

COMPLIANCE NEWSLETTER

MAY 2026

OBBBA ENDS GRAD PLUS LOAN PROGRAM:

The *One Big Beautiful Bill Act* (OBBBA) is reshaping access to federal financial aid.

Effective July 1, 2026, the Federal graduate PLUS Loan program will no longer be available for new borrowers. Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans will remain available.

This means most graduate students' borrowing will be **capped at \$20,500 annually**.

Exceptions to this limit are in place for those pursuing "Professional Degrees," as defined in [34 CFR 668.2](#). These are typically doctoral level programs that lead to professional licensure.

New rules require loan amounts be **prorated for less than full-time** students and limit repayment plan options for new borrowers.

Students who have received a Grad PLUS Loan disbursement before July 1, 2026 may continue to borrow under this program for up to 3 years or until finishing their program

READ MORE:

Read about the reaction to using the "professional student" definition to cap financial aid for some programs:

- [Education Department urged to broaden 'professional' student definition](#)

The National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA) prepared the following fact sheets:

- [Guidance for Graduate Students](#)
- [Guidance for "Professional Students"](#)

TC POLICY HIGHLIGHTS

STUDENT LOCATION POLICY FOR PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE RULES UNDER 34 CFR 668

This policy helps determine a student's location for the purposes of professional licensure compliance. In-person students are located where their program is held. Distance learners are located according to a mailing address or attestation.

CONTINUOUS ENROLLMENT POLICY

Degree-seeking students must maintain enrollment every fall and spring through coursework, candidacy registration, or an approved leave. Failure to register results in administrative leave and, if unresolved, withdrawal. Personal leaves are limited to two semesters. Read more and plan your course of study.

GENERAL STUDENT REGISTRATION POLICY

Registration via myTC or in-person confirms a student's legal and financial responsibility for all academic and tuition charges. Read the policy for more on payment schedules for all registered students.

(Click on a policy title to read it in full)