



Coast Guard Mutual Assistance Stafford/PLUS Loan Fee Reimbursement

CGMA offers help to clients and their families who finance post-secondary education through the Federal Stafford Loan or the Federal Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS), by *refunding loan fees charged by the borrower, not to exceed 4%*. The lender ordinarily deducts this fee from the loan amount before disbursing the loan funds. After confirming use of the loan, CGMA will reimburse the dollar amount of the loan origination fee to the client.

Stafford and PLUS loans are made through the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program. Under this Program, money is borrowed directly from the federal government. Prior to July 1, 2010, Stafford, and PLUS loans were also made by private lenders under the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) program.

To obtain a Federal Stafford or PLUS loan, contact your school financial aid office, follow the guidelines on the Web at <http://www.studentaid.ed.gov> or call the Federal Student Aid Information Center (FSAIC) at 1-800-433-3243.

When a Stafford or PLUS loan is approved and funds are transferred to the school, the lender will send a Notice of Disbursement(s) Made (Direct Loan Program) or a Notice of Loan Guarantee and Disclosure Statement (FFEL Program), showing, among other things, the principal amount of the loan and the loan fee. The client must retain this notice to obtain a loan fee reimbursement from CGMA.

Eligibility:

Federal Stafford Loan Program: All CGMA clients¹, on behalf of themselves or their eligible family members². The student must be enrolled at least half-time in a participating post secondary educational institution.

Federal PLUS Loan Program: All CGMA clients who have dependent undergraduate children enrolled at least half time in a participating post secondary educational institution

Eligibility for the refund is based on the client's and the student's status as of the first day of the course for which assistance is requested.

Clients may apply for a refund of the loan origination fee at the end of each academic term for which a Stafford or PLUS loan was disbursed to the student's account. Refund applications must be submitted within 12 months after the date the loan funds are disbursed.

Eligibility does not extend to CGMA members who are currently delinquent in repaying any CGMA loan or who appear on the CGMA Restricted List.

¹ All CGMA clients means all active duty and retired Coast Guard military personnel, members of the Coast Guard Selected Reserve, retirement eligible members of the IRR, Coast Guard permanent and term civilian employees, Coast Guard Auxiliary members, U.S. Public Health Service officers serving with the Coast Guard, and un-remarried widowed spouses and dependent children of military personnel or civilian employees who were eligible for assistance in their own right at the time of their death.

² Eligible family members include the CGMA client's spouse and dependent children, that is children who are under 23 years of age, unmarried, not service-members, and who rely on the CGMA member for over half of their support.

Stafford/PLUS Loan Origination Fee Refund Cont'd

To apply:

Complete the Application for Stafford/PLUS Loan Origination Fee Refund, CGMA Form 8, and attach the following documents:

- A copy of the "Notice of Disbursement(s) Made" (Notice of Loan Guarantee and Disclosure Statement if the loan was made under the FFEL Program).
- An account statement **received or obtained from the school at the end of academic term**, showing deposits to the student's school account for that term
- A legible copy (front and back) of CGMA client's valid Coast Guard ID

Note: the school account statement must be dated later than 14 days after the school sends the mandatory written notice that they have credited the student's account with the Stafford or PLUS funds.

Mail the entire package to:

Coast Guard Mutual Assistance
1005 N. Glebe Road, Suite 220
Arlington, VA 22201

Or Fax it to (202) 493-6686.

Please keep a copy of the completed application and other documents for your records

More Information:

For more information on Federal Student Loans, including current interest rates and the maximum amounts allowed for the Stafford loan, contact your school's Financial Aid Office, call the U. S. Department of Education Federal Student Aid Center at (800) 433-3243 (TTY users dial (800) 730-8913), or visit the Department of Education Website: www.studentaid.ed.gov.