

The Financial Aid Office at the Haas School of Business has been notified that the application for the Grad PLUS Loan will be available beginning July 1, 2006. Below are the steps involved in the Grad PLUS application process:

- Complete the 2006-07 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), available online at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>
 - If any additional documents are requested by Berkeley, submit those to the Haas Financial Aid Office.
 - Accept your Direct Loans (\$18,500) on BearFacts (<http://bearfacts.berkeley.edu>)

- Send an email to finaid@haas.berkeley.edu with the following information:
 - Name
 - Student ID Number
 - Statement that you would like to borrow a Grad PLUS Loan
 - Amount you wish to borrow in Grad PLUS for the 2006-07 award year (the maximum amount you can borrow is the cost of attendance minus any other financial aid)

***PLEASE READ BEFORE SENDING YOUR DESIRED LOAN AMOUNT TO HAAS**

The Federal Grad PLUS Loan has a 2.5% fee, which is deducted from the loan at the time of disbursement. This means that if you apply for \$10,000, only \$9,750 will be credited in CARS. **The Financial Aid Office is able to add the cost of the loan fee to your total cost of attendance, therefore be sure to add the fee amount to what you would like to borrow (even if this exceeds your current cost of attendance).** To determine the amount you need to apply for, take the net amount you would like to receive and divide it by 97.5%. The resulting number is your new loan amount, including the loan fee.

- **Beginning July 1st**, complete the PLUS MPN (Master Promissory Note). Students are able to complete the MPN online at <http://www.dlenote.ed.gov> (this is the quickest and most accurate method; however, if you wish to complete a paper MPN instead of the online version, please contact the Haas Financial Aid Office for details). *Please note that the MPN for the Grad PLUS is separate from the MPN for the Direct Loan (\$18,500).*

- If you are borrowing funds to cover your living expenses, be sure to sign up for electronic funds transfer (EFT) at <http://eftstudent.berkeley.edu/> so your refund can be deposited directly to your checking or savings account.

Once we have received your email request (including dollar amount) and electronic confirmation of your completed MPN, the University will send out the loan origination record to the U.S. Department of Education. The Department of Education will then perform a credit check to determine your eligibility for the Grad PLUS Loan (as a reminder, your credit report must show the absence of adverse credit in order for your loan to be approved). If your loan is approved, there are no further steps that you need to take. In the event that your loan is not approved, you will receive a notification from the Department of Education, as well as guidance from our office regarding your other options.

If you have any questions, please contact the Financial Aid Office at the Haas School of Business:

Email: finaid@haas.berkeley.edu
Phone: (510) 643-0183

Sincerely,

debi fidler, Director
Charles W. Conn, Assistant Director
Laquel Wright, Financial Aid Specialist

Office of Financial Aid
Haas School of Business