

# OVERVIEW AND POLICIES

## Who Are We?

### Mission

Established in 1863, La Salle University is a private, Lasallian Catholic university rooted in the tradition of the Brothers of the Christian Schools teaching order founded by St. John Baptist de La Salle. Known as an academic community of excellence, one shaped by Lasallian, Catholic values, La Salle University remains steadfast in the pursuit of its mission of faith, service, community, and social justice, with concern, too, for both collective values and the individual values of its students.

As a Catholic university, La Salle strives to offer a high-impact teaching and learning experience and a transformational education founded on the idea that one's intellectual and spiritual development go hand in hand, complementing and fulfilling each other. The University has, as its basic purpose, the freedom to search for truth by teaching its students the basic skills, knowledge, and values that they will need for a life of human dignity and purpose. The programs of the University aim to prepare students for regionally and globally focused service and progressive leadership in their families, organizations, and communities, and to fulfill the immediate and long-term goals of their lives.

Today, La Salle University remains committed to the values of the Gospel and the founding story and vision of St. La Salle. Those values remain integral to how we understand our Catholic identity and informs us in how we continue our Lasallian educational mission—that all knowledge is practical and empowering, filled with the capacity to transform lives. Anchored in the living tradition of the Brothers of the Christian Schools and in association with a diverse and inclusive learning community, the University aims to educate the whole person by fostering a rigorous free search for truth. La Salle, in affirming the value of both liberal arts and professional studies, prepares students for the lifelong pursuit and exploration of wisdom, knowledge, and faith that lead to engaged and fulfilling lives marked by a commitment to the common good.

Read more about La Salle's mission and core values. (<https://www.lasalle.edu/mission-and-heritage/>)

### The Lasallian Tradition

Following in the footsteps of their founder, Saint John Baptist de La Salle, the Brothers of the Christian Schools' first permanent educational establishment in North America was founded in 1837 in Montreal, Canada. In 1842, John McMullin became the first De La Salle Brother from the United States. He founded Calvert Hall College High School in 1845, in Baltimore, Md., becoming the first permanent Lasallian school in the United States. For more than 180 years, Lasallian education has spread throughout the United States and Canada with the establishment of schools, universities, and other centers of education. The mission of Lasallian education continually aims to adapt to emerging educational and spiritual needs of children, young people and adults, especially those who are economically poor.

Chartered in 1863 by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, La Salle College became the first institution of higher education in the world to bear the name of Saint John Baptist de La Salle. Its incorporators were a group of De La Salle Brothers, a diocesan bishop, and laymen—a cooperative group unusual among boards of U.S. Catholic tertiary institutions. The co-founders of the College were Bishop James Wood, fifth bishop of Philadelphia, and Brother Teliow Fackelday, F.S.C., a German immigrant who joined the Brothers in the United States. Brother

Teliow was the founding principal of Christian Brothers High School (later La Salle College High School) in St. Michael's parish at 2nd and Jefferson Streets. Four years after its foundation at St. Michael's, the College moved to Filbert Street, opposite Philadelphia's City Hall. There, the small collegiate department developed for some 20 years in tandem with the high school department; the borders between the two, in fact, were at times indistinct. Because crowding continued during the 1870s, the trustees sought more commodious space uptown at 1240 North Broad Street. La Salle relocated there in 1886, remaining in the former Bouvier Mansion until 1929, when the College and high school were established in the Belfield neighborhood of Northwest Philadelphia.

After the end of World War I, the College looked forward to further expansion in the 1920s. For this purpose, the trustees purchased a part of the historic Belfield Farm. No sooner was work on the new buildings completed, when the country plunged into the Great Depression. Only belt-tight economy and persistence by Presidents Brother Alfred Kelly, F.S.C., and Brother Anselm Murphy, F.S.C., and help from other Brothers' schools got the College through its mortgage crisis and the Second World War, when enrollment dropped from 400 to 80 students. But a new dawn came soon thereafter.

In 1946, La Salle College faced a wave of returning war veterans and began a period of expansion. New buildings mushroomed and an increasingly lay faculty kept pace with a student body that soon numbered thousands. Through the years, then the University has expanded physically through acquisition of adjacent properties, constructing (and, in some cases, renovating) various campus buildings, and expanding the number of academic programs on both the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Anchored in Philadelphia, La Salle continues to provide an intellectual and spiritual space for students to tell their unique story and how they want to be known, and how a La Salle education can help propel learners into leaders to achieve that, with the support of an experienced and caring faculty and staff. La Salle remains committed to the values of the Gospel and the founding story and vision of Saint De La Salle. Those values remain integral to how we understand our Catholic identity and informs us in how we continue our mission of Lasallian education.

### The Campus

At La Salle University, learning occurs both in and out of the classroom. La Salle is located in Philadelphia—the sixth-most populous city in the United States, and home to neighborhoods rich with unique historical, educational, social, and cultural opportunities. Faculty complement their classes with city-based activities and the University enjoys fruitful partnerships with industry and a variety of organizations not only in the region but globally, offering students plenty of experiential learning opportunities.

On campus, La Salle is situated on 133 acres in Northwest Philadelphia, six miles from the cultural, historic, and social attractions of Center City, with convenient access to public transit. In 2016, La Salle opened Founders' Hall—a cutting-edge facility that delivers an unparalleled learning environment for La Salle's School of Business, replete with leading technologies and professional development services. That same year, the University unveiled Hansen Quad, a picturesque and reimaged green space at the heart of La Salle's sprawling urban campus. In 2019, La Salle's Connelly Library, debuted its new Learning Commons to offer space for multi-disciplinary collaboration and innovation between University students, faculty, and staff, and community neighbors.

- Main Campus is the heart of La Salle, where numerous buildings house administrative offices, academic class space, laboratories, and the School of Arts and Sciences. You can find Connelly Library (<https://library.lasalle.edu/>) and many of La Salle's residence halls here, too.
- West Campus is home to the School of Business and the School of Nursing and Health Sciences, as well as the Office of University Advancement.
- South Campus is where you will find the Department of Communication, several residence halls, and Treetops Café.

View La Salle's campus map. (<https://www.lasalle.edu/map-and-directions/>)

## Nationally Recognized

La Salle University provides a holistic, outcomes-based education, making it a true value and an investment in the future of its students. Graduates become top performers and top earners in their respective fields.

The University is ranked regularly for value, return on investment, and educational quality by national agencies, organizations, and media outlets. Here are a few:

U.S. News & World Report, 2024

**Best value:** La Salle climbed 13 spots to No. 136 among the top half of universities in the nation.

**Social mobility:** La Salle jumped 37 spots among national Universities for social mobility, with a No. 45 ranking, placing the university in the top 10% nationally. The University maintained its No. 1 spot among national universities in the Philadelphia region and its No. 2 spot in Pennsylvania. La Salle has been recognized by U.S. News for its social mobility since the 2019 debut of the ranking.

**Best colleges for veterans:** La Salle moved up six spots on the U.S. News Best Colleges for Veterans list to a rank of 166.

**Economic Diversity:** In 2022-23, U.S. News and World Report noted that 37% of La Salle's undergraduate students are receiving Pell Grants, listing the University as a top school for economic diversity across national universities.

Additional Rankings:

Forbes listed La Salle as one of America's Top Colleges in 2023.

Money Magazine recognized the University as one of the best colleges in America with a four out of five star ranking on the Best Colleges in America 2023 report.

The 10-year earnings of La Salle graduates placed in the top 6% nationally and the lifetime ROI of a La Salle degree ranks in the top 7%, according to Georgetown University's Center on Education and the Workforce (CEW), which published findings in a 2022 report titled Ranking 4,500 Colleges by ROI.

Read more about La Salle's rankings. (<https://www.lasalle.edu/admissions/why-la-salle/rankings/>)

## Accreditations and Memberships – The Mark of Excellence

La Salle University was chartered in 1863 by the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and is empowered by that authority to grant academic degrees.

La Salle University is an accredited institution and a member of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) (<https://www.msche.org/>). La Salle's accreditation status is Non-Compliance

Warning. The Commission's most recent action on the institution's accreditation status on June 26, 2025, was to warn the institution. MSCHE is an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education.

La Salle is also accredited by:

AACSB International (The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business)

777 South Harbor Island Blvd., Suite 750  
Tampa, FL 33602-5730  
813.769.6500

Pennsylvania Department of Education  
333 Market St., 12th Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17126  
717.787.5041

American Chemical Society  
1155 16th Street, NW,  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
202.872.4589

American Psychological Association  
750 First Street, NE  
Washington, D.C. 20002-4242  
800.374.2721

The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)  
655 K Street, Suite 750  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
202.887.6791

Council on Social Work Education, Board of Accreditation  
333 John Carlyle Street, Suite 400  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
703.683.8080

The Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology at La Salle University is accredited by the:

Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association  
2200 Research Boulevard, #310  
Rockville, MD 20850  
800-498-2071 or 301-296-5700.

La Salle University's Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders has received approval from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Department of Education (PDE) for Educational Specialist, School Speech and Language Pathologist (PK-12), and Instructional, Special Education - Speech and Language Impaired (PK-12). Either certificate is needed to work in the various school systems in Pennsylvania.

La Salle University's Didactic Program in Nutrition and Coordinated Program in Dietetics are accredited by the:

Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics  
120 S. Riverside Plaza, Suite 2190  
Chicago, IL 60606-6995  
312.899.0040, x5400

The Frank J. Tornetta School of Anesthesia and the La Salle post-BSN to DNP Nurse Anesthesia Program are accredited by the:

Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs  
222 S. Prospect Avenue  
Park Ridge, Ill  
60068-4001, 847-655-1160

The BSN, MSN, DNP, and APRN Post-master's Certificate programs at La Salle University are accredited by the:

Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education  
655 K Street NW, Suite 750  
Washington DC 20001  
202-887-6791

The undergraduate and graduate programs in Public Health are accredited by the:

Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH)  
101 Wayne Ave., Suite 220  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

The Wound, Ostomy, Continence Certificate Program is accredited by the:

Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Society  
1120 Route 73, Suite 200  
Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054  
888-224-WOCN

La Salle's Marriage and Family Therapy Master's program is accredited by the:

Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE) of the Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT)  
112 S. Alfred Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
(703) 838-9808

La Salle's Psy.D. Program in Clinical Psychology is accredited by the:  
American Psychological Association  
750 First St. NE  
Washington, DC 20002-4242  
(800) 374-2721

La Salle's Professional Clinical Counseling Program is accredited by the:

Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP).  
500 Montgomery Street, Suite 350  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Member of: Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences, American Council on Education, Association of American Colleges and Universities, National Collegiate Honors Council, College Entrance Examination Board, American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers, Association of College Admissions Counselors, National Catholic Educational Association, College and University Council of Pennsylvania, Association of Liberal Arts Colleges of Pennsylvania for the Advancement of Teaching, Pennsylvania Catholic Education Association, American Library Association, Urban Studies Association, National Commission on Accrediting, American Catholic Historical Society, Educational Conference of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, National Association for Foreign Student Affairs, National Association of Student Personnel

Administrators, Association of College and University Housing Officers, and National Association of College and University Business Officers.

## Undergraduate Admission

The La Salle University Undergraduate Admission Office gives careful consideration to all applicants to the University. Each applicant is treated as an individual and is therefore reviewed holistically using academic, extracurricular and standardized testing measures (if applicable). A thorough review of the applicant writing sample and letters of recommendation are also considered.

### La Salle University is now Test-Free

As part of a pilot program, La Salle will no longer consider standardized tests for admission or merit scholarships. We will pilot this program for applicants for Fall 2023, 2024, and 2025.

It is clear to us that the best predictor of success in the La Salle classroom is each candidate's high school curriculum and grades. *These factors will also drive our academic scholarship decisions.*

### Elements of a successful application

The heart of the review for admission is the demonstrated academic preparation for the applicant's program of study. The courses taken and grades earned are most important. At a minimum, students are expected to follow a college preparatory curriculum. The opportunity to take honors, AP, IB, and other advanced classes does enhance our view of the depth of preparation. Students interested in Nursing and other STEM programs are expected to have a strong record in math and science courses.

The personal characteristics we learn about through essays, recommendations, and the activities profile help to shape our overall understanding of each candidate's high school career and life experiences, and fit to La Salle.

### Freshman Admission

Students can apply to La Salle any time after completing their junior year of high school as long as they fulfill the following admission requirements.

#### Freshman Admission Requirements High School Units:

A student's final high school record should show successful completion of at least 16 units of high school work, including the following:

- English 4 units
- Mathematics 3 units that must include at least 2 years of algebra
- Foreign Language 2 units that must be of the same language
- History 1 unit
- Natural Science 2 units

Total 12 units

The Committee on Admission will review only completed applications with all supporting materials.

### La Salle University Application Review

The following is required of all applicants to La Salle University applying:

- Common Application or La Salle University Application
- An official transcript showing three years of high school scholastic records

- Your TOEFL, IELTS, or Duolingo scores (for international students)
- An academic letter of recommendation from a teacher, counselor, parent, or school administrator
- Personal Statement/Essay

The required Common Application or La Salle Application Essay is not graded. This essay is generally used to inform the Admissions Committee about the applicant's interests and/or background.

La Salle reviews completed applications on a rolling basis. However, if a completed application is submitted on or before La Salle's non-binding, Early Explorer deadline (November 1), a decision is guaranteed by early December. Applications received after the Early Explorer deadline will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

In exceptional cases, students may be admitted after completion of the junior year, but only on the recommendation of their high school counselor and with evidence of superior academic achievement. In addition, early high school graduates are also required to complete an interview with a La Salle University Admission Counselor before a final admission decision can be made. All students who are accepted must graduate from an accredited high school with creditable grades, attendance, and disciplinary records.

La Salle University reviews each application for admission individually; there is no single, inflexible set of standards—such as GPA, test score, or years of courses to determine admission eligibility. Instead, students will be asked to choose either the Traditional Application or Test-Flexible Application as the path that best reflects the students abilities, skills, life experiences, and potential for success at La Salle.

## Policies, Rights, Responsibilities

### Nondiscrimination Policy

La Salle University is a diverse community dedicated in the tradition of the Christian Brothers, and is concerned for both ultimate values and for the individual values of its faculty, employees, and students. Accordingly, in support of this values-driven mission, the University is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment or any student or applicant for admission based upon race, color, religion, sex, age (40 years and older), disability, national origin or ancestry, citizenship, sexual preference or orientation, marital, parental, family, and pregnancy status, gender identity, military or veteran status, genetic information, or any prohibited basis, unless there is a bona fide occupational qualification which justifies a differentiation. This commitment applies to all aspects of the employment relationship, including hiring, promotion, compensation, discipline, discharge, and any term or condition of employment and extends to participation in all educational programs and activities of La Salle University. Employment is based upon an applicant's ability to meet the established requirements for employment. All employment and admissions decisions will be made in compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local antidiscrimination laws.

In addition, La Salle University will make reasonable accommodation for qualified individuals with disabilities that are known to the University. The University will also make reasonable accommodations to the religious beliefs and practices of which it is aware. The University, however, need not make any accommodation that would cause it an undue hardship.

Further, La Salle University firmly believes in providing a learning environment that is free from all forms of harassment and will not tolerate any form of impermissible harassment. Such harassment

disregards individual values and impedes the Lasallian mission of providing an educational community that fosters both intellectual and spiritual development. Included in this prohibition are sexual misconduct, sexual harassment, and sexual violence, racial harassment, national origin harassment, and harassment based upon ancestry, color, religion, age, disability, citizenship, marital status, gender identity, military or veteran status, sexual preference or orientation, genetic information, or any basis prohibited under applicable non-discrimination laws.

### Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA): Rights And Privacy Act Provisions

Each year, La Salle University informs students of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (<http://www.lasalle.edu/registrar/student-records-policies/>). This act was intended to protect the privacy of educational records, to establish the right of students to inspect and review their educational records, and to provide guidelines for the correction of inaccurate or misleading data through informal or formal hearings.

To fulfill basic requirements for compliance with the act, each institution must inform each student of his or her right to prevent disclosure of personally identifiable information. Although La Salle does not publish a public directory, the Office of the Registrar, at its discretion, does disclose the following information: name, address, dates of attendance, class, major field of study, degree(s) conferred (including dates), and e-mail address.

Under the provisions of the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act, currently enrolled students may withhold disclosure of such information. To prevent disclosure, written notification must be received by the Office of the Registrar by October 1 in the fall semester and February 15 in the spring semester. The University will honor each request to withhold any of the categories of information listed above but cannot assume responsibility to contact a student for subsequent permission to release them. Decisions about withholding any information should be made very carefully. Should a student decide to inform the institution not to release any information, any future requests for such information from non-institutional persons or organizations will be refused.

La Salle University assumes that failure to request the withholding of "directory information" indicates approval for disclosure.

### Jeanne Clery Act and The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Act 73/College and University Security Information Act

To comply with the provisions of the Jeanne Clery Act and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Act 73, the College and University Security Information Act of 1988, La Salle University's Annual Security and Fire Safety Report (Crime Statistics Report) can be accessed on the Department of Public Safety website (<https://www.lasalle.edu/public-safety/annual-security-and-fire-safety-report/>). The report includes crime statistics and disciplinary referrals for the most recent three years, the University's policies and programs designed to aid in keeping the community safe, information on emergency preparedness, and information on fire safety in residence facilities. Print copies of the document may be requested from the Department of Public Safety via email ([publicsafety@lasalle.edu](mailto:publicsafety@lasalle.edu)).

### Federal Consumer Information Regulations

To comply with Federal Consumer Information Regulations, La Salle University provides specific consumer information about the school to prospective and currently enrolled students and, in some cases,

employees. Please visit the Student Consumer Information website (<http://www.lasalle.edu/hea/>) for more information.

## Student Rights and Responsibilities

A student's matriculation at La Salle University is a voluntary decision that involves acceptance of the responsibility to perform academically and to behave socially in ways consistent with the goals and objectives of the University. When registering at La Salle, students accept University rules and regulations and the authority of the University to exercise disciplinary powers, including suspension and dismissal. The Student Guide to Resources, Rights, and Responsibilities (<http://www.lasalle.edu/students/dean/divpub/manuals/studentguide/>) is available on the University's web site. All students are expected to follow the policies contained in the guide.

## Administration

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*The membership of the Board changes annually.*

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## University Offices and Services

View the complete listing of Departments/Offices (<https://www.lasalle.edu/offices-and-services/>) online.

## Academic Calendar

The Academic Calendar (<https://www.lasalle.edu/academic-calendar/>) for the next year is usually published in the preceding Fall semester. It is accompanied by a less-detailed schema for the next five years.