

GENERAL INFORMATION

ABOUT THE INSTITUTION

History and location

The Lebanese American University (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. LAU is accredited by the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC).

LAU is a nonsectarian institution guided by a deeply rooted sense of shared ethical values. The university began as a women's college in 1924, with roots extending back to 1835, when the Ottoman Empire's first school for girls was founded. LAU expanded over the decades, catering to the growing educational needs of Lebanon, the Middle East and around the world. Today LAU boasts seven schools, along with 19 centers and institutes. Dynamic and distinguished faculty members research and teach in a wide range of academic disciplines.

LAU's two main campuses are located on leafy hillsides by the Mediterranean Sea, around 43 kilometers apart, putting LAU within easy reach of all areas of Lebanon. The Byblos and Beirut campuses offer similarly structured programs in the arts, sciences and business. Programs in nursing and medicine, as well as junior and senior-year courses in engineering and pharmacy, are offered exclusively in Byblos.

LAU still continues to expand today. With the establishment of its New York Headquarters and Academic Center and a new executive center in Beirut Central District, LAU continues its journey of perpetual improvement and progression.





ACCREDITATION

LAU was accredited by the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (CIHE-NEASC) in November 2009. In 2014 LAU underwent a comprehensive evaluation and was re-accredited for a ten-year period.

ACADEMIC SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

The University 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

Academic offerings include 61 degree programs in 58 different major fields: 39 bachelor's degree programs, 17 master's degree programs, 2 professional degree programs, 1 graduate diploma and 2 postbachelor's diplomas.

During the academic year 2016-2017, the university awarded 1,592 bachelor's degrees, 174 master's degrees, 78 doctoral-professional practice degrees and 41 postbachelor's diplomas.

FACULTY

Full-time faculty for fall 2017 totaled 318, of whom 31 hold the rank of professor, 112 the rank of associate professor and 109 the rank of assistant professor. 77 percent of the full-time faculty hold a doctorate or other terminal degree.

ENROLLMENT

With 7,558 undergraduates, 737 graduates and 233 students in doctoral – professional practice degree programs, enrollments in fall 2017 totaled 8,528. Of the 7,532 full-time students, 94 percent are undergraduates, 3 percent are graduate students and 3 percent of the students are enrolled in doctoral – professional practice degree programs. The undergraduate student body is 50 percent male. Of the total number of students enrolled, 1,535 are from 78 foreign countries.

ADMISSIONS / RETENTION

1,853 first-time students enrolled for the fall 2017. 40 percent of all first-time applicants enrolled. 3,978 or 89 percent of accepted first-time students attended schools within Lebanon. 3,868 or 89 percent of accepted first-time students attended private Lebanese schools. On average, 89 percent of first-time students return for the fall of the next academic year. 147 or 49 percent of all undergraduate transfer applicants were accepted and 63 percent enrolled in fall 2017. 293 or 73 percent of new graduate students were accepted and 64 percent enrolled in fall 2017. Of the students in doctoral – professional practice degree programs, 120 or 49 percent were accepted and 68 percent enrolled in the academic year 2017-2018.

FINANCE

LAU's operating budget for 2016-2017 was \$179,185,659, a 7 percent increase from the 2015-2016 budget, reflecting the university's continued growth and expansion. 17 percent of this was earmarked for student financial aid.

PHYSICAL FACILITIES

LAU campuses occupy 343,763 square meters of space, of which the Beirut campus represents 27,500 square meters and the Byblos campus 316,263 square meters. The university is also a major shareholder in the Lebanese American University Medical Center – Rizk Hospital (LAUMC-RH).





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

In both planning for its future and conducting its daily activities, LAU seeks to act in a manner that is guided by a deeply rooted sense of shared ethical values and aspirations. Built upon this foundation, the university is able to draw its fundamental inspiration from the devotion of its Presbyterian Founders to always seek the truth, respect human dignity, promote gender equality and be inclusive. It also provides educational opportunities as one university with multiple campuses, each with distinctive gifts and attributes. As such, LAU is committed to:

- Providing academic and service excellence throughout the institution;
- Demonstrating dignity and respect for and from, the Board, faculty, staff and students, in both word and deed;
- Celebrating the accomplishments and contributions of all the members of the LAU community;
- Succeeding because its people take ownership of, take pride in, and are held accountable for their actions;
- Working together as an extended family community that reflects the highest ethical and moral standards;
- Enabling individuals to find their own spiritual and personal fulfillment, while remaining sensitive to the changing global village in which they live;
- Promoting social connectedness of the students to the country of Lebanon, and encouraging their commitment to social justice and democracy.

VISION

The vision of LAU is driven by its mission and values, and is carried out by:

- 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.