



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

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 23 centers and institutes. Dynamic and distinguished faculty members conduct impactful research and teach in a wide range of academic disciplines.

The university operates across three campuses: the Beirut and Byblos campuses in Lebanon and the LAU New York Debbane Campus in Midtown Manhattan, NY. The Byblos and Beirut campuses offer similarly structured programs in the arts, sciences, and business. The nursing and medicine programs, as well as junior and senior-year courses in engineering and pharmacy, are offered exclusively on the Byblos campus.

With the establishment of the LAU New York Debbane campus, LAU became the first Middle East-based American university to open a degree-granting campus in the United States. Its cutting-edge programs include an in-person BS in International Business, an online BS in Business Administration, and several online master's programs, tailored to the needs of the global job market.



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 68 degree programs, including 34 bachelor's degree programs, 23 master's degree programs, nine online master's degree programs, two professional degree programs, four online graduate certificates, and three post-bachelor's certificates.

During the academic year 2024–2025, LAU conferred 1,888 bachelor's degrees, 338 master's degrees, 89 doctoral/professional practice degrees, 26 post-bachelor's degree certificates, and four certificate program degrees.



Faculty

In fall 2025, full-time faculty totaled 444, including 62 professors, 139 associate professors, and 158 assistant professors. Additionally, 87 percent of LAU's full-time faculty hold a doctorate or terminal degree.



Enrollment

In fall 2025, enrollments totaled 9,765, including 8,250 undergraduates, 1,215 graduates, and 300 students in doctoral/professional practice degree programs. Of the 8,588 full-time students, 92 percent were undergraduates, 5 percent were graduates, and 3 percent were enrolled in doctoral/professional practice degree programs. Females constituted 51 percent of the undergraduate student body, while the total number of enrollments included 1,047 students from 60 countries.



Admissions / Retention

In fall 2025, 2,201 undergraduate students were enrolled at LAU, with 48 percent of all first-time applicants enrolled. Additionally, 4,231, or 93 percent of accepted first-time students, attended schools in Lebanon. LAU accepted 795 or 66 percent of graduate applicants, while 60 percent enrolled in fall 2025. Of the students in doctoral/professional practice degree programs, 163 or 33 percent were accepted, and 68 percent were enrolled in the academic year 2025–2026.



Finance

LAU's operating budget for 2024–2025 was \$240,672,646, marking a 13 percent increase from the 2023–2024 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 40.5 percent of its budget for student financial aid.

MISSION, VALUES, AND VISION

MISSION

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

In both planning for its future as well as conducting its ongoing daily activities, LAU seeks to act in a manner that is guided by a deep-rooted sense of shared ethical values and aspirations. Built upon this foundation, Lebanese American University:

- Draws its fundamental inspiration from the devotion of its Presbyterian Founders to always seek the Truth, respect human dignity, promote gender equality, and be inclusive;
- Provides educational opportunities as one university with multiple campuses, each with distinctive gifts and attributes;
- Commits to academic and service excellence throughout the institution;
- Demonstrates dignity and respect for and from the Board, faculty, staff and students in word and in deed;
- Celebrates the accomplishments and contributions of all members of the LAU community;
- Succeeds because its people take pride of ownership and are held accountable for their actions;
- Works together as an extended family community that reflects the highest ethical and moral standards;
- Enables individuals to find their own spiritual and personal fulfillment while ever sensitive to the changing global village in which they live;
- Promotes social connectedness of the students to the country of Lebanon; and encourages their commitment to social justice and democracy.

VISION

The Vision of Lebanese American University is driven by its mission and values. The Vision for LAU will be carried out through:

- Providing access to a superior education for diverse undergraduate and graduate students and lifelong learners;
- Attracting and retaining distinguished faculty who excel in teaching, research and community service;
- Enrolling and retaining academically qualified and diverse students;
- Embracing liberal arts in all curricula;
- Creating opportunities for rigorous research and the dissemination of knowledge;
- Developing a close-knit community that excels academically, is intellectually stimulating, and is religiously, ethnically and socio-economically diverse;
- Attracting and retaining a highly qualified staff committed to excellence in service;
- Fostering collaboration across the university in teaching, learning, research and service;
- Providing state-of-the-art infrastructure and support services that enrich the student, faculty and staff experience;
- Developing world citizens with a deep sense of civic engagement;
- Promoting the values of peace, democracy, and justice.

