2026-2027 NYU Law Student Loan Guide

Federal Loan Application Process & Important Updates

This guide is intended for both:

- **Current/legacy borrowers** who borrowed federal loans for their current law program prior to July 1, 2026; and
- **New borrowers** beginning federal borrowing on or after July 1, 2026.

Please review this document carefully, as federal student loan regulations changed under the *One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA)* effective July 1, 2026.

Before You Begin

Understand Your Borrowing Category

Legacy Borrowers

You may qualify for continued access to Graduate PLUS loans under federal grandfathering provisions if:

- You borrowed federal loans for your current law degree program before July 1, 2026; and
- You remain continuously enrolled in the same program.

Eligible legacy borrowers may continue borrowing under prior federal loan rules for a limited period, subject to federal regulations.

New Borrowers

Students borrowing federal loans for the first time on or after July 1, 2026 are subject to new federal borrowing limits and repayment regulations.

For professional students (including JD students), current federal regulations generally provide:

- JD: Annual federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan limit: up to $50,000
- LLM: Annual federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan limit: up to $20,500

- JD: Aggregate federal loan limit for professional study: up to $200,000 (including prior federal borrowing)
- LLM: Aggregate federal loan limit for professional study: up to $100,000 (including prior federal borrowing)

- Graduate PLUS loans are no longer available to new borrowers beginning July 1, 2026

Because federal funding may not fully cover educational expenses, some students may need to consider additional financing options.

Important: Federal guidance regarding implementation of OBBBA regulations continues to evolve. Information in this document is subject to change pending additional guidance from the U.S. Department of Education.

The 4-Step Federal Loan Process

STEP 1: Submit the 2026-2027 FAFSA

Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at:

- studentaid.gov

Use the University's federal school code:

- **002785**

NYU School of Law does not maintain a separate FAFSA school code.

You should submit a FAFSA if:

- You plan to borrow federal student loans;
- You want to preserve eligibility for federal loan programs.

STEP 2: Complete Federal Loan Requirements

Go to:

- studentaid.gov

Log in using your Federal Student Aid (FSA) credentials.

Complete the Following Requirements:

Entrance Counseling

Graduate/Professional Entrance Counseling is required if:

- This is your first time borrowing federal loans as a graduate/professional student; or
- You previously completed undergraduate Entrance Counseling only.

Master Promissory Note (MPN)

Complete the applicable MPN(s) for the federal loan(s) you plan to borrow.

Helpful Tip

When in doubt, complete both requirements.

STEP 3: Review Your Budget and Accept Loans in Albert

Albert is the NYU's online student system where you can:

- View financial aid;
- Review your student expense budget;
- Accept or reduce loans;
- Monitor disbursements; and
- Review your Bursar account.

To Access and Accept Loans:

1. Log into Albert
2. Select the **Student** tab
3. Navigate to **Finances**
4. Select **View Financial Aid Status**
5. Review your Student Expense Budget under:
    - Financial Aid Links
6. Select:
    - Accept/Decline Financial Aid

Important Borrowing Reminder

You are not required to borrow the full amount offered.

We strongly encourage students to borrow only what is needed to meet educational expenses.

To Reduce a Loan Amount:

1. Accept the loan first
2. Enter your reduced loan amount
3. Submit your changes

Please review all loan selections carefully before clicking Submit.

After Submission

Once loans are submitted in Albert, future adjustments must be requested through the Office of Student Financial Services.

STEP 4: Monitor Your Loan Status

After completing the prior steps, continue monitoring Albert for:

- Loan processing updates;
- Outstanding requirements;
- Disbursement dates; and
- Changes to your financial aid.

Loans typically disburse no earlier than 10 days before the beginning of classes.

Helpful Hints and Things to Know

Understanding Your Loan Options

Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans

Legacy Borrowers

Eligible legacy borrowers may continue receiving federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans and may retain eligibility for Graduate PLUS loans under grandfathering provisions.

New Borrowers

New borrowers beginning federal borrowing on or after July 1, 2026 are generally limited to:

- Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans only; and
- Federal borrowing caps established under OBBBA.

Graduate PLUS loans are no longer available to new borrowers.

Private Loan Information

Because new federal borrowing limits may not fully cover the cost of attendance, some students may explore private educational loans.

Private loans:

- Typically require a credit review;
- May require a co-signer;
- Are lender-based rather than federally administered; and
- Do not include many federal borrower protections.

Students considering private loans should carefully compare:

- Interest rates;
- Repayment terms;
- Deferment options;
- Co-signer requirements; and
- Borrower protections.

Students interested in reviewing private lender options should visit NYU's Private Loans and Lenders webpage.

Important Loan and Billing Information

Loan Origination Fees

Federal loan origination fees are deducted from each disbursement before funds are applied to your student account.

Estimated 2026-2027 federal loan fees and interest rates are subject to annual federal determination.

Loan Disbursement Timing

Federal loans are generally disbursed in two equal installments:

- Fall semester; and
- Spring semester.

Loan funds are first applied to University charges.

Any remaining credit balance is refunded by the Office of the Bursar.

Direct Deposit

If you anticipate receiving a refund, we strongly encourage enrollment in direct deposit.

LRAP Considerations

Students interested in future participation in LRAP should carefully review borrowing decisions.

Federal loans are generally required for LRAP eligibility.

Private educational loans may not qualify for LRAP coverage.

To maximize potential LRAP eligibility, students should consider reducing borrowing to account for any required student contribution.

If you have questions regarding LRAP, please contact **law.lrap@nyu.edu**.

Requesting Loan Changes After Submission

If you need to adjust loan amounts after submitting your request in Albert, please contact the Office of Student Financial Services.

Your request should include:

- Subject line: Loan Correction
- Full name
- University ID number (ex. N12345789)

- Loan type(s) to be adjusted
- Corrected loan amount(s)

Billing and Payment Timing

The Office of the Bursar typically updates student billing information during mid-July.

Although official billing deadlines may appear earlier, law students generally have until the first day of classes each semester to finalize payment arrangements without late penalties.

Because federal loans are not scheduled to disburse until shortly before classes begin, students relying on financial aid should monitor both:

- Their Bursar account; and
- Albert financial aid updates.

Need Assistance?

The Office of Student Financial Services is available to assist you throughout the borrowing process.

Please feel free to contact our office with questions regarding:

- Federal loan eligibility;
- Loan processing;
- Borrowing limits;
- Refunds;
- Billing concerns; or
- Repayment resources.

We are here to help guide you through the process.
