Pennsylvania College of Art & Design

2013-2014 Parent Direct PLUS Loan Instructions

The **Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan** is an education loan which parents can borrow to cover some or all of the remainder of the cost of education (cost of education can include, tuition, fees as well as off campus housing, supplies and other educational expenses) not covered by other financial aid. For those of you who applied for need-based aid, general information regarding the PLUS Loan was provided with your financial aid award letter.

To apply for a Federal Direct PLUS Loan, go to the website www.studentloans.gov:

- A **parent** must **sign in under "Manage My Direct Loans"** You will create an account using your SS# and the Federal PIN used to sign the FAFSA. If you lost your PIN you can request it at www.pin.ed.gov
- Click on **"Request A Direct PLUS Loan"** in the center of the page.
- Select **"Parent PLUS"** and choose the award year "2013-2014".
- Complete "student" and "school" sections.
- In the "Loan Amount Requested" we recommend that you specify a loan amount and not choose the option for the maximum allowed (to control your indebtedness) you may (but not encouraged) indicate maximum eligibility* - which will be cost of education minus other financial aid – this amount is often much higher than expected, please calculate amount you wish to borrow.
- **We advise you to apply for the amount needed for the full academic year. Requested loan Start date 08/2013 and End date 04/2014** (not just the fall semester) this way you will avoid having to complete another PLUS Loan Request which will trigger a second credit check for the spring semester.
- Continue to follow the application process to completion.

You will receive the results of a borrower-initiated credit check immediately. If approved, you will be advised to complete a **Direct PLUS Loan Master Promissory Note (MPN)**, unless one is already on file. *Parents who have completed an MPN for PCA&D, will not have to complete a new MPN (unless a different parent is applying).*

If not approved, the borrower is asked how he or she wants to proceed: a) not pursue a Direct PLUS Loan, b) obtain an endorser or c) appeal the credit decision. If denied, your student can request an additional amount on their Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan. A request form is available on our website at www.pcad.edu/finaid. Complete and return to PCA&D Financial Aid Office with proof of Parent PLUS denial if you wish to use that option.

The earliest you can apply for a Parent PLUS loan for PCA&D is May 15th. The school will be notified of the results of the PLUS Loan Request. Please be advised that the credit check decision will be good for 90 days.

If you are planning to apply for a Federal PLUS Loan, please complete this process by July 1st.

*"maximum eligibility" is cost of attendance (tuition/fees, estimated room/board cost for off-campus students, books/supplies etc) minus any other financial aid.

204 North Prince Street • P.O. Box 59 • Lancaster, PA 17608-0059
717-396-7833 T • 717-717-945-7342 F
www.pcad.edu/finaid