Direct Stafford Loan Requirements  

www.studentloans.gov

**Entrance Loan Counseling**

All students who receive funds, through either the Direct Subsidized Stafford Loan or Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan program, must complete the Entrance Loan Counseling online at www.studentloans.gov prior to funds being disbursed. Entrance Counseling will walk you through the Direct Loan process and explain your rights and responsibilities as a borrower. If you have not previously received a Direct Loan or Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL), the Federal Government requires you to complete loan counseling to ensure that you understand the responsibilities and obligations you are assuming.

If you designate you are completing counseling in order to borrow a loan as an undergraduate student then the entrance counseling will fulfill counseling requirements for Direct Subsidized and Direct Unsubsidized Loans.

If you designate you are completing counseling in order to borrow a loan as a graduate or professional student the entrance counseling will fulfill counseling requirements for Direct Subsidized and Direct Unsubsidized Loans as well as Direct PLUS Loans.

**Master Promissory Note**

Students who have been awarded a Direct Stafford Loan or parents who have applied and been approved for a Direct Parent Plus Loan, are required to sign the Master Promissory Note (MPN) at www.studentloans.gov. The loan will not be disbursed to the student account until the promissory note is signed.

The Master Promissory Note (MPN) is a legal document in which you promise to repay your loan(s) and any accrued interest and fees to the U.S. Department of Education. It also explains the terms and conditions of your loan(s). Unless your school does not allow more than one loan to be made under the same MPN, you can borrow additional Direct Loans on a single MPN for up to 10 years.

The entire MPN process must be completed in a single session. Each MPN takes approximately 30 minutes to complete.

*Once you have completed this process, CSU will receive the information electronically for your financial aid file.*