The Gordon Career Center uses an intuitive and modern career management platform, Handshake (http://wesleyan.joinhandshake.com). This mobile-ready recruiting application is designed to help students discover and explore jobs, internships, organizations, and events all personalized to their specific career interests.

HEALTH PROFESSIONS AND PRE-MEDICAL ADVISING

Health professions graduate schools welcome students with a liberal arts background. A liberal arts education does not exclude the scientific and quantitative knowledge required to become an outstanding health professional; rather, it includes courses from these disciplines within a larger intellectual context. Students are encouraged to explore and test their interest in a given health profession through internships, summer employment, and volunteer positions before applying to graduate school. The Gordon Career Center (https://wesleyan.edu/careercenter) and the Office of Community Service (http://www.wesleyan.edu/jccp) provide information about volunteer opportunities on campus and in the local community for students considering the health professions. Experience in conducting research may also be very useful in learning about a field and developing the skills needed to contribute to the field and to evaluate the work of others. Students with a particular interest in the natural sciences have the opportunity to participate in laboratory research projects under the supervision of Wesleyan faculty who are principal investigators with on-campus research groups that may also include graduate students. In recent years, undergraduates have also participated in public health and clinical research both on and off campus. Some student researchers have been co-authors of papers published in scientific journals or have presented the results of their research at scholarly meetings. Beginning with the first week of the first year and continuing beyond graduation, a specialized health professions advisor is available to assist students and graduates interested in any of the health professions with academic planning, identification of summer opportunities and meaningful postgraduation employment, and preparation for and navigation of the application process to health professions graduate schools. The Wesleyan Health Professions Panel offers current students and those within five years of graduation a letter of institutional sponsorship at the time of application to medical, dental, or veterinary school. The success of Wesleyan’s alumni in fields such as medicine, dentistry, midwifery, clinical psychology, and public health attests to the quality of our undergraduate curriculum and our career advising. The percentage of applicants with Wesleyan undergraduate degrees accepted into medical school is significantly above the national average.

PRE-BUSINESS

Wesleyan alumni are sought after in the business world. A significant number of the organizations that recruit Wesleyan students are business concerns. Recent top employers have included Amazon, Booz Allen Hamilton, Citi, Epsilon, Deloitte Consulting, Goldman Sachs, Google, and IBM. Wesleyan has a reputation among employers for producing students who have well-developed organizational and leadership skills. A Wesleyan student in almost any major who does well and plans his or her courses with an eye toward meeting entrance requirements for professional study will be well prepared for business school. It is rare for undergraduates to go directly to a top-tier business school without work experience. In fact, many of the top-tier business schools require two to four years of work experience for competitive candidates. Students interested in fields such as banking and consulting should plan to take quantitative courses offered by a number of academic departments to seek an internship in their field of interest as early as sophomore year.

PRE-LAW

Law schools have long recognized that liberal arts institutions provide the best possible preparation for future attorneys. They look for students who possess particular intellectual skills: the ability to think critically, analyze a situation, extract pertinent information, and communicate effectively, both orally and in writing. Any academic major is acceptable to a law school. Traditionally, popular subjects of study for pre-law students have included history, government, economics, English, American studies, and philosophy. Now, however, law schools also encourage science majors and students with a background in the
Students participate in a community service related to law, including work with Connecticut Legal Services, the United Labor Agency, the Consumer Protection Agency, the Legal Defense and Education Fund, and for private firms in the Middletown area. The Gordon Career Center (http://www.wesleyan.edu/careercenter) has a designated pre-law advisor who provides resources and information for students considering careers in and related to law. Students and graduates are encouraged to meet with an advisor individually, attend informational workshops, use the center’s library, and seek faculty assistance in determining which law schools would provide the best experience for them.