan and one for the Graduate Plus. If you are a parent borrowing through the Parent PLUS Loan program, select the option for the Parent PLUS Loan MPN.

Q3. Do I have to complete another Entrance Counseling session?

Yes, you must complete Direct Loan Entrance Counseling because you will now be borrowing from a new lender, the federal government. This can be done online at <https://www.dl.ed.gov/borrower/EntrCounselingStart.do?cmd=initializeContext>. If you are a graduate or professional student who borrows both the Stafford and Graduate PLUS loans, be sure to select the option for the Combination Stafford and PLUS Loans entrance counseling. Parent PLUS Loan borrowers are not required to complete Entrance Counseling.

Q4. When should I complete a Direct Loan Master Promissory Note and a Direct Loan Entrance Counseling session?

We would like you to complete a Direct Loan Master Promissory Note as soon as possible (if you plan on borrowing in fall 2009).

You may do so at: <https://dlenote.ed.gov/emprn/index.jsp>.

You should also complete the Direct Loan Entrance Counseling as soon as possible on-line at: <https://www.dl.ed.gov/borrower/EntrCounselingStart.do?cmd=initializeContext>

Q5. If I have already completed a Direct Loan Master Promissory Note for another school, do I have to complete another one for UofL?

You will not have to complete a new Direct Loan MPN if the MPN you signed while attending another school is still active. Contact the Student Applicant Service Center at 1-800-557-7394 to verify the status of your prior Direct Loan MPN.

Q6. Where can I go to consolidate my loans?

You can access information on the Federal Direct Loan consolidation options at:
<http://loanconsolidation.ed.gov/>

Q7. When I change from the Federal Family Educational Loan (FFEL) to the Direct Loan program will my FFELP loans go into repayment?

No, your other loans will not go into repayment as long as you remain enrolled at least half time.

Q8. How do I contact the Direct Loan Program?

Direct Loan Program Customer Service phone number: 1-800-848-0979

Direct Loan Program Websites:

PIN Website

<http://www.pin.ed.gov/PINWebApp/pinindex.jsp>

Entrance Counseling:

<https://www.dl.ed.gov/borrower/EntrCounselingStart.do?cmd=initializeContext>

Master Promissory Note:

<https://dlenote.ed.gov/emprn/index.jsp>

Account Information:

<https://www.dlsonline.com/borrower/BorrowerWelcomePage.jsp>