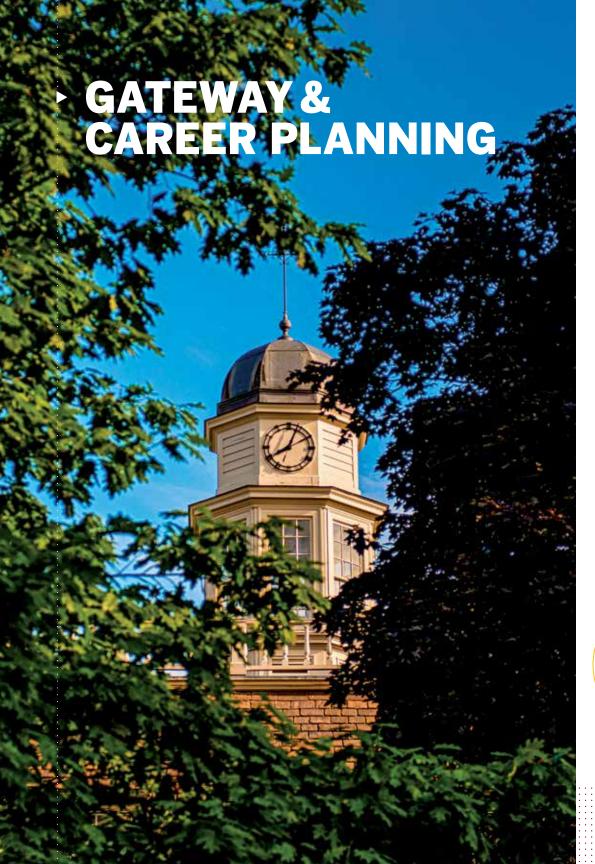
# Career Exploration and Planning





# & Pre-Professional Advising



# Lafayette prepares you for leadership and success

The broad-based academic programs and opportunities for undergraduate research, study abroad, internships, and other experiential learning develop essential skills as you begin a career or move on to graduate or professional school. Graduates enter a wide variety of fields, including business, life sciences, engineering, communications, education, the arts, public service, research, and more.

As students select a major and explore a career, they partner with the Gateway Career Center through a four-year career planning program called Gateway. This one-on-one program enables you to work with your Gateway counselor developing a personal route that incorporates your specific interests, values, and goals.

Throughout your four years at Lafayette, you will work together on this individualized road map to maximize the benefits of the program. Whether you know your career destination or arrive on campus wanting to explore your path, Gateway can help you achieve your career goals. You only need a commitment to self-discovery and a willingness to explore opportunities.

#### SOME OF OUR SIGNATURE PROGRAMS INCLUDE:



- Individual career counseling, along with graduate/professional school advising
- Workshops focused on job and internship search skills, as well as career and industry knowledge
- Experiential learning: externships (job shadowing), Career Tracks, and internships
- Internship and job postings and virtual and on-campus interviewing with recruiters from a variety of industries

- Email alerts: internships, research opportunities, full-time jobs, virtual and on-campus recruiter visits, all targeted to your self-selected career interests
- Networking opportunities with alumni and parents, virtually and on and off campus
- Comprehensive online career resources, such as Handshake, GatewayLink and Candid Career

## **Experiential Learning**

Experiential learning complements personal development and career exploration. Through externships, Career Tracks, internships, and employer visits, you explore interests, develop marketable skills, establish career/industry knowledge, and build your professional network.



#### **EXTERNSHIPS**

Externships are designed to expose sophomores, juniors, and seniors to a specific career, industry, or graduate school program. Students shadow alumni or other professionals in the workplace or postsecondary educational settings in-person or remotely for two to five days during the January break.

#### **CAREER TRACKS**

Open to all class years, Career Tracks give students valuable behind-thescenes views of specific industries in targeted locations during the January break. Students have the opportunity to build connections with alumni, parents, and friends of the College.

#### **INTERNSHIPS**

Internships complement classroom learning with an emphasis on gaining professional experience in a field of interest, building skills, learning an industry, and making connections. These experiences can be paid, volunteer, or for academic credit. Summer funding is available through a competitive application process, thanks to the generosity of many individual alumni, alumni classes, and parents.

#### **FINDING A JOB**

The Gateway Career Center offers guidance and support with successful employment searches.

#### We use these programs and resources:

- Writing workshops, online tutorials and one-on-one support for resumes, cover letters, and LinkedIn profiles
- Interviewing strategies, guidance and practice
- Mock interviews: in-person, in the field, virtually, and by phone
- Annual career fairs: virtually and on and off campus
- Alumni and parent networking programs: virtually and on and off campus

#### SOME RECENT INTERNSHIPS HAVE BEEN OFFERED IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

Financial Services
Human Resources
Engineering
Government
Media and Arts
Marketing
Public Relations
Nonprofit
Law
Health Care
Manufacturing
Advertising



#### **ON-CAMPUS & VIRTUAL INTERVIEWING**

Employers connect virtually and in-person to interview students for internships and full-time positions. Lafayette students are highly sought after and attract a variety of employers and organizations to campus for interviews through our on-campus recruiting program. Students of all majors and class years are eligible to participate.

#### Some of the industries represented include:

- Consulting
- Government
- Media
- Health care
- Engineering
- Insurance
- Technology

- Manufacturing
- Education
- Environmental/construction management
- Banking/financial services
- Communications
- Nonprofits
- Pharmaceuticals

#### **INTERNSHIP & JOB POSTINGS**

Students can access postings through a password-protected account which allows them to:

- Review postings and apply for internship, research, fellowship, and full-time employment opportunities
- Create and update an online profile identifying their career interests
- Publish their résumé online
- RSVP for employer events
- Receive notifications about positions, employers, and industries of interest
- Apply for on-campus interviews, receive notifications of selection, and sign up for interviews





# PRE-PROFESSIONAL ADVISING

Guidance, resources, and workshops enable students to explore their interest in the **health and legal professions**. As part of our advising programs, we help students assess their chances of admission, offer advice on how to enhance their application portfolio, and help them prepare for their application submission.



### **Health Professions**

Careers in the health professions are rewarding, but admission is competitive and requires careful planning by students with helpful assessment by our Health Professions Advising staff.

#### **ADVISING ASSISTANCE**

Our Health Professions Advising Office provides co-curricular support for students at the onset of their academic career at the College by:

- Providing programs, activities, and workshops to help students discern their health professions interests, goals, and capabilities
- Offering group and individual advising appointments that complement input from their academic adviser
- Connecting students to working health professionals interested in mentoring
- Partnering with academic programs and Gateway to expand resources to aspiring health professions students

#### **HEALTH PROFESSIONS PROGRAM COMPONENTS INCLUDE:**

- Onboarding incoming students with timelines and tools they can use to develop their competencies and enhance their application portfolios
- Individual and group advising opportunities to assess preparation and readiness at each step along the application timeline
- Targeted small-group information sessions on topics such as health professional school application procedures, workshops for reflective essay writing, how to match your vision to the mission of a professional school, school selection process, summer opportunities, and more

- Presentations by health professions experts and health professional school admissions personnel
- Omprehensive advice for applicants to gauge their competitive standing for entry into health professions schools, including a holistic review of their application portfolios, academic records, admissions test scores (MCAT, DAT, OAT, GRE) when available, co-curricular activities, and health professions-related experience



Health Professions Advising partners with the Gateway Career Center to provide opportunities for students to secure meaningful health care experiences (externships and internships) and for interview preparation and practice. Our students also benefit from the assistance of our dedicated alumni, who mentor them and contribute to their professional development and aspirations.

#### **WELL-ROUNDED CANDIDATES**

As the age of those matriculating to health professions school continues to rise, more and varied experiences impact the admissions process for our students and alumni. As such, it is no longer sufficient nor advisable for applicants to believe that merely maintaining a high GPA and obtaining a strong admissions test score will result in acceptance to a health professions school. Schools seek candidates with evidence of dedicated community engagement, clinical research, cultural sensitivity, and interpersonal and intrapersonal competencies.

#### **REQUIRED COURSEWORK**

The Health Professions Advising Office provides guidance for students to plan their coursework to augment completion of their major. It is critical that students applying to health professions discuss course selection options with their academic adviser.

#### **MINIMUM CORE REQUIREMENTS**

As health profession schools vary in required coursework, students are urged to investigate individual schools for specific requirements. A listing of recommended coursework can be found at **healthprofessions.lafayette.edu**.

#### The targeted requirements include:

- Two college-level biology courses with laboratories
- Two introductory chemistry courses with laboratories
- Two physics courses with laboratories
- One or two organic chemistry courses with laboratories
- Mathematics, including calculus and/or statistics
- Biochemistry
- English composition and writing
- Increasingly, courses in psychology, sociology, and ethics

While AP credit for some introductory classes is admirable, health professional schools prefer to see undergraduates handle the rigor of college-level technical coursework with laboratory in the context of a normal semester load. Therefore, we advise use of AP credit toward non-core requirements. When applied toward health professions core requirements, AP credit should be used as prerequisites for students to elect more advanced-level coursework and thereby demonstrate their commitment to the profession.

#### PROBABILITY OF ACCEPTANCE

Nationally, despite the recent modest increase in the number of accredited medical, dental, veterinary, and optometry schools along with a slight expansion of incoming class sizes at some schools, admission to health professions schools continues to be highly competitive.

#### **ALLOPATHIC MEDICAL (MD) SCHOOLS**

#### **FALL 2021**

Applicant Pool	Accepted Students	Means	Percent
52,963	22,197	3.73 GPA	42%
		511 5 MCAT	

#### LAFAYETTE ACCEPTANCE RATES

#### **MEDICAL SCHOOL**

GPA	Applied	Accepted	Percent
3.60 and above	58	43	74%
3.20-3.59	21	9	43%
Lower than 3.20	4	1	25%

Data are for all students (first-time applicants as well as re-applicants) applying for admission to medical schools (MD, DO) in 2018-21.

The incoming medical school class for fall 2021 saw **67 PERCENT** of our 15 Lafayette applicants accepted into either an allopathic or osteopathic medical school.

#### **DENTAL SCHOOL**

Applied	Accepted	Percent
7	7	100%

#### **VETERINARY SCHOOL**

Applied	Accepted	Percent
2	2	100%

#### **OPTOMETRY SCHOOL**

Applied	Accepted	Percent
2	2	100%

Data include first-time applicants as well as re-applicants (2018-2021).



#### TO LEARN MORE

Visit our website at healthprofessions.lafayette.edu.

## **Legal Professions**

Lafayette's curriculum provides rich opportunities to enjoy the sort of education that fully prepares students to study law. The small classes at Lafayette make it possible for faculty to know their students well and therefore contribute strong letters of recommendation to a student's law school application.

#### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

No particular courses are required for admission to law school, so the range of acceptable college majors is very broad. The American Bar Association states that "...what counts is the intensity and depth of your undergraduate program and your capacity to perform well at an academically rigorous level."

### Essential to undergraduate coursework:

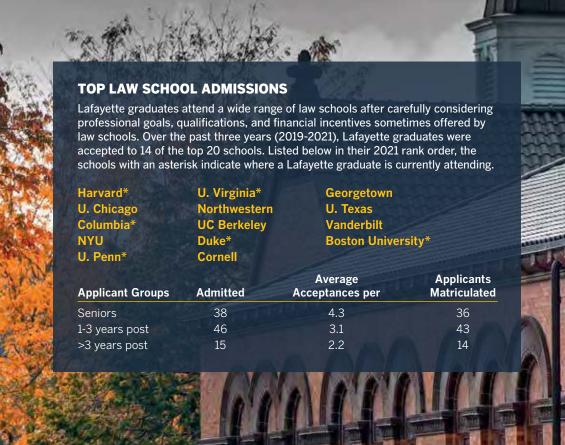
- Critical analysis
- Logical reasoning
- Written and oral expression

**ACCEPTANCE RATES** 

100%

CLASS OF 2019, 2020 & 2021

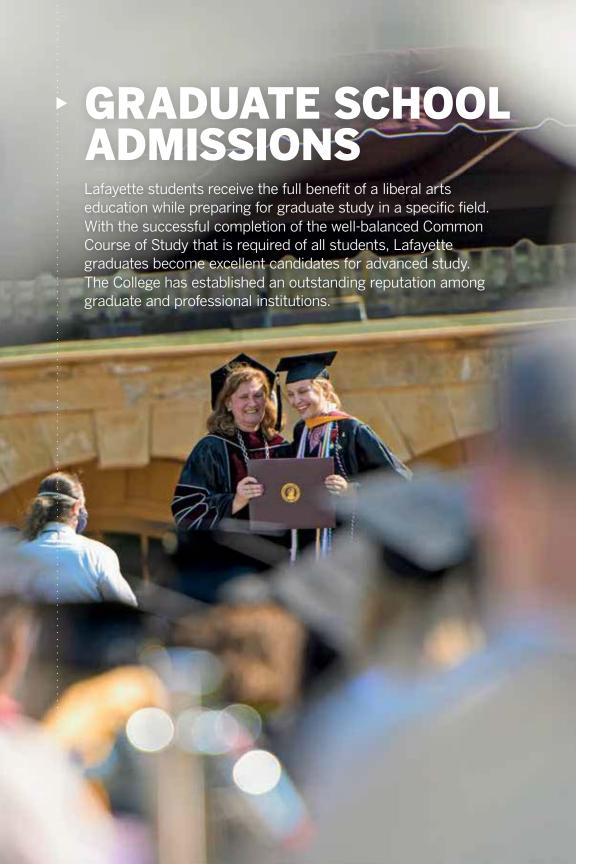




#### **ADVISING ASSISTANCE**

In order to receive full benefits from the advising process, students are encouraged to engage with program resources early. Components and related opportunities include:

- Individual student advising provided by faculty and professional staff
  to explore personal/intellectual interests, develop candidacy strengths,
  decide if/when to pursue a legal education, and execute the most beneficial
  application strategies followed by the law school selection decision
- Sessions featuring guests such as alumni in legal professions and law school admissions representatives
- Four-year collaboration with the Gateway Career Center to explore and secure meaningful externship, internship, and employment experiences
- Mock Trial team
- Forensics team
- Local and regional law school forums



#### **CONTINUING YOUR EDUCATION**

About one in every five Lafayette graduates goes directly to graduate or professional school.

#### **SELECTING A GRADUATE SCHOOL**

We offer individual graduate school counseling as well as workshops and programs about the application process. An extensive selection of print and online graduate school materials are available in the Gateway Career Center, Dean of Advising and Co-Curricular Programs Office, and Skillman Library. Lafayette faculty are also valuable sources of information.

#### **TAKING ADMISSION EXAMS**

Students are provided with information about graduate school exams, including preparation advice and resources.

- The Law School Admission Test (LSAT) is offered online.
- The subject test of the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) is offered at Lafayette each semester.
- The Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) and business school Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) are offered in the Lehigh Valley.



#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

#### **GATEWAY CAREER CENTER**

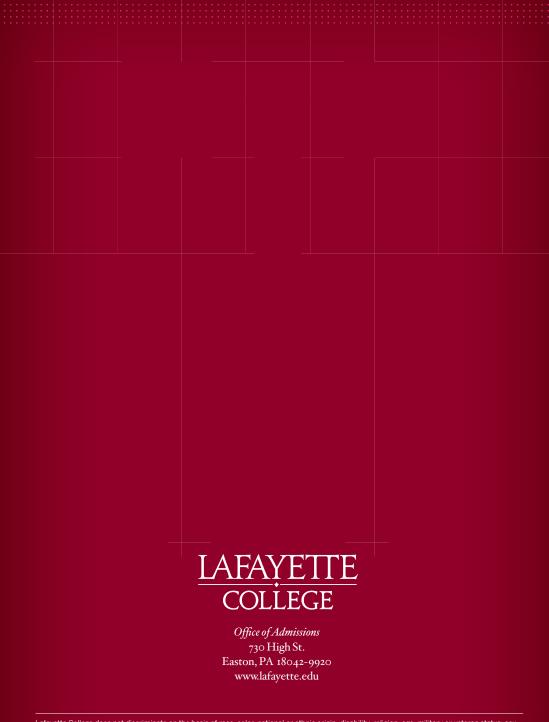
201 Hogg Hall Easton, PA 18042 (610) 330-5115 Fax (610) 330-5719 careers@lafayette.edu gateway.lafayette.edu

#### **HEALTH PROFESSIONS**

101 Scott Hall Easton, PA 18042 (610) 330-5521 Fax (610) 330-5711 healthprofessions@lafayette.edu healthprofessions.lafayette.edu

#### **LEGAL PROFESSIONS**

201 Scott Hall Easton, PA 18042 (610) 330-5115 Fax (610) 330-5719 walzm@lafayette.edu prelaw.lafayette.edu



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