



LAKE ERIE

COLLEGE

Financial Aid Information for Graduate Student 2021-2022

- The Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan program is available to Graduate students enrolled at least half-time (3 credit hours)
- The maximum loan amount per academic year is \$20,500 (not to exceed the cost of attendance)
- The individual lifetime limit for the loan for a graduate student is \$138,500 (no more than \$65,500 of which may be subsidized)
- Interest rate on Federal Direct Unsubsidized loan first disbursed on or after July 1, 2020 and before July 1, 2021 is 4.30%. A fee of 1.059% is deducted from the loan at the time of disbursement.

Steps to take to obtain the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan

1. Apply for financial aid each year with the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) www.fafsa.gov. Summer term begins the academic year at Lake Erie College.
2. The Financial Aid office will notify you of your Direct Loan eligibility amount for the academic year on your award letter that will be emailed to you.
3. A Master Promissory Note (MPN) is the loan agreement for the Federal Direct Loan that is required to process your loan. This is completed at StudentAid.gov under [Complete the Process](#). We can reuse this note for future loan processing.
4. Direct Loan Entrance Counseling is also required and can be completed at StudentAid.gov under [Complete the Process](#).
5. The Financial Aid Office will process the loan amount if you have an MPN and entrance counseling on file. If you *do not* want the Direct Loan or want to *reduce* the amount, use the [Direct Loan Acceptance/Change form](#) to inform the Financial Aid office.
6. Exit counseling is required upon separation from your program and can be completed at StudentAid.gov/Manage My Loans/ Exit Counseling

Other Financing Options

The Federal GRAD PLUS loan is a credit-based federal loan for graduate students. The current interest rate is 5.30%. A 4.236% fee is deducted from the disbursement. The yearly limit on a Graduate PLUS Loan is equal to your cost of attendance minus any other financial aid you receive. Complete the GRAD PLUS application at [StudentAid.gov/ Apply for Aid / Apply for a Grad PLUS Loan](http://StudentAid.gov/Apply for Aid / Apply for a Grad PLUS Loan). Complete the GRAD PLUS loan agreement (MPN) at Studentaid.gov / Complete the Process / Complete MPN for GRAD PLUS Loan. The GRAD PLUS application is available online sometime in April 2021.

Private Educational Loans. The Financial Aid website has a [Private Loan Comparison Tool](#) to search for lenders who offer educational financing for graduate students. Eligibility for these loans is based upon credit. Private loans do not have fees and the interest rate offered is based upon the credit of the borrower and the loan product. Filter by using Graduate student as not all lenders offer private loans to graduate students.