



GENERAL INFORMATION

ABOUT THE INSTITUTION

◆ History and Location

LAU, a leading private higher education institution in Lebanon, operates under a charter from the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York. The institution is accredited by the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE).

LAU is a nonsectarian institution guided by deeply rooted shared ethical values. It started as a women's college in 1924, with origins dating back to 1835, when the Ottoman Empire's first school for girls was established. LAU expanded over the decades, catering to the growing educational needs of Lebanon, the Middle East, and beyond. Today, LAU boasts seven schools and 21 centers and institutes. Dynamic and distinguished faculty members conduct research and teach in a wide range of academic disciplines.

LAU's two main campuses are located on lush hillsides near the Mediterranean Sea, around 43 kilometers apart, making it accessible from all areas of Lebanon. The Byblos and Beirut campuses offer similarly structured programs in the arts, sciences, and business. Nursing and medicine programs are offered exclusively on the Byblos campus as well as junior and senior-year courses in engineering and pharmacy.

LAU continues its journey of improvement and advancement, with the establishment of its New York Headquarters and Academic Center and a new executive center in Beirut's Central District.

◆ Accreditation

LAU is accredited by **NECHE**, formerly the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Inc.

◆ Academic Schools and Colleges

LAU comprises seven schools: The School of Architecture and Design, the School of Arts and Sciences, the Adnan Kassar School of Business, the School of Engineering, the Gilbert and Rose-Marie Chagoury School of Medicine, the Alice Ramez Chagoury School of Nursing, and the School of Pharmacy.

◆ Academic Programs and Degrees Conferred

LAU offers 66 degree programs including 34 bachelor's degree programs, 19 master's degree programs, six online master's degree programs, two professional degree programs, three online graduate certificates, and two post-bachelor's certificates.



During the Academic Year 2023-2024, LAU awarded 1,607 bachelor's degrees, 284 master's degrees, 98 doctoral/professional practice degrees, 21 post-bachelor's degree certificates, and two certificate program degrees.

◆ Faculty

In fall 2024, full-time faculty totaled 439, including 50 professors, 138 associate professors, and 159 assistant professors. Additionally, 87 percent of LAU's full-time faculty hold a doctorate or terminal degree.

◆ Enrollment

In fall 2024, enrollments totaled 9,084, including 7,809 undergraduates, 1,000 graduates, and 275 students in doctoral/professional practice degree programs. Of the 8,080 full-time students, 93 percent were undergraduates, four percent were graduates, and three percent were enrolled in doctoral/professional practice degree programs. Males constituted 49 percent of the undergraduate student body while the total number of enrollments included 1,055 students from 70 foreign countries.

◆ Admissions / Retention

In fall 2024, 2,239 undergraduate students were enrolled at LAU, with 44 percent of all first-time applicants enrolled. Additionally, 4,554 or 96 percent of accepted first-time students attended schools in Lebanon. LAU accepted 571 or 63 percent of graduate applicants, while 56 percent enrolled in fall 2024. Of the students in doctoral/professional practice degree programs, 178 or 51 percent were accepted, and 56 percent enrolled in the academic year 2024-2025.

◆ Finance

LAU's operating budget for 2023-2024 was \$212,232,578, marking a five percent increase from the 2022-2023 budget. The increase reflects the university's careful expenditure policy on growth and expansion, especially during Lebanon's economic crisis and COVID-19 pandemic. LAU earmarked 43 percent of its budget for student financial aid.

◆ Physical Facilities

LAU campuses occupy 345,143 square meters of space, of which the Beirut campus represents 27,500 square meters and the Byblos campus 317,643 square meters. The University is also a major shareholder in the LAU Medical Center-Rizk Hospital and the LAU Medical Center-Saint John's Hospital.

THE MISSION, VALUES AND VISION OF THE LEBANESE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

MISSION

The Lebanese American University is committed to academic excellence, student-centeredness, civic engagement, the advancement of scholarship, the education of the whole person, and the formation of leaders in a diverse world.

VALUES

LAU is governed by deeply enshrined ethical values and aspirations in its future planning and daily activities. Built upon this foundation, LAU:

- ◆ Draws inspiration from the commitment of its Presbyterian founders to the pursuit of the truth, respecting human dignity, and fostering gender equality and inclusivity.
- ◆ Provides educational opportunities as a unified university with multiple campuses, each with distinctive attributes.
- ◆ Commits to excellence in academics and service across the institution.
- ◆ Demonstrates dignity and respect towards and from the Board of Trustees, faculty, staff, and students in both words and actions.
- ◆ Celebrates the achievements and contributions of all members of its community.
- ◆ Thrives thanks to a culture of ownership and accountability in its community.
- ◆ Operates in synergy as a united family community committed to the highest ethical and moral standards.
- ◆ Empowers individuals to fulfill their spiritual and personal aspirations while staying aware of the ever-changing world in which they live.
- ◆ Nurtures a sense of social connection to Lebanon among its students and encourages their commitment to social justice and democracy.

VISION

LAU's vision is driven by its mission and values and is realized through:

- ◆ Ensuring quality education is accessible to a diverse body of undergraduate and graduate students and lifelong learners.
- ◆ Recruiting and retaining distinguished faculty members who excel in teaching, research, and community service.
- ◆ Enrolling and retaining academically qualified and diverse students.
- ◆ Integrating liberal arts across its curricula.
- ◆ Creating opportunities for rigorous research and knowledge dissemination.
- ◆ Developing a tight-knit community that is intellectually stimulating, values academic excellence, and is diverse in terms of religion, ethnicity, and socio-economic status.
- ◆ Recruiting and retaining a highly qualified workforce committed to excellence in service.
- ◆ Fostering collaboration in teaching, learning, research, and community service across LAU.
- ◆ Providing state-of-the-art infrastructure and support services to enhance the experience of students, faculty, and staff.
- ◆ Fostering the development of world citizens with a profound sense of civic engagement.
- ◆ Upholding the values of peace, democracy, and justice.

