CCA participates in the Federal Direct Loan Program. This program includes both the Federal Stafford Subsidized loan (the Government pays the interest on your loan while you are in school) and Unsubsidized loan (you pay the interest on your loan while you are in school), as well as the Federal PLUS loan (parents of dependent students can apply for loans to help pay for their child’s tuition & fees). These loans allow the student/parent to borrow money directly from the Federal Government to help pay for education costs.

To be eligible for these loans you must:
- Have a completed Financial Aid file including determination of Pell Grant eligibility.
- Complete and return a valid Master Promissory note at https://studentloans.gov.
- Be enrolled in a degree program or an eligible certificate program.
- Be registered and attending at least half-time (6 -credit hours minimum) for the entire loan period.
- Not be in default on any type of student loan.
- Not owe a repayment on a federal student grant.
- Be in compliance with the CCA Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy.
- First time borrowers at CCA must have completed the Entrance Loan Counseling section at https://studentloans.gov.

Loans are an effective and reliable method of funding higher education. However, there are a few things that you should consider before borrowing a loan.

When you borrow a loan, you are accepting the responsibility of repaying the loan plus the interest. The specific amount of money you borrow is called the principal. Interest is a percentage of the principal, which you pay as a fee for borrowing. When it comes time to pay back the principal and interest you usually pay in monthly installments. If you fail to repay (or default) the government may penalize you.

After your loan is submitted online, an email will be sent to CCA to confirm that you completed a loan application. That information will be used to certify your student loan. Please note that your financial aid file must be complete and have been reviewed before we will process your loan.

If your financial aid file is complete and has been reviewed, processing of your loan request takes 2-3 weeks from the date you complete your on-line application. We will make every effort to process your loan request as quickly as possible. You will then receive an award letter from the school showing the amount certified.

Loan Disbursement: Loan funds are distributed in two disbursements. For example, borrowers receiving the entire loan in one semester will have their loan divided into two equal parts. The first disbursement is released 30 days after the first day of the semester. The second disbursement is released midway through the semester. Borrowers receiving Fall/Spring loans will have their loan divided into one-half for the Fall semester and one-half for the Spring semester.
How to Apply for a Federal Stafford Student Loan for 2012-2013

1. Go to [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov). This web site is for completing a Direct Loan Program electronic Master Promissory Note (MPN) for student Subsidized, Unsubsidized and/or PLUS loans. You will be required to use your U.S. Department of Education issued PIN to complete an electronic MPN. For additional information or to ask general PIN questions, you can visit [http://www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov).

2. Complete either a MPN for student borrower or MPN PLUS for parent borrower.

3. Enter your Social Security Number, first two initials of your last name, your birth date in mm/dd/yy format, and your US Department of Education PIN.

4. Follow the remaining steps as indicated. If you are unable to complete all 9 steps and have to start over, your information will not be saved. Therefore, you will have to re-enter all information again. You should allow enough time to complete the MPN in one attempt.

5. You will be asked to provide 2 references including their addresses, and phone numbers. (be sure to gather this information before you being the application process)

6. All Direct Lending student borrowers must complete Entrance Loan Counseling at [https://studentloans.gov](https://studentloans.gov). Completed information via electronic confirmation will be sent to CCA.

7. Print and keep copies of your confirmation for your own records.

   It is your responsibility to know all of the terms and conditions.

### Loan Period Begin and End Dates

The loan period that you choose will determine which semesters your loan will cover.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Terms</th>
<th>Loan Period Begin and End Dates</th>
<th>Last day to apply for a Fall 2011 loan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2012/Spring 2013</td>
<td>8/27/12 – 5/3/13</td>
<td>10/30/12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Requested Loan Amount

- The loan amount that you request will be divided up evenly over the semesters you chose for the loan period. The amount for “one semester only” loans (Fall only or Spring only or Summer only) is one-half of the maximum academic yearly amounts or less.

The amount a student can borrow is also limited by the student's school costs, other financial aid the student may receive, and in the case of subsidized loans, the student's Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

### Maximum Loan Amount for August 2012- July 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Federal Stafford Loans Base Amount</th>
<th>Subsidized</th>
<th>Un-Subsidized</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dependent Freshman**</td>
<td>$3,500</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$5,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dependent Sophomore**</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$6,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent Freshman</td>
<td>$3,500</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
<td>$9,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent Sophomore</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
<td>$10,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Dependent Students may be eligible to borrow additional amounts if Parent Plus Loan is denied.