

Applying to Wesleyan University

Wesleyan has two Bachelor's programs, the Bachelor of Arts (BA) and Bachelor of Liberal Studies (BLS). They each have distinct requirements before and after admission.

Wesleyan requires BA students to live on or near campus. This is known as a "residency requirement." It does not mean that you would have to live in a dorm with 18-21 year-olds. There are off-campus housing options that function like normal apartments. Wesleyan also requires BA students to retain a full-time class schedule, i.e., 4 credits per semester. If you cannot live near campus or commit to a full-time course load, the BA program is probably not a good option. If you can do both of those things, then you may wish to consider applying to Wesleyan's BA program as a transfer student.

The BLS program does away with both of those requirements for the BA. It is specifically designed this way to make a Wesleyan degree accessible to individuals who cannot commit to residency and full-time schooling. For this reason, it is also designed with greater flexibility for completing the degree. BLS students typically, though not necessarily, complete a divisional concentration instead of a department major. Otherwise, the BA and BLS degrees are very similar. BLS and BA students are in the same classes on campus.

There are two other important differences between the BA and BLS degrees. First, registration is open to BA students for a period of time before it is open to BLS students. It is possible that a given course will fill up before BLS students have a chance to register for it. Second, Wesleyan does not provide financial aid to BLS students, though BLS students can acquire financial aid from external sources, including the government.

As a CPE student, you may or may not have enrolled in the BLS program while incarcerated. If you were admitted to the BLS program while incarcerated, you may apply to the BA program as a transfer student. If you wish to continue in the BLS program on the main campus, you do not need to re-apply. However, you must submit a petition to change campuses. If you were released while pursuing your Middlesex Associate degree, you are eligible to apply to either the BA program or the BLS program on Wesleyan's main campus, but not to both in the same application period.

If you have any questions about applying to either program, we highly encourage you to contact the CPE Academic Manager for more information and guidance.

References:

BA PROGRAM ADMISSIONS INFORMATION: <https://www.wesleyan.edu/admission/>

BLS PROGRAM INFORMATION: <https://www.wesleyan.edu/bls/index.html>