



Caring for people

In addition to providing treatment for patients who are able to pay, the Medical Center has a long history of caring for those less fortunate. Although it has developed a well-earned reputation for its role during times of war, the Medical Center has a profound impact on the neighborhood and the city every day.

The AUBMC in peace and war, a few examples:

- The Outpatient Department treats nearly 40,000 individuals annually at reduced fees.
- Thanks to donations and subsidies, the Medical Center and its Social Services Department authorize substantial financial help (in excess of \$100,000 annually) for the provision of inpatient and outpatient care to needy patients.
- The AUBMC provided financial help to inpatients worth just over \$400,000 during the July 2006 war.
- At the height of the Lebanese civil war, 250–300 patients a day were treated at the emergency room—usually at reduced fees or at no charge at all.



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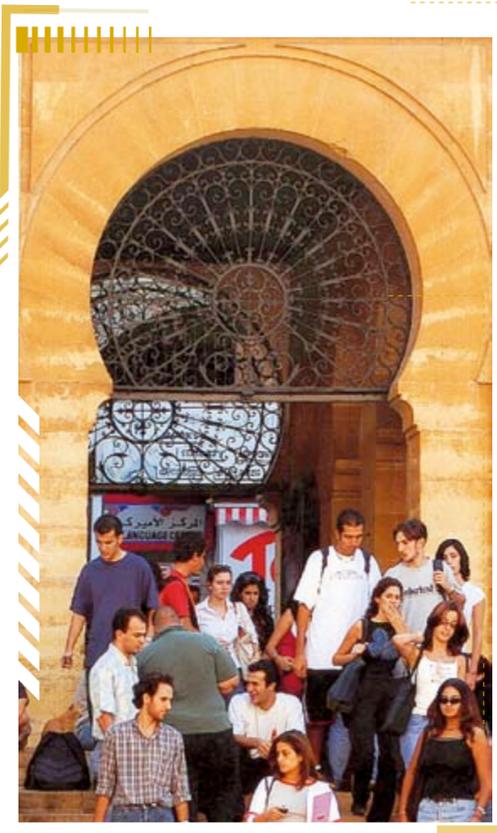
AUB and its economic IMPACT

One hundred forty years ago American missionaries founded what was to become the American University of Beirut (AUB) on a rocky promontory overlooking the Mediterranean Sea outside the city of Beirut. In the following years AUB's campus shaped the physical layout of the area as streets were laid out parallel and perpendicular to the campus edge along Bliss Street. The University also influenced the social dynamics of the neighborhood that grew up around it. As a non-sectarian institution of higher learning in the American liberal arts tradition, AUB modeled the values of openness, tolerance, and diversity and helped create a unique and cosmopolitan neighborhood, which became, in its 20th century heyday, the "Left Bank" of Beirut and the "breathing space" of the Arab World.

During its life of 140 years AUB has survived wars, sectarian conflict, bombings, and assassinations. During each conflict, and most recently in the July 2006 war, AUB students, faculty, and staff have reached out to the city and the nation, offering pro bono services and care for those in need.

Since its founding, AUB has also been a major economic anchor for the neighborhood and city. In recent decades, the University with its Medical Center (AUBMC) has become more important than ever as an employer, purchaser, and taxpayer; as other major employers downsized or relocated, AUB has emerged as a force for economic stability in the city.

As a university, AUB produces the most valuable capital of all: dynamic, creative, and open-minded graduates. The future prosperity of Beirut and Lebanon will depend on well-educated and highly skilled graduates, ready to contribute to its knowledge-based economy.



A Dependable Employer

AUB is one of the largest private employers in Beirut. The University currently employs more than 3,800 men and women—split almost evenly between the main campus and the Medical Center—and pays \$74 million annually in salaries. Its reputation as a dependable and generous employer attracts men and women not just from Lebanon but from outside the country as well. The fact that AUB remained open and continued to pay its employees throughout the civil war sent a powerful signal to many Lebanese that AUB was an employer that was committed to the country. Since the end of the civil war in 1990, many Lebanese who have returned to the country were prompted to do so by AUB—either because the University offered them jobs or because AUB's continued presence and investment in the country reassured them that hope for the future was justified.

In addition to the salaries that AUB pays its employees, it also provides over \$7 million annually in the form of scholarships for the children of employees at schools and universities in Greater Beirut. Many schools and universities in our neighborhood depend on the support they receive from AUB.

One of the other benefits that AUB provides to many of its employees is housing. It pays approximately \$1.3 million annually in contracts for off-campus faculty housing, and nearly \$400,000 annually to support faculty housing purchases in Greater Beirut.

A Responsible Taxpayer

Lebanon faces enormous economic challenges. The country's public debt, which currently absorbs almost 30 per cent of total government revenue, is the highest in the world on a per capita basis. Although AUB's direct contribution to solving these problems is modest, as a responsible taxpayer the University nonetheless sets an example for others in the neighborhood.

A Powerful Economic Engine

AUB spends approximately \$53 million a year to purchase goods. Almost all (96%) of these products are purchased locally from 1,300 suppliers. Our vendors value AUB as a steady customer that pays its bills on time. The University is also a major purchaser of services.

Full-time AUB employees

—who lives where:

- 76% live in Greater Beirut
- 21% live in Ras Beirut (defined here as from Ain al-Tineh to Ain Mreisseh)
- 38% of AUB faculty live off campus in Ras Beirut
- 28% of AUB management employees live off campus in Ras Beirut
- 11% of AUB non-academic employees live off campus in Ras Beirut



Every year, AUB pays in taxes:

- \$3.75 million on salaries
- \$6.84 million for Lebanese nationals' social security
- \$460,000 for property, municipal, and beach taxes
- \$620,000 for VAT

Annually AUB spends:

- \$34 million at the Medical Center and \$19 million on the Main Campus to purchase goods
- \$2.2 million for equipment maintenance
- \$2 million for professional consulting services
- Nearly \$2 million for travel, catering, and bookstore services

A Major Builder

Although AUB has always contracted with local firms and suppliers for construction and renovation projects on campus, this demand has been particularly strong in recent years as the University implements a comprehensive and long-term Campus Master Plan. For the six years beginning in October 2003, actual and projected expenditures are \$140 million.

AUB is currently spending approximately \$23 million annually on capital projects, including

- \$5 million for construction labor
- \$3 million for materials purchased locally
- \$2.5 million to Lebanon-based consultants

The Multiplier Effect: AUB students and visitors spend too

AUB's more than 7,000 students also contribute to the local economy through the money they spend while living and studying in Beirut.

Not including their accommodation, the median spending per student is \$200 per month—money that is spent for food, supplies, entertainment, clothes, and other goods and services. Neighborhood vendors and businesses benefit substantially from AUB student spending.

The AUB Medical Center is a particularly important magnet for visitors. People travel to Beirut from throughout the region to seek medical care at the AUBMC. The approximately 12,000 out of town and foreign inpatients who are admitted each year are usually accompanied by family members. During their hospitalization (an average of four days) the families of patients stay in hotels, eat at local restaurants, and shop in neighborhood stores.