

CLASS OF

20
30



Parent and Family Handbook

Welcome to the Sarah Lawrence College community!

WELCOME TO SARAH LAWRENCE!

Dear Parents and Families,

As we welcome your student to Sarah Lawrence College, we extend our warmest greetings to you, the newest members of our vibrant community. This comprehensive manual is designed to navigate the transition to college life, offering detailed insights into our academic philosophy, campus resources, and how you can support your student's journey.

A Distinctive Educational Approach

Sarah Lawrence's unique educational model emphasizes personalized learning, creative and critical thinking, and the development of independent study projects under the guidance of faculty mentors. Our curriculum encourages students to explore a wide range of disciplines, fostering a depth of knowledge and a breadth of perspective.



2026-27 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Fall 2026

Monday, August 24 – Wednesday, August 26 - Undergraduate Donning and interviews occur online for Fall

Wednesday, August 26 (afternoon) - First round online course selection

Thursday August 27 - First round student placements

Friday, August 28 - Second round donning and interviews occur online

Monday, August 31 - Second round student placements

Monday, August 31 - Pre-Orientation begins

Wednesday, September 2 - New students arrive for Opening Day

Thursday, September 3 - Saturday, September 5 - New Student Orientation

Saturday, September 5 - Move-in for returning students

Monday, September 7 - Undergraduate classes begin

Monday, September 7 – Friday, September 18 - Add/drop period

Monday, October 12 – Tuesday, October 13 - Study days - no classes

Friday, October 23 - Deadline to submit pass/fail course request

Friday, October 23 – Saturday, October 24 - Family & friends weekend

Wednesday, November 25 – Sunday, November 29 - Thanksgiving break - no classes

Saturday, December 19 - Residence halls close at 10:00 a.m.

Spring 2027

Thursday, January 14 - Friday, January 15 - Undergraduate Donning and interviews occur online for Spring

Wednesday, January 20 - First round student placements

Thursday, January 21 - Second round donning and interviews occur online

Sunday, January 24 - Move-in for returning students

Wednesday, January 27 - Undergraduate classes begin

Wednesday, January 27 - Tuesday, February 9 - Add/drop period

Saturday, March 14 - Sunday, March 21 - Spring Break

Friday, April 2 - Last day to withdraw from Spring classes

Tuesday, May 11 - Undergraduate classes end

Wednesday, May 12 - Residence Halls close at 10:00am for all non-graduating students

Friday, May 14 - Residence Halls close for graduation seniors at 8:00pm

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SARAH LAWRENCE COLLEGE **FIRST-YEAR** *experience*



03	Table of contents
05	Parent Resources
08	Parent and Family Engagement
11	Academic Life and Support
13	Financial Aid and Student Accounts
15	Health, Wellness, and Safety
22	Campus Life and Student Involvement
26	Preparing for the Future
34	Conclusion



Empowering Your Student

Parents can encourage their student(s) to get involved with student clubs and organizations on campus, and to autonomously seek out the academic support resources of the College. Help student(s) to see themselves as their own best advocate(s), and gently encourage them to solve their own problems using our wide offering of college resources at their disposal.

Parents can empower students to advocate for themselves by letting them manage their own time, schedule appointments on their own, and advocate for themselves by reaching out to resources. While it can be hard to get out of the habit of scheduling your student's appointments, it's important to give students the opportunity to manage the tasks of living on their own and learning how to be an adult. By encouraging your student to seek out and reach out to resources, you can teach your student the valuable and empowering skill of advocating for oneself.

Additionally, there are many opportunities to be further involved in the community as a parent and family. We recognize that SLC parents and families are equally as creative and dynamic as their students, and we encourage you to bring that ingenuity to Sarah Lawrence! Families support the College and student body by attending virtual and in person events, by acting as ambassadors at Sarah Lawrence events in your home community, by offering internships and career counseling support, and through fundraising activities. For more information on other opportunities to get involved, visit www.sarahlawrence.edu/parents/.

Supporting Students Through Academic Transitions

Sarah Lawrence's unique curriculum and opportunity for academic freedom may be the first time students are fully in control of their education. While it may be the first time you and your students are experiencing this type of education, keep in mind it's not the first time for faculty and staff who will support and advise your student through this transition. The FAQ section of this document provides answers to some common academic questions you and your student may have.

Keeping in Touch

College students are at a time in their lives where their developmental job is to individuate and separate from their family. Allowing your young adult to decrease their frequency of contact with you (even with less frequent texting) can be a way to allow this normative developmental process. While often well-intentioned, daily contact can hinder their ability to generate their own skills of weathering challenges and growing their wings.

Students deal with transitions in different ways, and may need different levels of support from you during this new phase in their lives. Your relationship with your student(s) may change, and that's okay! In order to navigate this expected change:

- Talk with your student before they move in, and make a plan of how often you will check in or talk. But, don't be offended if that plan falls through! Students are busy meeting new people, adjusting to their new workload, and keeping up with new schedules. This doesn't mean they need you any less, just that the ways in which they need you may be changing.
- While you may be tempted to reach out to your student's don or SLC faculty and staff to get a sense of how they're doing, please resist. It is important to give your student the space to develop their own relationships of trust and mutual respect with their new community.
- Encourage your students to reach out to the resources around them, such as Gryphon Guides, RAs, academic deans, coaches, and dons!
- Affirming to your student that you will remain available to them as needed and are there to support in a non-judgmental way allows them to seek you out as needed.



What to Expect

- Expect that you may hear from your student less frequently than you are used to when they were living at home.
- Expect them to make mistakes; they are navigating new situations for the first time and this is a learning experience. Remember that some of these mistakes help your student grow as an individual and develop skills for adulthood.
- Encourage them to address their own problems. When you intervene to “fix” your student’s difficulties versus encouraging them to use the resources on campus, it disinhibits them from developing the important skills and strengths of self-advocacy, individuation, and facing challenges in their lives.
- Don’t panic when they panic. More often than not, the panicked or distressed call home is their first step in helping them resolve a situation for themselves. Listen as they describe their difficulty and direct them to resources, as well as providing permission to struggle in small ways. Sometimes it helps to ask, “are you looking for help with solutions or do you just need a sounding board?”

Send a Care Package!

Order care and gift packages through the Sarah Lawrence College ECampus bookstore, or send one on your own! All mail and packages should be addressed as follows:

Student’s Name

SLC, Mail #XXXX

1 Mead Way

Bronxville, NY, 10708



PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Staying Connected and Involved



Parent and Family Programs:

There are several ways in which Parents and Families can engage with their students' college experience at Sarah Lawrence College. Families are able to attend events virtually or in person, be it a performance, reading, athletic event, or showcase.

At the end of October, Sarah Lawrence offers an annual Family and Friends Weekend, welcoming loved ones onto campus to celebrate the academic and social communities their students engage with. This weekend offers an immersive opportunity for parents, families, and friends to get to know what the Sarah Lawrence College experience looks like for their student right alongside them. Student showcases, athletic events, live performances, campus tours, informational sessions, and a family fun night are just some of the activities families and friends have the option to participate in, well acquainting them with all aspects of campus life.

Parents who wish to stay up to date with campus activities and updates can fill out the SLC Parent Questionnaire here:

<https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/parents/update/>.

Information on events, workshops, and opportunities for parents to engage with the college community.

Join the Parents Council!

The Parents Council is the College's family philanthropy group dedicated to fostering a robust and informed parent community. Members of the Parents Council make an annual contribution of \$1,000 or more to The Fund for Sarah Lawrence. The Council has a staff liaison at the College who works closely with Council leaders to strengthen the relationship between the College and all Council members. The Council meets twice each year over Zoom with select faculty and administrators so that members can learn more about important campus topics. In addition, other Council activities include:

- invitations to receptions and events featuring campus leaders and students
- receiving regular College notifications to keep them up to date about campus happenings
- networking with other Parents Council member

For more information on these opportunities, please visit <https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/giving/fund/parents-council.html> or contact staff liaison and Associate Director of Leadership Annual Giving, Nicole Bedoya.

Nicole Bedoya

Associate Director of Annual Leadership Giving

nbedoya@sarahlawrence.edu

914.813.9243



Get Involved

Getting involved at Sarah Lawrence presents a unique opportunity to contribute meaningfully to the community that shapes your student's academic and personal growth. We invite you to explore various avenues to stay engaged and support our mission.

Make a Gift

Consider making a gift to [The Fund for Sarah Lawrence](#). Your generosity directly provide a vital source of unrestricted support that allows the College to maintain its high academic standards, provide quality educational programs, underwrite scholarships, faculty, and other academic resources. Gifts from parents to the Fund for Sarah Lawrence are used to provide for the most pressing needs of the College. To make a gift, please visit slc.edu/give.

Volunteer

Encourage fellow parents to support The Fund for Sarah Lawrence through fundraising calls or by writing notes.

Career Support

Collaborate with the Office of Career Services by offering internships, job placements, or informational interviews. Your professional insights and opportunities can pave the way for our students' future success, providing them with invaluable real-world experience.



ACADEMIC LIFE AND SUPPORT

CREATING A PERSONALIZED EDUCATION

First Year Studies

All first year students are placed in a First Year Studies (FYS) course designed to introduce students to the college's pedagogical approach. These classes are primarily year-long seminar style classes alongside other first year students, with the teacher serving as the student's don (academic advisor) throughout their time at the College. During their FYS class, students participate in one-on-one conferences with their don to develop their self-directed independent work, discuss their academic interests and hone their course of study. Students choose FYS classes from courses offered in nearly all areas of study. For more information on the First Year Studies model, visit <https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/new-students/choosing-first-year-studies.html>.

Conference Work

Students at Sarah Lawrence complete conference work throughout each semester for all seminar style classes. Conference work refers to independently driven research projects that reflect a student's own interests as they pertain to the subject matter of their classes. Students work in collaboration with their professors to explore what parts of their class most interest them, resulting in a research based paper or project. Conference work is rooted in the course's content but students enrolled in seminars or lectures work produce projects ranging from traditional research papers to screenplays.

Donning Model - Academic Advising and Planning

Another aspect of Sarah Lawrence's unique academic model is our Donning system. Dons are academic advisors who work closely with students to build their path throughout their time at the College. First year and transfer students are assigned dons prior to starting classes. This allows dons to meet with their donees before registration to discuss what classes interest them and help guide them through the registration process. After their first year, a student will meet with their don again during each registration period to discuss their class options. Dons work closely with each student to customize their academic experience at Sarah Lawrence, from exploring study abroad opportunities, to creating an academic path individually catered to their interests.

Academic Resources

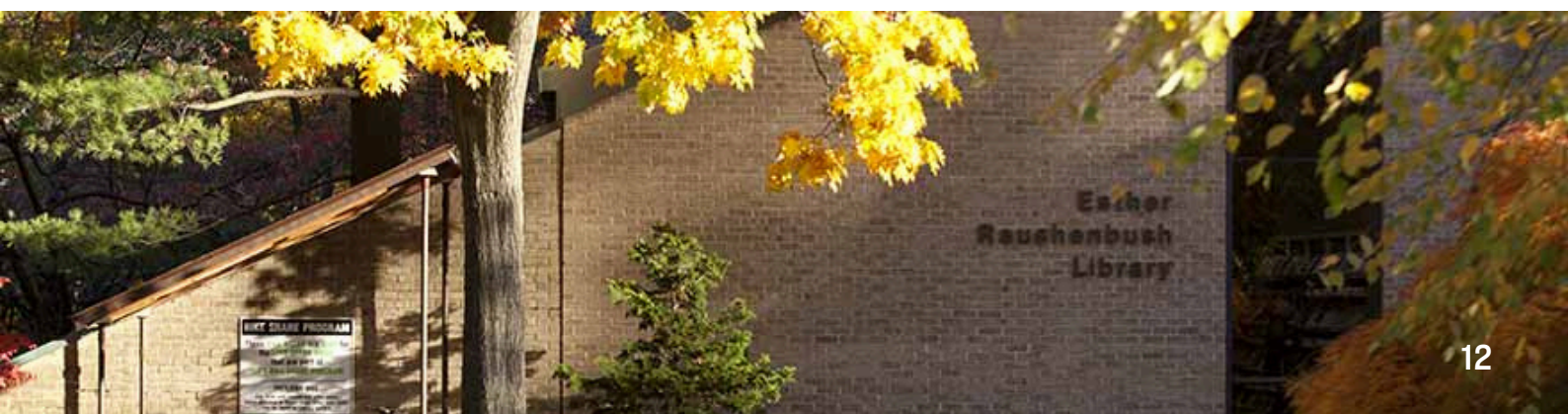
Library and Research Facilities

The Esther Raushenbush Library offers a vast selection of resources for students to utilize in their academic studies and beyond. The library offers an extensive collection of books, as well as online resources and databases for various areas of study. Students also have access to the college's archives, the William Schuman Music Library, and the Interlibrary Loan system, which allows students to access resources from schools across the country. The library is home to a variety of study spaces that accommodate both individual and group study. The library also hosts a variety of events, both academic and social, such as research and digital humanities workshops, faculty talks, seasonal events, the SLCPodcast, and even a Library Takeover Party to kick off the school year. Also available for student use are communal sewing machines, a 3D printer, board games, blankets and puzzles.

In addition to the extensive list of the library's physical and online resources, students have access to a devoted support staff. Students can book appointments with librarians for assistance in all phases of their research and digital humanities projects. They can also be trained on using the sewing machine, 3D printing and podcasting.

Learning Commons:

The Learning Commons, located on the main level of the library, offers a variety of academic support services to all students. Academic coaches are available to meet with students to develop their time management, organization, and study skills. Writing mentors meet individually with students to offer organizational, grammatical, and citation tips for any writing-based assignments and conference projects. Peer tutoring sessions include all introductory, and some intermediate, math and science courses, as well as a variety of languages. The LC also hosts a variety of interactive workshops throughout the year on topics geared to support students' academic growth. [Please visit our website to learn more!](#)



FINANCIAL AID AND STUDENT ACCOUNTS

NAVIGATING FINANCIAL SUPPORT



Financial Aid

The first step in the Financial Aid process is filling out the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid](#), or FAFSA. The FAFSA considers parent and student contribution, as well as other factors, to calculate the Student Aid Index (SAI). Sarah Lawrence then determines the student's eligibility for assistance based on the Cost of Attendance and the SAI.

Once financial need is determined, students may receive financial aid awards in the form of institutional aid, federal aid, or state aid. Institutional aid is not determined by the FAFSA, but by the College. Institutional aid does not need to be repaid, and may include merit scholarships and/or need-based Sarah Lawrence grants. Federal and state aid is determined by information provided on the FAFSA, and may include the Federal Pell Grant, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants, and State Grants. Other forms of aid include Federal Work Study, Federal Direct Student Loans, and/or Federal Direct Parent Loans for Undergraduate Students. Students may also apply to outside scholarships, which must be reported to the College immediately.

For more information on Financial Aid processes and deadlines, visit the [Sarah Lawrence Guide to Financial Aid](#). The Office of Financial Aid provides a list of Frequently Asked Questions on the Sarah Lawrence website:

<https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/student-accounts/faq.html>.

Students may also access information on [MySLC](#).

Note: Students must reapply for financial aid by filling out the FAFSA every year.

Student Accounts

Tuition & Waivers

- All resident First Year Students are required to use Meal Plan A, B, or C. Students may change this via the student plan meal form on MySLC.
- Student Health Insurance is required unless the student completes the [Health Insurance Waiver](#).
- Tuition Refund Insurance is required unless the student completes the [Tuition Refund Insurance Waiver](#).

How to Make a Payment

All students must complete the [Terms of Payment Policy](#) (MySLC login required) before registering.

- Online Payments
 - Online tuition payment is available via Nelnet, which students may access through [MySLC](#).
 - Students can authorize a third party on their Nelnet account who can also make payments and enroll in a payment on their behalf. Authorized parties will receive their own Nelnet credentials to log onto the student account. For more information regarding Nelnet click [here](#).
- Mail Payments
 - Checks submitted as payments should be made payable to Sarah Lawrence College and mailed to:

Sarah Lawrence College

Attn: Student Accounts

P.O. Box 8000 Department 120

Buffalo, NY 14267

- Please be sure to include the student's name and ID number on all checks.
- International Payments
 - International students may now pay their Sarah Lawrence tuition using the currency of their home country. To do so, please submit your payment via the secure service [Flywire](#).
 - For more information about [Flywire](#).
 - How to Make Payment from [China](#) or [India](#).

Payment Plans

Students and families have the option of enrolling in monthly payment plans through the college's electronic billing provider Nelnet. Plans will be available on a semester basis only. Payments will be processed via ACH, or credit card, automatically on the 5th of each month. An enrollment fee of \$55 and a down payment for the first month of the plan will be required at the time of enrollment. Each student may only have one active payment plan per semester.

The dates for enrollment in the payment plan, as well as the dates for each monthly payment can be found on [MySLC](#).

HEALTH, WELLNESS, AND SAFETY

SUPPORTING STUDENT WELLBEING



Important Phone Numbers

Please note: Due to FERPA policy, specific information about students will not, and legally cannot, be given to parents, family, or other callers.

SLC Health & Wellness Center (M-F; 9am-5pm)

(914) 395 2350

Campus Safety Emergency 24/7/365

(914) 395-2222

Campus Safety Non-Emergency 24/7/365

(914) 395-2209

New York-Presbyterian Westchester Hospital

(914) 787-1000

Victims Assistance Services of Westchester

(914) 965-0217

Health and Wellness Center

Located in Lyles House, the Health & Wellness Center is an integrated model of care, offering both Medical and Counseling & Psychological Services. For an appointment, students can call during business hours or go to the online [Patient Portal](#) and make an appointment.

Important Resources and Numbers

Emergency: 911

National Suicide and Crisis Lifeline: 988

SLC Health & Wellness Center (M-F; 9am-5pm)

- 914-395-2350

After –Hours Mental Health Support available 24/7 at Mantra ConnectNow:

- 1-833-589-0153

24 hour Resources:

- Medical/Psychological Emergencies On Campus- Call Campus Safety 914-395-2222 and 911. Off campus call 911.
- National Suicide and Crisis Hotline: 988
- Acute Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Violence Resource- SAAVE at Westchester Medical Center 2/47 Hotline for resources to support informed choices about health and safety 833-220-2444
- Students with Wellfleet Student Health Insurance (purchased through the College)
 - Nurse Hotline: 1-800-634-7629
 - Behavioral/Mental Health Hotline: 1-888-857-5462
- Students with other health insurance should check their insurance card for resources



Medical Services

Our staff is specially trained to understand and treat problems that relate to college-age students and their lifestyles. Medical Services is staffed primarily by Family Nurse Practitioners (FNPs) and Nurses while the College is in session.

On Campus Care:

Students are seen in person at the Health & Wellness Center by clinicians who are available to:

- Diagnose and treat short-term physical illnesses and minor injuries
- Prescribe common medications for acute illness
- Manage sexual health issues, including testing and treatment
- Provide birth control and sexual protection, including emergency contraception (morning-after pill), Depo-Provera (DMPA) contraceptive injections and prescriptions for oral contraceptives
- Physical exams (sports, study abroad, clinical rotations)
- Referrals to off campus medical providers for ongoing complex medical needs/illnesses
- Provide information and referrals for PrEP, PEP, Transgender Resources in the local and NYC area

Urgent Care:

During hours that the Health & Wellness Center is open (Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. closed 12pm-1pm) students can contact the Health & Wellness Center and they may be able to navigate a same day appointment or assess if emergency services are needed. Please note that same day appointments are not guaranteed and you may need to seek care at an Urgent Care center if the visits are full for that day.

When the Health & Wellness Center is closed, students with serious medical or psychological health concerns may request to be transported directly to the New York Presbyterian Westchester Hospital (formally Lawrence Hospital) Emergency Room by calling SLC Campus Safety at (914) 395-2222. To return to campus from the emergency room, students can call 914-395-2209 (Campus Safety non-emergency line).

There is always a member of the On-Call Residential Staff available (through Campus Safety desk). This staff member is able to be an on-campus resource after-hours. To be connected with the on-call staff, students should call Campus Safety (914-395-2209).

Medical Transport:

Medical Transport is an accommodation available to students with documented disabilities or medical conditions who need assistance getting around the Sarah Lawrence campus. Students may receive Medical Transport as a reasonable accommodation through either Health & Wellness or the Office of Access and Disability Services, and the transportation is then managed and operated by Campus Safety. Medical Transport offers point-to-point transportation between on-campus locations, but does not operate off-campus.

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)

The mission of Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) is to support students' emotional well-being and personal growth through confidential counseling as well as access and linkage with mental health services. We strive to foster a healthy, inclusive campus community by providing support, education, relationship-building, and crisis response. Individual counseling services are offered within a brief solution-oriented therapy model designed to help students address immediate concerns and develop effective strategies for managing current challenges. This approach is best suited for concerns that have developed recently or are expected to resolve in a relatively short period of time. Students experiencing longer-term or more complex concerns, or those who have previously participated in ongoing therapy, may be encouraged to connect with a community-based provider for more consistent, longer-term care.

On-Campus Care:

All services begin with an initial 20 minute treatment planning consultation where you will have a chance to talk about the concerns you wish to address. We ask that students arrive 10 minutes before appointment to complete initial paperwork. Based on the information presented, you and the clinician will decide upon next steps. Treatment plans may include on-campus care, off campus referrals, or a combination of the two.

- Individual Brief Solution Oriented Counseling
- Group therapy sessions.
- In-the Moment Support with 24/7 Mantra ConnectNow Hotline-1-833-589-0153 (no appointment, no wait-whether you are feeling overwhelmed or stressed or just need support in the moment available to all SLC students)
- Peer Counseling Support-Trained Peer Counselors with office hours for peer based support around adjustment to SLC or other challenges.
- Brief Psychiatric Medication Management
- Referrals for off-campus care (ongoing psychiatry management, weekly therapy, higher level support needs)

Off-Campus Care:

When a student's needs fall outside of what we can provide, we will do our best to refer them to appropriate resources but cannot assure that all recommendations are covered by your individual health insurance. The SLC Health & Wellness Center has a clinical case manager to assist students with referrals for off campus care and understanding the students health insurance benefits.

Campus Safety

The Sarah Lawrence College Campus Safety Department:

Is a 24/7 / 365 All-Hazard Campus Safety Department that oversees Traditional Campus Public Safety Patrol Function & Response, Fire Safety, Emergency Medical Response, Dispatch for Emergency Calls & Service Calls, Physical & Electronic Security, Environmental Health & Safety, Emergency Management, Event Security & Support, Liaison to City First Responders and Campus Shuttle Services. The Department balances a strong community engagement philosophy with Security Management & Campus Public Safety best practices. Our Campus Safety Team is expected to have daily positive interactions with our community, provide a level of preparedness & Safety Awareness to all in our community, while being prepared to respond to Incidents and Emergencies as they arise, working collaboratively with Campus Partners in prevention and response.

Campus Safety Communication Center is staffed 24/7.

Campus Safety Emergency Number – Campus Safety Communication Center in Swinford Annex – Staffed 24/7/365
914-395-2222

Campus Safety Non-Emergency Number – Campus Safety Communication Center in Swinford Annex – Staffed 24/7/365
914-395-2209



RAVE – Emergency Alert Information

Sarah Lawrence College uses Rave Mobile Safety as its Emergency Alert System. Rave is able to deliver messages to your Sarah Lawrence College email address, voice calls & text messages to your cell phone and alert notification through SLC Safety App.

An upgraded feature within the system is that parents/visitors/vendors/summer conference participants can temporarily join the system by texting into it. Once they join, they will receive alert messages for up to 90 days. Should they want to leave the system before 90 days, all they need to do is text the word stop. It is also possible to renew for another 90 days. If you know someone visiting the campus and they would like to temporarily receive emergency text messages from the College, please give them the instructions below:

To text into the system

To: 67283

Text: Slcalert (one word, not case sensitive)

To text out of the system

To: 67283

Text: Stop (not case sensitive)

Please email me at mbrewster@sarahlawrence.edu if any of the following apply to you:

1. You want to opt out of the system.
2. You are presently not in the system, but would like to join.
3. You would like to change any of your data in the system.

SLC SAFE APP

The Campus Safety team, working with partners from around the College, launched the SLC Safe in Fall of 2025, a new SLC-specific app that puts a number of safety features and resources right at your fingertips. This includes initiating emergency contact with Campus Safety or 911, a Virtual Walk Home service, the College's Emergency Response Guide, and more. I encourage all of you to download the app, which is available for Apple and Android devices by visiting hyperlink in green below or scanning the QR code below.

Download The SLC SAFE APP with Campus Emergency Guide, Support Services, virtual escort and more - [SLC Safe Apple App](#) [SLC Safe Android App](#)

Campus Safety Department Mission

The Mission of the Department of Campus Safety is to enhance the quality of life for the entire College Community and the immediate surrounding area by maintaining a secure environment, where the safety of all is balanced with the rights of the individual. Sarah Lawrence Campus Safety Staff adhere to a Campus Community Engagement Philosophy, where our Campus Safety Officers are expected to have positive interactions with our community daily, to enhance the quality of life of the entire college community and its immediate surrounding area by maintaining a safe environment in an all hazards approach in responding to Security, Fire, Emergency Medical and Service calls. The Department strives to accomplish its mission while adhering to its core values of Service, Courtesy and Respect. The success of this mission depends upon an effective working relationship between Campus Safety Officers and the diverse population of Sarah Lawrence College Community, including students, staff, faculty, visitors and surrounding community. Critical to this relationship is mutual respect. Therefore, we pledge to respect the diverse needs and interests of the community we serve while being vigilant in the protection of both persons and property. In return, we ask that our partners in the community assume their individual and collective responsibilities to make Sarah Lawrence College a Safe Campus with the goal of providing a safe haven that fosters an oasis for learning.

The [Department Web Page](#) provides additional information on the Department including Services and the Annual Security Report for the college - [Campus Safety](#) | [Sarah Lawrence College](#)

For questions / concerns or feedback – please contact SLC Campus Safety
campussafety@sarahlawrence.edu





CAMPUS LIFE AND STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

Building A Community



Office of Student Involvement and Leadership:

The mission of the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership (OSIL) is to enhance and support the co-curricular experiences of Sarah Lawrence students through involvement opportunities, social activities, and leadership development programming. Tremendous learning happens through involvement in the campus community, and the office seeks to support those experiences through the services and programs we provide. The office's main focus is on helping students get involved and connected on the Sarah Lawrence campus through whatever avenue fits best with their interests and goals.

We have a variety of different organizations, ranging from performance, arts & crafts, jobbies, activism, sport related, identity organizations, publications, academic interests, and more! Students can browse the list of student organizations on GryphonLink at <https://getinvolved.slc.edu/organizations>.

Getting involved is a great way to meet people, but sometimes it's out of your student's comfort zone. That's where you come in! Encourage them to take that step by attending an event, joining a group, going to an academic talk, or connecting with folks in their Residence Halls. We tell students all the time that college is what you make of it, so just own that it might be awkward at first, and do it!

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB)

The mission of the Office of Student Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging is to support student success and development at Sarah Lawrence College. This office collaborates with student organizations, campus-wide committees, and other administrative offices to provide programs and learning opportunities that explore issues related to social identity and equity, intercultural dialogue, and inclusion and belonging. Some of our resources include: The EXPLORE Pre-Orientation program, the THRIVE mentorship program, our Student DEIB Ambassadors and HUB Student Leaders, the Chosen Name Form, Meal Swipe Sharing Program, and more!

The EXPLORE Pre-Orientation program works in collaboration with the pre-orientation programs for Community Partnerships and Theatre, fostering connections across these groups while offering workshops on key aspects of transitioning to college. These workshops cover making Sarah Lawrence College feel like home. Whether you're coming from a different country or environment, we provide opportunities for identity exploration (including spiritual identity, BIPOC experiences, international student perspectives, and more), self-advocacy, and community building. This program is open to all incoming first-year students who believe it will support their transition to college.



Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB)

We especially encourage BIPOC, first-generation, and international students to apply to these access resources that will help ease your transition, boost your confidence, and connect you to an extensive community.

The THRIVE Mentorship Program for Students of Color is a yearlong mentorship program that connects incoming first year and transfer students with upper-class students at Sarah Lawrence College. Through intentional engagement and a focus on community building, student participants and mentors will have a better understanding of Sarah Lawrence College's Principles for Mutual Respect and core values; connect with faculty, staff, and alumni; and develop skills related to success in both academic and professional spaces. The THRIVE program is open to all Sarah Lawrence students who feel such a mentorship opportunity would be beneficial during their first year at the College.

Our Student DEIB Ambassadors help build bridges with our identity and cultural student organizations, help plan student programs, and support student dialogue which focuses on understanding our intersecting social identities, diverse within our community and ways current events may be impacting our student body. These talks are facilitated by students for students and was created to help break down the barriers that exist around talking about social identity issues.

The Office of Student DEIB also provides mediation support and serves as a resource for students dealing with prejudice and exclusion on campus through the Chosen Name Process, Meal Swipe Sharing Program, and Bias Incident Reporting system.

Student DEIB is associated with many identity groups active on campus and helps to maintain some of the identity spaces on campus, including Common Ground, LGBTQIA+ Space, and student spaces in the HUB.

Residential Life

The Office of Residential Life at Sarah Lawrence fosters an environment in which students can live, learn, and thrive within a residential community. Residential Life supports a flourishing student community with an emphasis on creating a space that nurtures a sense of belonging. Our office manages campus housing, facilitates educational programming, and supports students' holistic well-being. In addition to coordinating housing assignments, Residential Life manages the student conduct process, summer housing program, and a variety of student support initiatives.

Residential Life is committed to enhancing students' personal and professional growth through our Residential Education programming. These are designed to meet the diverse needs and interests of our student population, and we strive to create a welcoming and inclusive community.

Our team provides after hours support to ensure students have resources even when offices are closed. In addition, our Residential Coordinators oversee different residence halls on-campus and are available to students for support throughout the semester. Our Resident Advisors are trained peer leaders who serve as mentors and resources within their residential communities.

For more information, students may reach out to the [Office of Residential Life](#).





PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

CAREER DEVELOPMENT AND OPPORTUNITIES



Career Services

The Office of Career Services provides assistance with career development and exploration to current students and recent graduates. The office offers several resources that students can start utilizing the moment they join the SLC community.

Career Services offers one-on-one advising appointments. Students can make an appointment for an in-person or online session with one of our career advisors through Handshake, our online platform. Students receive individualized feedback on resumes, cover letters, internship and job search strategies, networking, and interviewing skills.

The Office of Career Services realizes that real world experience is an essential part of skill and career development and encourages students to find internships starting in the summer after their first year. There are several opportunities for students to find internships through this office including Handshake, our Internship and Volunteer Fair; networking events such as the Internship Initiative Program, Employer Site Visits, and Employer/Alumni Panels; or use of our one-on-one appointments.

Previously, our students have interned for companies and organizations such as the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), American Museum of Natural History, Bronx Zoo, CBS Sports, JPMorganChase, Legal Aid Society, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, NBCUniversal, Simon & Schuster, Late Night with Seth Meyers, Mount Sinai, the Guggenheim, the International Rescue Committee and more.

Additionally, students may receive academic credit for an internship through fieldwork overseen through their chosen professor or through the SLC EmbeddEd practicum course. Students who meet eligibility requirements may apply for a Travel Stipend to help offset commuting costs to an unpaid or low paid internship.

<https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/student-life/career-services/internships.html>

Career Services also provides opportunities to speak with our expansive alumni network. Students are encouraged to sign up for SLCCConnect, which allows them to engage with alumni and other students in their prospective field. In partnership with the Office of Alumni Relations, the Office of Career Services hosts alumni networking events both on campus and in NYC for students to meet with SLC graduates thriving in their fields.



PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

CAREER DEVELOPMENT AND OPPORTUNITIES



Experiential Learning Center

At Sarah Lawrence College, we believe learning extends beyond the classroom. A key component of the College's mission is ensuring students have the opportunity to develop the skills, experiences, and connections needed to navigate a complex and rapidly changing world.

Sarah Lawrence has established a new Center that fosters and supports hands-on and integrative learning both on and off campus. The Experiential Learning Center connects students with information, resources, and opportunities in [Career Services](#), [Community Partnerships & Engagement](#), [Global Education](#), [SLC EmbeddED](#), and [Pre-Professional Advising](#).

By bringing these offices together into one shared space, we provide a centralized location for advising students on the many varied experiential learning experiences available to them. Students will also find collaborative coworking areas, a professional setting for remote internships, mentoring sessions, and meeting pods for virtual interviews.

The center provides one location for accessing the following services:

- Individual and group internship and career advising sessions
- Individual meetings and information sessions to prepare for study away
- Experiential learning opportunities
- Practicum credit options via SLC EmbeddED
- Group workshops that support career readiness, community engagement, global education, and pre-professional development.

Global Education - Study Away Programs

Sarah Lawrence students also have other growth opportunities with our many opportunities both abroad and in the U.S.

The Office of Global Education runs semester and year long programs in Cuba, France, Italy, Japan and the UK. Students may also study at other institutions in the United States. Some of our programs offer specific areas of study such as a conservatory approach to Acting or Directing at the British American Drama Academy in London, England. The Paris program offers students with fluency in French to study at French Universities or opportunities to pursue their interests in the Visual and Performing Arts. Other programs offer a wider liberal arts curriculum.

Our students primarily study away during their junior year. There are also options for shorter programs for students who wish to only spend a summer away.

If a student is interested in studying in a country in which Sarah Lawrence does not have an established program, the Office of Global Education can assist in finding non Sarah Lawrence programs. In these situations, however, the student's financial aid package will not be guaranteed. Scholarships are available through some non-SLC programs depending on student need.

Students should consult with the Global Education Office and their dons to determine which program would be best for their interests and development.

The Office of Global Education works with Access and Disability Services to ensure students with differing abilities have the accommodations that they need to succeed in other cultures and countries.

For further information, students may contact or visit the Office of Global Education.



Prehealth Program

The Pre-Health Program in the Dean of Studies Office strives to guide students each step of the way, as they explore and pursue a career in the health professions. Through individual advising, group advising sessions, workshops, and programming, the Pre-Health Program provides students with a rich array of information and resources. The goal is for students to feel connected, integrated, and supported by our pre-health community of students, faculty, and staff.

The Pre-Health Program partners with faculty and many campus offices to offer pre-health students academic guidance and to connect our students with clinical, research, and community opportunities on campus, in the community, and at large. In addition, the program helps prepare students and alumni for application to health professional programs. Students and alumni have significant contact with the pre-health adviser in order to receive guidance and feedback.

Prerequisites and Recommended Classes

To meet the course requisites for the majority of health professional schools in the United States, students enroll in required courses in biology, chemistry, and physics with additional courses offered by the science division, as well as courses in social sciences and the humanities. This coursework will also prepare students to successfully complete the standardized entrance exams (e.g., MCAT, DAT) required by medical and dental schools. In addition, conference work provides students with opportunities to develop original research projects, pursue independent learning, and critically examine professional literature – skills fundamental to future success in health professional programs.

The majority of medical and dental programs in the United States require/recommend applicants to successfully complete the following courses:

- Two semesters of general chemistry with labs
- Two semesters of organic chemistry with labs
- One semester of biochemistry
- Two semesters of general biology with labs
- One-to-two semesters of upper-level biology (strongly recommended)
- Two semesters of physics with labs
- Two semesters of writing and/or English (may be satisfied by your First-Year Seminar, may use AP/IB credits)
- One-to-two semesters of calculus and/or statistics (may use AP/IB credits)
- One-to-two courses in social or behavioral sciences (strongly recommended)
- One-to-two semesters of SLC EmbeddED (strongly recommended)

For students interested in pursuing veterinary medicine, physician assistant, nursing, or other allied health programs (e.g., physical therapy, occupational therapy), please consult with the Pre-Health Program and the individual programs' admissions websites, as prerequisites may vary.

To view a list of prerequisite courses and gain more information about academic preparation, as well as all other aspects of the Pre-Health Program, can be found on MySLC at:

https://my.slc.edu/ICS/Campus_Life/Departments/Dean_of_Studies/Pre-Health

Programming

Each year, the Pre-Health Program offers a variety of events and workshops to guide and support pre-health students and alumni. In August, the Pre-Health Program hosts an orientation session for all incoming students. During each registration period, the program runs a Registration Support Process, which is required for all pre-health students in an effort to support their prehealth students' registration for the science and math prerequisite courses. Each spring, the program hosts its annual alumni event in partnership with the Office of Alumni Relations and Student Pre-Health Alliance group. Throughout the year, students and alumni can partake in various workshops and programs geared toward exploring the health professions and preparing their applications to health professional programs.

Application to Health Professional Programs

Sarah Lawrence students and alumni receive individualized guidance to support their applications to health professional programs. All applicants to medical, dental, and other health professional schools are eligible to participate in the College's Committee Process. This ten-month process involves development of the applicant's portfolio, an interview with our Prehealth Advisory Committee, and a Comprehensive Portfolio Review session. For students applying to medical and dental programs, they will also receive a Committee Letter of Evaluation. This institutional letter is composed by our College's Pre-Health Advisory Committee, which is comprised of our science faculty and administrative deans, and serves to holistically assess an applicant's level of preparedness and fit for entry into their desired health professional program. Our Committee Letter of Evaluation is highly valued by the admissions committees at health professional schools.

All students and alumni are strongly encouraged to engage in our Committee Process to receive comprehensive guidance and support with their applications. Applicants wishing to receive a Committee Letter of Evaluation must declare their intent to apply in the fall semester prior to the summer in which they plan to apply to medical or dental programs (for example, applicants wishing to apply to medical school in the summer of 2027 and matriculate in 2028 must inform the pre-health dean of their intent to apply in fall 2026)

Join our Program

Students wishing to join the Pre-Health Program should [visit the program's website](https://my.slc.edu/ICS/Campus_Life/Departments/Dean_of_Studies/Pre-Health_Program/) and complete the steps outlined in the Getting Started & Staying Connected checklist at: https://my.slc.edu/ICS/Campus_Life/Departments/Dean_of_Studies/Pre-Health_Program/.

This will also connect students with the program's resources, including a weekly program newsletter.

The Student Pre-Health Alliance

The Pre-Health Alliance, the College's pre-health student organization, serves to promote a community for pre-health students to engage with one another. The Alliance is governed by a student board to encourage leadership and teamwork. The Alliance meets biweekly and engages in a variety of activities, such as study groups and workshops. In addition, the board co-sponsors an annual alumni program in spring, which is open to the entire Sarah Lawrence community. The Alliance board members also serve as an advisory board to the Pre-Health Program, advised by Dean Melinda Perlo Cohen. The advisory board ensures strong lines of communication between student leadership and the administration in order to meet the interests and needs of the student community. If you are interested in joining the Prehealth Alliance, please contact prehealthcommunity@gm.slc.edu.

Contact Information

Contact Information:

Call or email to make an Students and alumni can schedule an appointment with the pre-health adviser, Dean Melinda Perlo Cohen, via handshake or by contacting her at :

Dean Melinda Perlo Cohen

Pre-Health Program Director

Bates 320

914.323.6005

mcohen@sarahlawrence.edu





Welcome to an enriching chapter in your family's story with Sarah Lawrence.

We are excited to support your student's academic journey and personal growth at Sarah Lawrence College. This handbook serves as a resource for you to understand the college's offerings and how you can be a supportive partner in your student's college experience.

For FAQs and other information for students, parents, and families, visit the Sarah Lawrence College First Year Experience website at <https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/new-students>.

SARAH LAWRENCE COLLEGE **FIRST-YEAR** *experience*





CONTACT US

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