**Topical Heading**
Federal Student Aid

**Program Title**

# Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program

**Also Known as**
FFEL Program; FFEL loans. FFEL includes four components: Stafford Loans, Unsubsidized Stafford Loans, Federal PLUS Loans, and Federal Consolidation Loans.

**CFDA # (or ED #)**
84.032

**Administering Office**
Federal Student Aid (FSA)

**Who May Apply (by category)**
Individuals

**Who May Apply (specifically)**

- Stafford: Individuals who are undergraduate, vocational, or graduate students accepted for enrollment at least half-time in participating schools.

- Unsubsidized Stafford: Individuals who are undergraduate, vocational, or graduate students accepted for enrollment at least half-time in participating schools.

- Federal PLUS: Individuals who are parents of dependent undergraduate students accepted for enrollment at least half-time in participating schools. Beginning July 1, 2006, graduate and professional students are also eligible.

- Federal Consolidation: Individuals who have outstanding student loans and are in a grace period or repayment status or those who have defaulted but have made satisfactory arrangements to repay their loan(s).

**Type of Assistance (by category)**
Loans

**Type of Assistance (specifically)**
These are guaranteed, insured loans.

**Appropriations**

Fiscal Year 2006     $17,273,789,000

Fiscal Year 2007     $6,850,098,000

Fiscal Year 2008     $1,076,427,000

Note: The appropriation amounts listed provide the federal subsidy costs associated with new FFEL program loans for each fiscal year; however, typically it is the volume of loans made that is more relevant to those seeking student aid. FFEL loan volume (aid available), including Federal Consolidation loans, was $119.2 billion in FY 2006, $98.3 billion in FY 2007, and is estimated to be $90.2 billion in FY 2008.

**Fiscal Year 2008 Awards Information**
*Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.*

Amount of Aid Available: $56,242,000,000

Amount of Aid Available represents the amount of funds awarded to participants in the Federal Student Aid programs. Depending upon the program, this total may include federal appropriated dollars, institutional or state matching dollars, and federal or private loan capital.

Number of New Awards Anticipated:

| Loan Type | Amount of Aid Available | Number of New Loans Anticipated | Average Award | Award Range |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Stafford | $24,050,000,000 | 6,458,000 | $3,724 | Up to $8,500 |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Unsubsidized Stafford** | $23,384,000,000 | 4,988,000 | $4,688 | Up to $20,500 |
| **Federal PLUS** | $8,808,000,000 | 790,000 | $11,152 | Cost of attendance less other aid |
| **Federal Consolidation** | $33,940,000,000 | 1,144,000 | $29,667 | Not applicable |

**Legislative Citation**

*Higher Education Act of 1965* (*HEA*), as amended, Title IV, Part B; 20 *U.S.C.* 1071–1087-4

**Program Regulations**

34 *CFR* 682

**Program Description**

| Loan Type | Characteristics | Interest Rate for New Borrowers as of 7/1/06 |
|---|---|---|
| **Stafford** | Interest paid by government when student is in school and during periods of grace and deferment. | 6.8% |
| **Unsubsidized Stafford** | Interest NOT paid by government when student is in school nor during periods of grace and deferment. | 6.8% |
| **Federal PLUS** | Enables parents to borrow to pay the costs of higher education for their dependent undergraduates and graduate students to pay their costs. | 8.5% |
| **Federal Consolidation** | Combines more than one federal education loan into a single loan. | Weighted average of loans rounded upward to nearest 1/8%. Capped at 8.25%. |

Interest rate formula for loans made before July 1, 2006: For Stafford and Unsubsidized Stafford, in-school rate is 91-day T-Bill + 1.7%; in-repayment rate is 91-day T-Bill + 2.3%; both rates are capped at 8.25%. For PLUS, in-repayment rate is 91-day T-Bill + 3.1% and is capped at 9%. For Federal Consolidation, see above.

**Types of Projects**

These are loans.

**Education Level (by category)**

Postsecondary

**Subject Index**

Parents, Student Financial Aid, Student Loan Programs

**Contact Information**

Name    Federal Student Aid Information Center

Toll-free  1-800-4FED-AID or 1-800-433-3243

**Links to Related Web Sites**

http://studentaid.ed.gov