

## Stafford Loan Request Form 2025-2026

**BEFORE SUBMITTING THIS FORM, BE SURE THAT THE FOLLOWING HAVE OCCURRED:**

- 1) Your valid FAFSA has been received at the college and all financial aid requirement forms have been completed
- 2) You are making Satisfactory Academic Progress
- 3) You are enrolled and actively pursuing at least six credit hours for the semester you are requesting loan
- 4) You have completed your online Loan Entrance Counseling & Master Promissory Note online at <https://studentaid.gov>

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Student ID \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

When do you plan on completing your coursework at HCC? Month \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

Do you plan to \_\_\_ graduate with a degree or certification from Highland or \_\_\_ transfer to another school after attending Highland.

Academic Major \_\_\_\_\_

Do you currently, or will you, receive any additional financial assistance OTHER THAN Federal Pell Grant, Illinois MAP grant or College Work Study? If yes please list.  NO  YES \_\_\_\_\_

Enrollment period for which you are requesting loan funds. (select only ONE):

- Fall 2025 AND Spring 2026 (August - May)      Fall credit hours enrolled \_\_\_\_\_ Intended Spring credit hours \_\_\_\_\_
- ONLY Fall 2025 (December graduates only)      Fall credit hours enrolled \_\_\_\_\_
- ONLY Spring 2026 (January - May)      Spring credit hours enrolled \_\_\_\_\_

Loans are awarded for the full academic year unless a student is only attending for one semester. Requests for fall only loans for students not graduating in December must be discussed with the Financial Aid Specialist before approval is given. Documentation may be required.

### MAXIMUM LOAN AMOUNTS

Below are the maximum amounts that you may borrow for the 2025-2026 school year. However, depending on your financial need, you MIGHT NOT BE ELIGIBLE to receive the full amount requested. You may always borrow less than the maximum amount available. Remember, you are applying for a loan that must be repaid, with interest. Additional unsubsidized loans may be available by request. These limits are \$2,000/year for dependent students and \$6,000/year for independent students. Student loan amount requested may be reduced due to cost of attendance adjustments for less than full-time enrollment.

#### Freshman Loan Limits (0-29 credit hours earned)

	Full-Time(12 credit hours or more)	Three-Quarter Time(9-11 credit hours)	Half-Time(6-8 credit hours)
Full Year Loan (Fall & Spring)	\$3,500	\$2,625*	\$1,750*
Semester Loan (Graduate)	\$1,750	\$1,312*	\$875*

#### Sophomore Loan Limits (30+ credit hours earned)

	Full-Time (12 credit hours or more)	Three-Quarter Time (9-11 credit hours)	Half-Time(6-8 credit hours)
Full Year Loan (Fall & Spring)	\$4,500	\$3,375*	\$2,250*
Semester Loan (Graduate)	\$2,250	\$1,687*	\$1,125*

*There is a net origination fee of 1.057% deducted proportionately from each loan disbursement for loans with the first loan disbursements prior to October 1, 2025. Percentage may change for loans with first disbursements after October 1, 2025 or pending other Congressional action.*

*\*Three-Quarter Time and Half-Time limits are suggested and may be appealed.*

Enter the amount you would like to request to borrow (must be a dollar amount) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that, if a portion of the loan I am requesting results in an unsubsidized loan, an unsubsidized loan accrues interest while I am in school.

In order to assist with prudent loan borrowing, a budget worksheet is attached. If borrowing the maximum amount, be aware of your total loan amounts to ensure you have enough student loan funding to complete your degree.

For students applying for a student loan for the first time (has no other student loan debt), skip to the next section.

**\*\* For students who have had prior student loans, the following section must be completed \*\***

**NSLDS Information –**

1. Log on to the Federal Student Aid website at <https://studentaid.gov> or from the website for your loan servicer if you have an account set up there and print a copy of your loan history.
2. Use the history printed to complete the following: Your loan servicer is \_\_\_\_\_.

<b>Your Student Loan Debt</b>			
<b>Total Current Loan Debt</b>	<b>Subsidized Loan(s)</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>a</b>
	<b>Unsubsidized Loan(s)</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>b</b>
<b>Amount of Loan Currently Being Requested</b>	<b>Subsidized Loan</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>c</b>
	<b>Unsubsidized Loan</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>d</b>
<b>Total Combined Loan Totals (a + b + c + d = e)</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>e</b>

3. Using the Loan Simulator at <https://studentaid.gov>, print a copy of your estimated loan repayment. This is the true cost of your loans, including interest. Your monthly standard repayment amount is \$\_\_\_\_\_ based on your combined loan total above.

Attach the print outs of the Total Aid section and the Loan Simulator from <https://studentaid.gov> to the loan request form.

**I understand:**

- The loan check must be released in two installments – one each semester or at the beginning and mid-point of a single semester. (Unless more than half of the loan period has elapsed before a disbursement has been made.)
- The loan check cannot be released before the first day of classes (or until 30 days after classes begin if I am a first time freshman borrower) and must be mailed to the student unless the student has direct deposit set up with Online Bill Pay.
- Delivery of the loan can be accomplished only if I am eligible for the loan on date of delivery. Eligibility includes enrollment in and actively pursuing at least six semester hours of credit, meeting Standards of Academic Progress, enrollment in a financial aid eligible program, and eligible enrollment status.
- The Financial Aid Office will determine the type of loan (subsidized and/or unsubsidized) for which I am eligible.
- The federal government pays the interest on subsidized loans (6.39%, pending other Congressional action) while the student is enrolled in school at least half-time and during authorized deferment periods. The borrower is responsible for paying interest on unsubsidized loans (6.39%, pending other Congressional action) at all times. I must repay all of the money I borrow. Repayment of loans begins six months after I graduate or cease half-time status. If I do not make my payments I will default on my loan.
- I am attending Highland Community College with the purpose of attaining a degree or certificate and the loan funds will be used for educational expenses.
- I must contact the assigned loan servicer immediately of changes in enrollment, address, name, and graduation date.
- I must complete the online Exit Counseling at <https://studentaid.gov>
- I may access my Stafford Loan information at <https://studentaid.gov>
- Loan proceeds will be applied to all outstanding charges on my account before a refund will be processed.
- Section 479A(c) of the Higher Education Act, as amended (HEA), and the Direct Loan Program regulations at 34 CFR 685.301(a)(8) gives schools the authority to refuse to originate a Direct Loan or to reduce the amount of an individual borrower’s eligibility for a Direct Loan. Any such determination must be made on a case-by-case basis. The decision must be provided to the student or parent borrower in writing, and documentation supporting the determination must be retained in the student’s file at the school.

**I certify the information on this form to be true and correct.**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_