BLACK RIVER
TECHNICAL COLLEGE
FINANCIAL AID

DIRECT LOAN REQUIREMENTS

BRTC offers Federal Direct Loans as required by federal guidelines. As a result of changing economic times and the national rise of student loan debt, BRTC is committed to educating our students about student loan debt and the obligation and repayment options available after graduation.

Your FSA ID that was used to complete the FAFSA is also required to complete the loan process. If FSA ID has been forgotten, it can be retrieved at studentaid.gov.

A student loan WILL NOT be processed without the following requirements:

1. **Current academic year's FAFSA on file (studentaid.gov)**
2. **Any missing financial aid documents listed on your myBRTC account**
3. **Entrance Loan Counseling (directions below)**
4. **Master Promissory Note (directions below)**
5. **Completed Loan Application including printouts**
6. **Must be enrolled in 6 credit hours**
7. **Must be meeting SAP requirements**

FORMS

- **BRTC Loan Application**
- **Updated Contacts Form**
- **Federal Direct Loan Worksheet**

ONLINE Requirements (MPN & Entrance Counseling results are electronically sent to Financial Aid Office)

- **Online Loan Presentation**
  - (*on mybrtc website – http://mybrtc.blackrivertech.org/financial-aid/loans*)
- **Master Promissory Note (MPN)**
  - (*complete at https://studentaid.gov/mpn) for 1st-time borrowers ONLY*
- **Direct Loan Entrance Counseling**
  - (*complete at https://studentaid.gov/entrance-counseling) for 1st-time borrowers ONLY*
- **Voices of Debt Video**
  - (*YouTube- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uPcSYrPx3Ao&t=41s)*

BLACK RIVER TECHNICAL COLLEGE
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BRTC Loan Policy

Students who wish to borrow funds from the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program should be aware of the following federal regulations:

ANNUAL STAFFORD LOAN LIMITS

	DEPENDENT Subsidized	DEPENDENT Unsubsidized	INDEPENDENT Subsidized	INDEPENDENT Unsubsidized
Freshman	$3,500	$2000	$3,500	$6,000
Sophomore	$4,500	$2000	$4,500	$6,000

1.Entrance Loan Counseling and Master Promissory Note (MPN) is required to be completed ONLY once under the Direct Lending program. New borrowers who have NOT borrowed through BRTC's previous loan program should complete it at https://studentaid.gov

2. All borrowers must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) before loan eligibility can be determined.

3. Borrowers will need to complete the BRTC Student Loan application or BRTC Direct Parent PLUS Loan application available at the Financial Aid Office or http://blackrivertech.edu/financial-aid/loan-information.

4. Students must be enrolled in at least **6 credit hours** to be eligible for a student loan. A student will be certified for a loan ONLY for the hours enrolled that are within the his/her degree plan.

5. Students may qualify for a subsidized loan (interest-free during enrollment) and if not, a student will qualify for an unsubsidized loan. **Note: Those receiving Pell should qualify for a subsidized loan.**

6. Every loan must be delivered in two equal disbursements per semester. The second disbursement will be delivered after the midpoint of the semester.

7. For students enrolled in 4-week classes, if you are enrolled in at least 6 credit hours but less than 6 hours have actually begun, you will not be eligible for your first loan disbursement until you have begun attendance in at least 6 credit hours.

8. First-time borrowers who are first-time entering students must wait thirty (30) days after the semester begins to receive the first disbursement.

9. All borrowers must complete an exit loan counseling session prior to graduation, if he/she ceases to be enrolled at least half-time, or upon termination of enrollment at https://studentaid.gov/exit-counseling/

10. All borrowers should understand that class attendance through the 60% point of the semester is **mandatory** under the Federal Title IV Funds regulation. If a borrower quits attending or withdraws before that point, he/she may owe a refund to BRTC and/or the U.S Dept. of Education for funds received that were not earned.

11. As a result of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA), federal student loan borrowing amounts have changed. This will apply to all BRTC student (not parent) borrowers with Direct Subsidized and Direct Unsubsidized loans (even those considered legacy borrowers who borrowed prior to July 1, 2026).
Note: Parent PLUS loans are ***not*** subject to these adjustments.

Revised 7/27/26

Beginning in Fall 2026, loans will be prorated as follows:

Student Category	Definition	Loan Award Amount
Fulltime	Students taking 24 credit hours or more during the fall *and* spring semesters (12+ credit hours each semester)	Eligible for full loan amount
Half-Time	Students taking 12-23 credit hours during the fall *and* spring semesters (6-11 credit hours in both or 1 semester)	Eligible for a reduced loan amount based upon the following formula, called the Schedule of Reduction (SOR): $\left[\dfrac{\text{number of credit hours enrolled for academic year}}{\text{number of credit hours considered full time for that academic year program of study}}\right] \times 100$
Less than Half-Time	Students taking fewer than 6 hours in a semester	Not eligible for federal student loans

Example of a Schedule of Reduction (SOR)
Requested Loan Amount: $5,000 to be split between the Fall and Spring semesters
Distribution of Requested Amount:

- **Fall**: Enrolled 9 credit hours (hrs.) 9 hrs./24 hrs. x 100 = 37.5% = $1,875
- **Spring**: Enrolled 12 credit hours (hrs.) 12 hrs. /24 hrs. x 100 = 50% = $2,500

For More Information
To read the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA) visit https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/1/text
To read more about the Federal Student Loan program changes, visit https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2026/05/01/2026-08556/reimagining-and-improving-student-education-federal-student-loan-program-final-regulations
To read the final rules from the Accountability in Higher Education and Access through Demand-driven Workforce Pell (AHEAD) rulemaking committee, visit https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2026/05/19/2026-10013/accountability-in-higher-education-and-access-through-demand-driven-workforce-pell-pell-grant

*** Our office will process loan refunds once a month and notification will be sent to students by email once the refunds are processed and mailed. ***

20__-20__ BRTC STUDENT LOAN APPLICATION

PO BOX 468 ● POCAHONTAS, AR 72455 ● (870) 248-4000 ● FAX (870) 248-4100
finaid@blackrivertech.edu

Name:____

Date of Birth: ________________________ **Student ID:**________________________

The FA Office lists the loan disbursement dates for your convenience at https://blackrivertech.edu/financial-aid. Please review these dates when inquiring about your loan refund and allow 7-10 business days for processing.

SEMESTER LOAN LIMITS

	DEPENDENT		INDEPENDENT	
	Subsidized	Unsubsidized	Subsidized	Unsubsidized
Freshman	$1,750	$1000	$1,750	$3,000
Sophomore	$2,250	$1000	$2,250	$3,000

You may request lesser amount but may not exceed the above maximum limits

***** You MUST indicate an $ AMOUNT below *****

(DO NOT list "MAX" as an amount or your loan request will be denied.)

Amount Requested $_____________________ / PER SEMESTER for
☐ Fall **ONLY** ☐ Spring **ONLY**
☐ Fall **AND** Spring ☐ Summer **ONLY**

Signature____ Date Requested______________________________

Financial Aid Office Use ONLY

Loan Period: ____

Budget: $____

-EFC ____

-Pell Grant ____

-WIG ____

-WIA ____

-Pathways ____

-Scholarship ____

D_______ I_______ SAP Status ___________ 1st Time_________

Sub: ____

Unsub: ____

Major:________________________ Grade Level:_____________

SULA Max:_________________ SULA Usage:______________

Loan Worksheet: ________________________

Updated Contact Form

Must fill in all four contacts – complete addresses and phone numbers

Please print legibly!

Student's Name:___________________________________ Home Phone: __________________________________

Cell Phone: ____________________Address: ____

City: _________________________ State: _______________________ Zip Code: ___________________________

Contact Name:___________________________________ Home Phone: ____________________________________

Cell Phone: ____________________Address: ____

City: _________________________ State: _______________________ Zip Code: ___________________________

Contact Name: ___________________________________Home Phone:____________________________________

Cell Phone: ____________________Address: ____

City: __________________________State: __________________________ Zip Code: _______________________

Contact Name: ___________________________________ Home Phone: __________________________________

Cell Phone: ____________________ Address: ____

City: ___________________________State: ______________________ Zip Code: __________________________

The above information is correct. If my contact information changes at any time in the future, even if I am no longer a student at BRTC, I will update the school with my current contact information.

Signature:____ Date:________________________

Federal Direct Loan Worksheet

Must Be Completed Annually

Student Name: ____

Phone Number: ____________________________

1. **Degree Plan:** ____

2. What is your ultimate educational/job goal? _____________________________________

Go to https://www.ziprecruiter.com/Salaries. Search for the job you are working toward.

1. **Print this screen and attach to this worksheet**.

2. What is the Entry Wage for your selected job? $______________

3. Multiply that number by 40. This is your estimated weekly salary. $__________________

Now, anyone can access their own loan history at studentaid.gov
First, log in using FSA ID and password.

On the page that comes up after clicking "My Aid", click on the box that says "View Details"

4. **Print this screen and attach to this worksheet**.

5. What is your total for all loans? $_________________

6. What is your total interest? $__________________

7. Who is/are your servicer(s)? ____

____

Under the name of your Servicer, the contact information is listed. Access the servicer web address, open browser, go to site and create an account. These are the contacts for your student loans.

8. **Print the first screen** after you have successfully set up your account(s) and logged in. If you already have accounts set up**, print a page with your name on it to indicate your account status. Attach to this worksheet and submit to the Financial Aid Office.**

***** For your own records, KEEP COPIES of the printouts you are turning in!!! *****

Now, go to http://www.finaid.org/calculators/loanpayments/ for questions #9-11

9. In "Loan Balance", enter your total from #5 (if you have one) & add your current loan request $____________

10. Select to print Payment Schedule & Calculate payment. **Print this screen & attach to this worksheet.**

11. What would your monthly payment be with the additional amount you plan to take? $ _____________

12. Do you feel you could make this payment based on the monthly salary in #3? ____________________

For what educational expense(s) will the loan be used?

____

13. Go to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uPcSYrPx3Ao&t=41s to watch the video and answer the following questions.

a. How many are burdened by student loan debt? ____

b. What are some alternatives to student loans discussed in the video? ___________________________

____

c. What advice is given from the students in the video regarding student loans?

____

d. What is **<u>your</u>** current student loan debt? ____

Now, answer the following questions below regarding the Online Loan Presentation you are required to view at *https://blackrivertech.edu/financial-aid/resources/loan-information/*. Click Application for Student Loan, then Student Loan Presentation

14. What does "Unsubsidized" mean? ____

15. How long is a grace period? ____

16. List a consequence of LOAN DEFAULT: ____

17. Which website lists all of your Loan Information? ____

18. How long can you receive a Pell Grant? ____

19. What is the Lifetime Limit % for Subsidized Loans? __________ If working on a 2-year degree, what is the maximum timeframe for which you can receive a SUBSIDIZED loan? ____________________

The checklist of forms listed below must be <u>complete</u> for you to be approved for a student loan. Remember that this is a **<u>MANDATORY</u>** requirement to receive a loan(s) at BRTC. Submit the list of required documents to the BRTC Financial Aid Office by mail or in person.

<u>Loan Document Checklist:</u>

- Printouts of Occupational Wages
- Loan Calculator Printout
- Servicer Accounts Printout (If you have borrowed a loan before)
- Direct Loan Worksheet
- Contacts Form