

Summary of Major Federal Student Loans and Grants for Undergraduates, 2017-2018

	Pell Grants	Stafford Loans (a/k/a Direct Loans)		PLUS Loans	Perkins Loans
		Subsidized	Unsubsidized		
Interest Rates for Loans Disbursed on or after July 1, 2017 and before July 1, 2018	N/A	4.45%	4.45%	7.00%	5.0% fixed rate
Amount	Up to \$5,920/year Amount depends on financial need, cost of attendance, and enrollment status (full time/part time)	<p>Dependent students (under age 24, with limited exceptions):</p> <p>Up to \$5,500 to \$7,500 per year, based on year in school (max. \$3,500 to \$5,500 subsidized, based on year in school)</p> <p>Up to \$31,000 total (max. \$23,000 subsidized)</p> <p>Independent students (and dependent students whose parents do not qualify for PLUS loans):</p> <p>Up to \$9,500 to \$12,500 per year, based on year in school (max. \$3,500 to \$5,500 subsidized, based on year in school)</p> <p>Up to \$57,500 total (max. \$23,000 subsidized)</p>		Cost of attendance minus other financial aid received	<p>(NOTE: Perkins loans are now made only to students who had received their first Perkins Loan prior to Oct. 1, 2015; further, Perkins Loans will no be made at all after Sept. 30, 2017)</p> <p>\$5,500/year; \$27,500 total.</p> <p>Eligibility and amount depend on financial need</p>
Benefits	Do not need to be paid back	<p>No interest while enrolled at least half time for Subsidized Stafford Loans or Perkins Loans</p> <p>Fixed interest rate will not change during the life of the loan</p> <p>Income-Based Repayment and Public Service Loan Forgiveness programs</p> <p>Options for temporarily postponing payments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deferments for situations such as unemployment, economic hardship, and active military duty, or while enrolled at least half time (interest-free for Subsidized Stafford Loans only) • Forbearances (interest accrues on all loans) • No fees for deferments or forbearances <p>Discharged in cases of death, severe disability, school closure</p>			
Can Be Used For	Cost of attendance (tuition and fees, housing and food, books and supplies, transportation, miscellaneous personal expenses) minus other financial aid received				
Recipient or Borrower	Eligibility and amount depend on financial need, cost of attendance, and enrollment status (full time/part time)	Students enrolled at least half-time, with financial need	Students enrolled at least half time	Parents of dependent students enrolled at least half time	Students with financial need selected by the college

Source: <http://studentaid.ed.gov/types/loans> (viewed June 7, 2017) and House Committee on Education and the Workforce (202) 225-3725