



Focus on Seton Hall University

Seton Hall's 5,800 undergraduate students like to say that they have access to all the experiences people sometimes think are available only at a much larger university. With more than half the student body now coming from out of the state, Seton Hall, located in South Orange, New Jersey, provides a full campus experience. Students tout the strong sense of community they enjoy due in part to the 130 clubs, 22 fraternities and sororities, and a Division 1 athletic program with a highly successful Basketball team that is especially responsible for great school spirit.

To access New York City and all it has to offer including a multitude of internships, students can walk 10 minutes through suburban streets to the train station in downtown South Orange, from which an inexpensive ride will take them to Penn Station in 40 minutes.

Seton Hall is a Catholic university with approximately 70% of the student body identifying as Catholic, but students of all faiths are welcome and said to feel comfortable. Attendance at Mass is voluntary, and the required religion courses are designed primarily to help students reflect on their own spirituality and traditions. Community service is the Catholic value that probably plays the biggest role in campus life.

The students who come to Seton Hall tend to know what they want to do with their lives or are serious about figuring it out. The academic focus is largely on career preparation, and the strong programs are numerous.

Seton Hall's Stillman School of Business is proud of its AACSB accreditation that places it in the top 10% of business schools in the world. Its Accounting program

has been ranked in the top 1% and its Business Leadership Program (which is an honors program) has been rated the #1 program of its kind in the U.S.

The Health Science programs which students enter directly from high school are highly regarded and among the school's most selective. These include Nursing, Athletic Training (5 years), Occupational Therapy (6 years), Physical Therapy (6 years), Speech and Language Pathology (6 years), and Physician Assistant (6 years, requiring another interview junior year to stay in the program). Students pursuing these degrees utilize numerous area hospitals and health care facilities, but beginning in September 2018 they will have access also to the brand new medical school Seton Hall is opening on the Clifton-Nutley border in association with Hackensack University Medical Center.

The College of Education and Human Services attracts many students too, and has long been recognized for being on the cutting edge. Its students have more practicum time than is typical (everyone must do three practicums, one in an urban school, one in a suburban school, and one in a private school). It was among the first universities to offer training in Special Education. Most recently it has introduced a 5-year integrated program enabling students to obtain a Bachelor of Science in Education degree and dual certification in Elementary and Special Education combined with a Master's degree in Special Education with a concentration in Applied Behavior Analysis.

The School of Diplomacy and International Relations offers unusual opportunities as well. Its partnership with the United Nations in New York City enables students to spend a semester there. Alternatively, students in this school may intern with an embassy, government agency, or non-governmental agency in New York, Washington, D.C., or abroad.

A new Seton Hall opportunity enables students wishing to pursue a career in law to apply directly from high school to a combined program with Seton Hall's law school in Newark. They will still need to take the LSAT exam, but they may matriculate in law school after obtaining their B.S. degree with just 3 years of undergraduate work.

The College of Communications and the Arts is a new division, having recently split off from the College of Arts and Sciences because the programs it contains have grown so large. The majors in this college are Art, Design and Interactive Media, Visual and Sound Media, Communication, Public Relations, Music (Performance or Education), and Theatre. Having their own college will enable these programs to expand further and increase their access to resources.

Seton Hall is extremely generous with financial aid, dispensing \$83 million each year. Consequently, admissions are need-blind and the school has a large population of first generation students. Ninety-eight percent of SHU students receive some sort of financial aid, with 97% receiving institutional aid. A few relatively small grants require a special application, but for the most part grants

ranging from \$6,000 to \$22,500 are awarded automatically based on the applicant's GPA and test scores. The largest, called the "public tuition" award of \$22,500, is granted to any student who applies by December 15th who is in the top 10% of his or her class and has at least 28 on the ACT or 1310 on the SAT.

Candidates may apply Early Action by 11/15 or 12/15, and approximately 75% do, so although the Regular Decision deadlines are 2/1 and 3/1, the class begins to fill up and it becomes increasingly difficult to obtain admission. Some particularly worthy applicants who apply late may be offered spring admission. The turnaround time for an application is generally 4 to 6 weeks.

Admitted students on average have a 3.5 GPA and SAT of 1200 or ACT of 25, and just over one-third of those who attend were in the top 10% of their high school class. Demonstrated interest in attending does play a role in the admissions process, and the regional admissions officers emphasize how much they love having applicants reach out to them via telephone, email or campus visits.

