Lafayette College Student Government

The Student Government is the representative governing body of the undergraduates of Lafayette College. In addition to providing a forum for the free exchange of ideas on matters of general concern to the College community and to communicate such concerns as the Student Government deems desirable to appropriate College agencies.

The Student Government shall:

- promote campus life.
- further the interests of the student body.
- support student organizations.
- allocate funds to student groups and organizations and do so in the best interest of the student body.
- encourage students to develop leadership qualities.
- encourage students to exemplify qualities of responsible citizenship.
- function cooperatively with other constituent bodies to achieve the mission and purpose of the College.

Criteria for Selection

Newly elected Student Government Executive Board will select student leaders who are representative of our student body to serve as Committee Chairs. Candidates must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or higher and be in good standing with the College in terms of personal conduct history. Academic and conduct records will be considered in the selection process.

Expectations of Student Government Representatives

- Serve as an ambassador for Lafayette and hold oneself to the highest standards of conduct and behavior.
- Hold peers accountable and set a good example by exhibiting community values and College expectations.
- Strong interpersonal and time management skills. Creative, motivated and possession of strong work ethic.
- Broad knowledge of College structures, procedures and policies.
- Adapt to change, maintain high energy and positive attitude.
- Attend and participate in Student Government bi-monthly board meetings, weekly committee meetings, and/or Board of Trustee committee meetings, trainings, and Passing the Gavel ceremony.

Application Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday, March 23</td>
<td>All Student Government Applications Available</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, March 30 11:59PM</td>
<td>All Student Government Applications Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, April 2-Friday, April 13</td>
<td>Student Government Interviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, April 16</td>
<td>Candidates will be informed of their selection</td>
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**Student Government Committees**

**Academic Affairs (approximately 2 chairs)**
Academics Committee works with the administration to support student academic needs. Examples include more information on self-designed majors and increased tutoring opportunities in language studies.

**Athletic Affairs (approximately 2 chairs)**
*One chair will work with the Student Athletic Advisory Committee*
Athletics Committee works with the Department of Athletics and students on sports teams to advocate on behalf of student athletes and foster increased community investment in the success of Lafayette’s sporting programs.

**Budget (approximately 4 chairs)**
Budget Committee hosts open meetings each week to allocate program funding for events hosted by student groups. Additionally, they host “Budget Week” during the spring semester to distribute annual budget funding for regular operation costs of groups (distinct from programming costs). They strive for equity and representation in their allocations.

**Equity and Inclusion (approximately 4 chairs)**
*One chair will work with the Equity, Transformation and Accountability Board*
Equity and Inclusion Committee works in partnership with student groups and the Office of Equity and Inclusion to advocate for the well-being and success of individual students and groups of students who, because of their identity, experience marginalization in the community.

**Greek Life (approximately 2 chairs)**
Greek Life Committee serves as a liaison between the governing bodies of Greek Organizations and the administration. They work with student leaders in and out of Greek Life to ensure that Fraternities and Sororities are an asset both to the students within them and the campus as a whole.

**Public Relations and Marketing (approximately 2 chairs)**
PR/Marketing Committee publicizes Student Government initiatives to better engage with the student body and maintain a high level of transparency. The committee director records and distributes minutes from the meetings.

**Student Services (approximately 4 chairs)**
*Two chairs will sit on the IT and Library Faculty Committee*
Student Services Committee oversees the broadest set of responsibilities of all the committees. They collaborate with Bailey’s Health Center, Dining Operations, Information Technology Services, the Library, Housing, and the shuttle operations to ensure that student feedback is appropriately heard and accommodated by all of the various student services offered by the College.

**Student Organizations (approximately 4 chairs)**
*One chair will sit on the Student Life Faculty Committee*
Student Organizations Committee guides students through the process of forming new clubs, advises existing groups, and works with the budget committee to best determine how to financially support student organizations.

**Sustainability (approximately 2 chairs)**
Sustainability Committee works with the Sustainability Director at the College and student leaders on campus involved in environmental activism to promote sustainable practices at Lafayette by the administration and among the student body.
**Student Government Student Associate Representative to the Board of Trustee Committees**

The College values student input on the issues discussed by these Board committees, while also providing students with the opportunity to share one's experience and gain invaluable experience operating within a shared governance structure.

*This is an important commitment.* Each Trustee Committee conducts three to four Friday meetings during the course of the year, including Homecoming weekend, weekend meetings in December, mid-February, and early May. Student Associates who are selected to serve on a Trustee Committee are required to attend all meeting and may not apply to go abroad during their year of services. Student Associates members who are unable to fulfill their commitment will be replaced.

To be eligible for appointment as a Student Associate, students must be currently enrolled as a full-time student for the duration of their time of the service (one academic year, consisting of two semesters), be a junior or senior for the upcoming year, and be in good standing with the College.

The following describes the Trustee committees:

**The Committee on Educational Policy**
- Responsible for considering and recommending policies for the long-range academic plan of the College and its various academic units.
- Responsible for considering and recommending policies for faculty development, and staffing levels including compensation, recruitment, research and awards.
- Responsible for considering and recommending policies for student admissions, financial aid and placement.
- Responsible for considering and recommending policies for the coordination of the educational activities of the College.
- Responsible for considering policies concerning the administration and supervision of the library and all literary, historical, art, and other collections owned by the College.

**The Committee on Financial Policy**
- Responsible for considering and recommending policies for asset management of funds other than the endowment and similar funds, including custody and control, debt management, financial accounting, financial reporting, control of financial operation, purchasing and insurance.
- As requested by the Executive Committee or the Board, shall advise on matters dealing with financial long-range planning, budgeting, pricing, and fees.
- Responsible for establishing the distribution method of endowment and similar funds of the College, subject to the applicable terms and conditions attaching to funds held by the College in fiduciary capacity, and to the application terms and conditions attaching to endowment and restricted funds of the College.

**The Committee on Grounds and Buildings**
- Responsible for developing and recommending a comprehensive campus plan in accordance with the defined long-range master plan of the college including new buildings, structures, roads, walks, and utility service systems.
- Responsible for considering and recommending specifications, plans and contracts for new construction or alterations in existing buildings.
- Responsible for considering and recommending policies necessary to keeping the grounds and buildings in proper condition and repair.
- Responsible for providing guidance in the acquisition, operation, and disposition of real estate.

**The Committee on Student Life**
- Responsible for considering and recommending policies for governing matters related to the comprehensive student experience, including co-curricular student learning, residential living, health, intercollegiate athletics and recreation, intercultural development, social and religious life, student organizations, and student conduct.
The Committee on Development, Alumni and Community Relations

- Responsible for considering and recommending policies for the fund raising activities of the College.
- Responsible for defining and recommending methods to obtain the highest possible effectiveness in various forms of this activity in terms of long-range needs as well as particular times or periods and shall finally in this regard be responsible for assisting in the carrying through of the fund raising program as appropriate for voluntary leadership.
- Responsible for considering and recommending policies which will make for a close working relationship between the College and the alumni and the Alumni Association and to coordinate the activities of the College in relation to the alumni and the Alumni Association.
- Responsible for considering and recommending policies related to the general public affairs programs of the College including publications and periodicals, press and other media relations, major promotional events, admissions, marketing and communications, and other general communications of the College which pertain primarily to external constituencies.

Application Information

**Student Information**

- First name
- Last name
- City, State/Country of Origin
- Lafayette email
- L-Number
- Cell phone number
- Major/Degree (ex. Biology, B.S.)
- Cumulative GPA

Are you currently on any form of disciplinary or academic probation? Yes/ No

If you answered yes to the question above or if you wish to comment on any past conduct issue, please explain in the space provided below.

**Picture Upload:** Please upload a photo of yourself. This will be extremely helpful for us remember you during the process. We receive a large number of applications each year and pictures assist us in remembering all the candidates.

**Getting to Know You**
This section allows the application reviewers to better understand you and your personality. With this in mind, please be creative and honest.

What are three values you demonstrate as a leader?

If you could describe Lafayette in one word, what would that word be and why?

**Short-Response Questions**
Please respond to the questions below as completely and thoroughly as possible. (Maximum length: 250 words each.)

**QUESTION 1:** What is an important lesson you have learned at Lafayette? How would you use this knowledge as a student leader to help others?

**QUESTION 2:** What strengths and skills would you bring to this position? How will they contribute to Student Government and the specific committee to which you would be assigned?

**Essay Question**
Please respond to the question below
**QUESTION 1**: What of the Big 8 identities (age, ability, ethnicity, gender, race, religion/spirituality, sexual orientation and socioeconomic status) matter most to you and why? Based on one or more of those identities, how do you believe they influence your leadership?

**Campus Opportunities**

Please share with us your current involvement experiences. These could be on or off-campus, internships, part-time jobs, memberships or leadership roles in organizations.

**Student Government Committees**

Please rank order your preference to serve on the following committees:

- Academic Affairs (approximately 2 chairs)
- Athletic Affairs (approximately 2 chairs)
- Budget (approximately 4 chairs)
- Equity and Inclusion (approximately 4 chairs)
- Greek Life (approximately 2 chairs)
- Public Relations and Marketing (approximately 2 chairs)
- Student Services (approximately 4 chairs)
- Student Organizations (approximately 4 chairs)
- Sustainability (approximately 2 chairs)
- I’m not interested in any Student Government Committee

**Student Government Student Associate Reps to the BOT**

Please rank order your preference to serve on the following committees:

- Educational Policy
- Financial Policy
- Grounds and Buildings
- Student Life
- Development, Alumni and Community Relations
- I’m not interested in any Student Government Student Associate Rep positions