THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

Enrollment Services – Financial Aid

Parent PLUS Loan Changes

While the U.S. Department of Education has not yet released final implementation guidance, the University of Rhode Island is monitoring federal updates closely and will revise this resource as additional information becomes available. Details are based on current rules and may change based on federal guidance.

To stay up to date on the latest information please visit:
https://web.uri.edu/financial-aid/upcoming-federal-student-loan-changes/

Last Updated July 17, 2026

Topics Covered Today

- What is the Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan Program?
- New Regulations on Parent PLUS Loan
  - New Borrowing Limits
  - New Borrower vs Current Borrower
- PLUS Loan Scenarios
- Additional Resources for Students and Parents
- Enrollment Services- Contact Information

What is the Parent PLUS Loan?

- The Parent PLUS Loan is a loan that a parent can take out to help cover the cost of a dependent student's education.
  - Interest Rate: 9.07%
  - Origination Fee: 4.228% (this is what it costs to process the loan)
    - The origination fee is set by the U.S. Department of Education and automatically subtracted from the total loan amount.

What is Changing?

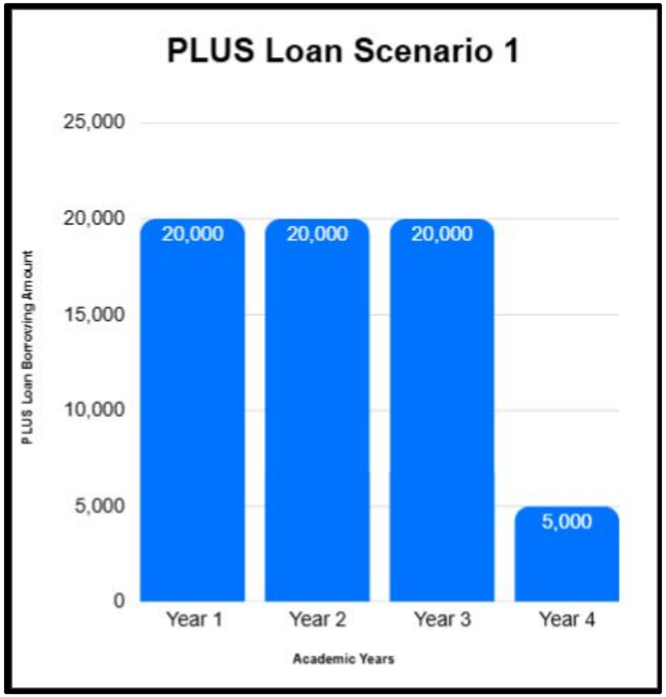
Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan for New (first-time) Borrowers:

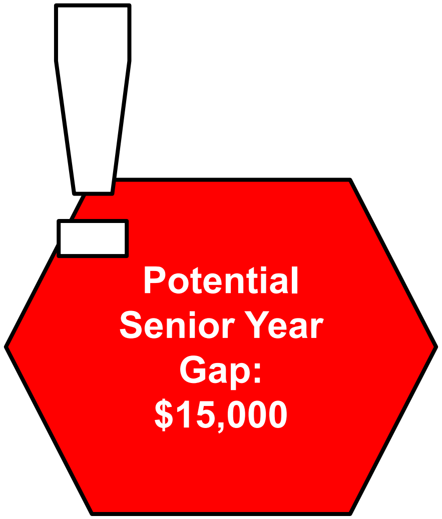
- $20,000 per academic year borrowing limit per dependent student
- $65,000 lifetime borrowing limit per dependent student

Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan for Current (Grandfathered) Borrowers:

- May not be subjected to new regulations if certain conditions are met.

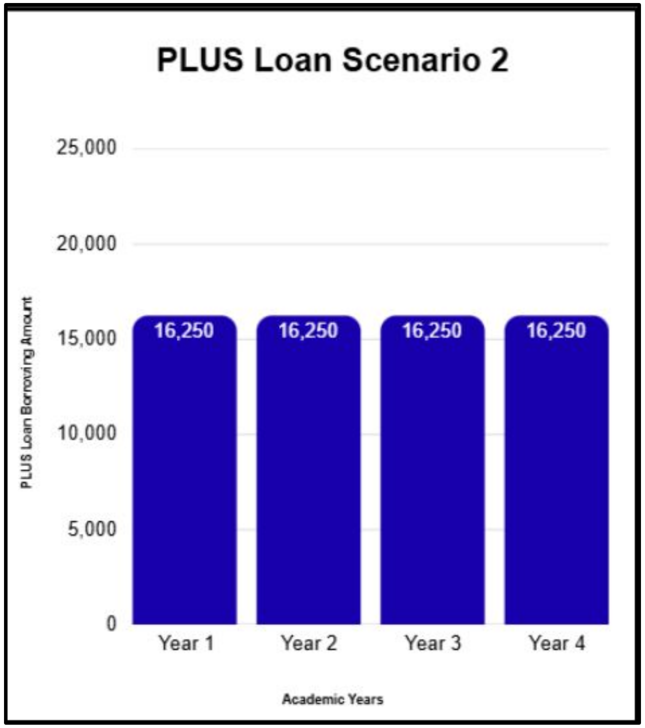
PLUS Loan Scenario 1





Scenario 1: In this scenario the parent(s) borrow the maximum each year, which is $20,000 for years 1, 2, 3, and in year 4 the parent(s) will only be able to borrow $5,000.

PLUS Loan Scenario 2



Scenario 2: In this scenario the parent(s) borrow $16,250 for 4 academic years.

PLUS Loan Scenario 3

Scenario 3: In this scenario the student is enrolled 5 academic years and the parent(s) borrow $13,000 for 5 academic years.

Considerations for New Rules

Under today's rules, some families rely on Parent PLUS Loans throughout a student's entire enrollment period. Families may need to think about:

- How many years remain until graduation
- Whether the student is on track to complete the degree in four years
- What alternative funding sources may be available if the aggregate limit is reached

Students who change majors, add minors, transfer credits that don't apply to their degree, or attend part-time for some period may be more likely to encounter the lifetime cap before graduation.

The Difference Between New Borrower and Current Borrower

- New (first-time) Borrower: First-time borrowing Parent PLUS Loan.
  - Must adhere to new federal regulations.
- Interim Exception for some current borrowers may apply, allowing those who already borrowed to follow the old rules for a limited period IF:
  - The student remains continuously enrolled a Bachelor's program at URI **AND**
  - The parent has borrowed a PLUS loan for the student at URI prior to July 1, 2026 **OR** the student has borrowed a Federal Direct Student Loan at URI prior to July 1, 2026.

Additional Resources for Students and Parents

Academic Works: uri.academicworks.com/

- This is the platform URI uses for scholarships.
- It opens in April and closes in June each year.

ElmSelect: www.elmselect.com/v4/

- This a Private/Alternative Loan Borrowing platform.
- Interest rates vary, always review the terms and conditions.

Outside Scholarships: web.uri.edu/financial-aid/grants-and-scholarships/outside-scholarships/

- Statewide and nationwide organizations that provide scholarship opportunities to students.

Contact Us!

Contact Us

401.874.9500 (ph)
401.874.2002 (f)
enrollment-group@uri.edu

USE OUR SECURE PORTAL TO SEND CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS

Hours of Operation – Kingston

M, Tu, Th, F: 8:30am – 4:00pm
W: 9:30am – 4:00pm

Visit Our Virtual Lobby

We're here to answer your questions about billing, financial aid and registration via Zoom. Hours are:

M, T, Th, F: 9am – 3pm and W 9:30am-3pm

ENTER HERE

Website: https://web.uri.edu/enrollment/contact/


THANK YOU!
THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND