



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 Commission of Higher Education (NECHE).

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 21 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 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. 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 65 degree programs in 60 different major fields: 39 bachelor's degree programs, 21 master's degree programs, 2 professional degree programs, 1 graduate diploma and 2 post-bachelor's diplomas.

During the academic year 2019-2020, the university awarded 1,716 bachelor's degrees, 226 master's degrees, 81 doctoral-professional practice degrees and 48 post-bachelor's diplomas.

► *Faculty*

Full-time faculty for fall 2020 totaled 333, of whom 32 hold the rank of professor, 127 the rank of associate professor and 78 the rank of assistant professor. 80 percent of the full-time faculty hold a doctorate or other terminal degree.

► *Enrollment*

With 6,984 undergraduates, 793 graduates and 267 students in doctoral – professional practice degree programs, enrollments in fall 2020 totaled 8,044. Of the 7,297 full-time students, 92 percent are undergraduates, 4 percent are graduate students and 4 percent of the students are enrolled in doctoral – professional practice degree programs. The undergraduate student body is 48 percent male. Of the total number of students enrolled, 1,378 are from 75 foreign countries.

► *Admissions / Retention*

1,952 undergraduate students are enrolled for the fall 2020. 37 percent of all first-time applicants enrolled. 3,783 or 93 percent of accepted first-time students attended schools within Lebanon. 494 or 54 percent of graduate students were accepted and 66 percent enrolled in fall 2020. Of the students in doctoral – professional practice degree programs, 141 or 59 percent were accepted and 93 percent enrolled in the academic year 2020–2021.

► *Finance*

LAU's operating budget for 2019–2020 was \$203,012,524, a 2 percent increase from the 2018-2019 budget, reflecting the university's continued growth and expansion. 19 percent of this was earmarked 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.



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 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 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.



