



LIFE CHIROPRACTIC COLLEGE WEST ADMISSIONS 101



Requirements for Admission at Life West

Life Chiropractic College West follows the guidelines for enrollment established by the CCE (Council on Chiropractic Education). The CCE accredits all DC (Doctor of Chiropractic) programs in the US and is recognized by the US Secretary of Education.

Overall Requirements:

All entering students must have earned a minimum of 90 transferable semester units or 135 quarter units at an institution or institutions accredited by a regional or nationally recognized agency.

Applicants who have earned a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 on a scale of 4.0 for the required 90 semester units will be reviewed by the admissions committee for acceptance to the standard curriculum track.

Applicants who have earned a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.75 on a scale of 4.0 for the required 90 semester units will be reviewed by the admissions committee and may be admitted on an alternate curriculum track.

Applicants with an undergraduate degree may be admitted with all majors, including those with and without a science emphasis. Applicants should contact the admissions staff to discuss their current preparedness and potential recommendations for admittance.

Applicants without an undergraduate degree should use the recommended coursework below to guide their course selection as they work to complete their classes. Applicants are strongly encouraged to work with the admissions staff to select the courses that will best prepare them for success in chiropractic school and beyond.

Sciences: A minimum of 24 semester units (36 quarter units) in life and physical science courses (at least half of these courses must have a substantive lab component).

Recommended Courses:

- Anatomy & Physiology I & II
- Cell Biology
- Biomechanics
- Nutrition
- Exercise Physiology
- Biochemistry
- Human Anatomy
- Kinesiology
- Chemistry I and II
- Molecular Biology
- Physics I and II
- Microbiology

Also accepted: (but not limited to)

- Organic Chemistry I & II
- Statistics
- Genetics
- Astronomy

General Studies: No specific requirements are made of these units, however Life Chiropractic College West strongly recommends a well-rounded course of study. All coursework must be at a 100 level or above.

- English
- Human Development
- Information Systems
- Rhetoric
- Psychology
- Speech
- Philosophy
- Business
- Math
- Ethics
- Communication

It is strongly recommended that all applicants complete a bachelor's degree while enrolled in undergraduate coursework.

How to Apply for Admission at Life West

Please submit the following elements for a complete application:

- Completed and signed Application for Admission at Life Chiropractic College West or apply online at <https://lifewest.emasservices.com/>
- Application Fee: \$45 (non-refundable).
- Personal Essay: This one to two page typewritten essay will describe why you wish to become a doctor of chiropractic. In preparation, we encourage you to speak with local chiropractors about the profession and to experience chiropractic directly as a patient.
- Official or unofficial high school transcripts (or a copy of your diploma).
- Official College transcripts from all colleges attended.
- Entrance Interview: The interview can be conducted at any point after your application is submitted. Interviews may be conducted in person, via telephone, or in writing.



All items can be submitted via:



Email

admissions@lifewest.edu



Snail-Mail

Life Chiropractic College West
Office of Admissions
25001 Industrial Blvd Hayward, CA 94545



Fax

+1 (510) 780-4525

Timing and Deadlines:

Because we begin a new term every three months, we are constantly evaluating and admitting files. The deadline to accept new applications is six weeks prior to the start of a term.

Levels of Acceptance:

- **Provisional Acceptance:** This initial level is available if the student has completed and submitted a minimum of 90 semester hours.
- **Full Acceptance:** Full Acceptance indicates that the applicant has been evaluated as meeting all admissions requirements, their application file is complete with all final official documents, and that the candidate has demonstrated a positive academic and personal record acceptable to the admissions committee.

For international students, full acceptance is required before Department of Homeland Security/INS application forms can be issued for non-immigrant status.

Why Choose Life West for Your Chiropractic Education?

Life Chiropractic College West was founded in 1981 in the beautiful Bay Area of Northern California. Life West has a history of being an influential chiropractic school which graduates industry leaders. Life West is well known for providing a complete and well-balanced package of educational and practical tools for future chiropractors. Life West graduates go on to high levels of success and top-rated satisfaction with their educational experience. That is no accident.

Here are the **TOP TEN WAYS** Life West sets itself apart:

1



High Chiropractic Board Scores

Life West students do very well on national chiropractic boards. This shows the strong academic rigor of our program, especially in the sciences.

2

Top in Chiropractic Technique

Life West teaches 13 techniques, and offers several techniques that are taught at NO OTHER chiropractic school. You will graduate with high levels of confidence and competence because you will learn technique early and often.

3

Chiropractic Philosophy

Chiropractic philosophy matters to you, because the WHY matters. Philosophy is the part of your education that puts all the pieces together and allows you to make a real difference by helping people think differently. People have to think in new ways in order to change their lives. If you really want to affect a change in the world, this is a vital part of your education.



4

Amazing Sense of Community

Life West has a unique community in which everyone helps each other and pulls together (faculty, staff, classmates, upperclassmen, etc). That might sound obvious, but that is NOT what happens everywhere else.

5



Culture

Life West has a culture which both values and teaches personal development (via seminars, a student retreat called Life 101, etc). We believe that who you are is a crucial part of your success and we help you to become the best YOU you can be.

ASK A
CURRENT
LIFE WEST STUDENT
WHY THEY CHOSE
LIFE WEST

askastudent@lifewest.edu



6

Get Done Fast

If you qualify, you can complete chiropractic school at Life West in just three years (12 quarters). This saves you both time and money! Plus, the faster you finish, the faster you can move on to the fun part: going into practice and changing the world!

7



World Class Clinic

The Life West Health Center experience emulates the real world and allows you to develop both confidence and skills, all in a technologically advanced setting (check out our MRI machine!) with experienced clinical faculty who know their stuff and are still in active private practice.

8

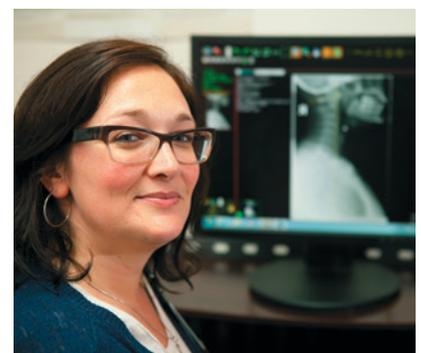
Leadership

You learn from what you see modeled for you. At Life West you will learn (and see) leadership in action in the chiropractic profession, both from within the school administration and student body but also readily available to you from outside sources. All the top leaders in chiropractic show up at Life West all the time, because they love the way our students show up as leaders.

9

Real World Business Skills

Most chiropractors eventually go into private practice. That means you need to learn to become a great business person. Business is emphasized as part of the curriculum because we know that your success upon graduation relies on more than book smarts and adjusting.



10

Well Rounded and Integrated Education

Life West believes in the integration of all the facets of chiropractic (science, technique and philosophy) without diminishing or ignoring any aspect of the education. All elements are present, all the time, at the highest possible level.

Admission FAQs



Q When should I apply?

Ideally, you will apply about one year before you plan to start chiropractic school.

Q Why should I apply so early?

The reason you apply a year in advance is so that the transcript team can review all your coursework to date (even though you may still be taking classes) and then you will know EXACTLY what courses you still need in plenty of time to make a great plan to complete them. Your admissions representative will always be available to help you choose appropriate classes and to assist you during the application process. You will have to complete all the requirements before you can begin the chiropractic program.

Q What is the deadline to apply?

The deadline to apply is 6 weeks prior to the start of your intended term. Life West begins a new class every quarter, so a new class starts four times per year. We STRONGLY recommend that you apply well before the deadline so that we can make sure you have every class you need and that you will not run into any last minute surprises. International students and transfer students are especially encouraged to apply early in order to prevent delays in application processing as there are additional required items for these students.

Q Is Life West accredited?

The Doctor of Chiropractic program of Life Chiropractic College West is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the Council on Chiropractic Education (CCE). Life Chiropractic College West is accredited by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC).

Q When do Life West's terms start?

Life West is on a quarter system and begins a new class of students four times per year. We start classes every January, April, July and October. You can apply for any of these terms. If you are not sure when you will be ready to start, make a good guess (call us if you need help) as to the soonest term you could start and apply for that one.

Q How do I apply for a specific curriculum track?

Life West offers three different curriculum tracks. They all contain the same curriculum but have slight changes in how the curriculum is delivered. The admissions team will notify you if you are recommended or required to take a track outside of the standard admissions track.



Standard Track: Many student will use the standard 14 quarter track for successful completion of their DC degree.

Accelerated Track: Students with high GPAs and a strong science background may choose to complete the curriculum at an accelerated pace of 12 quarters.

Alternative Admissions Track (AATP): This track provides support for students who enter chiropractic school without an extensive science background or a lower GPA. This 14 quarter curriculum features additional support and counseling from the office of academic affairs.

Q Do I have to complete all the requirements before I apply?

You do not have to complete all the requirements prior to applying. You will likely be in progress of completing the requirements at the time you apply. You will send all of your transcripts to date (yes, even that community college where you just took one class) to the transcript team at Life West and then you will resend your final transcripts when you complete your course work. You will have to complete all the admissions requirements before you begin the chiropractic program.

Q What parts of the application do I need to have ready or completed when I apply?

In order to begin the application process you will simply need to complete the application form. We recommend you do this online at <https://lifewest.emasservices.com/>. All the supporting documents (like transcripts and essay) will be sent in or uploaded online later. You DO NOT need to have completed all the requirements in order to apply (but you will have to before you can start.)

You will submit your essay by emailing it to admissions@lifewest.edu. Be sure to give us your full name at the top of the essay so we can file it properly.

You will need to have the official transcripts sent to us from your school.

The parts of the application you will need in order to complete the file are:

Application Essay All Official College Transcripts High School Transcripts Interview

Q What is the timeline for acceptance?

The transcript team will submit your application packet to the Admissions Committee once the file is complete. Your packet will be considered complete when we have received all the parts of your file: high school transcript, official transcripts from ALL schools attended to date, interview and essay. The Admissions Committee meets regularly and will make a decision quickly. If a second interview or further information is required in order to make a decision, you will be informed.

Most students initially earn a Provisional Acceptance, which means that you have qualified for acceptance so far and that we will hold a seat for you in the class for which you have applied. You will be required to complete specific items (typically required coursework at a specified grade level) in order to be fully accepted.

Q How do I know what is happening with my application and file?

The best way to track your file is via our online portal. You will access the portal at <https://lifewest.emasservices.com/>. Once there you will create your own account and will use this account to follow your progress.

When we receive a new document from you or if you get a level of acceptance, we will contact you by email and/or by phone.

We also encourage you to call us to check on your status. You will be assigned an admissions representative who will be your first point of contact for any needs. Your admissions representative is here to help make the application process simple and helpful. You can call your representative in Admissions at **+1 (510) 780-4501**.



Chiropractic Technique at Life Chiropractic College West

Life West has a well-established reputation in the chiropractic community for putting out graduating doctors who are outstanding adjustors. Many people in the profession remark upon the proficiency of recent Life West graduates and how quickly they are able to help their patients and build a successful practice. You will want to be a great adjustor because it is one of the most critical components of your success after graduating.

But, being a great adjustor is more than just the ability to move bones in the spine.

Great adjustors **learn technique as systems**. A technique system is made up of the tools of analysis to determine where and when to adjust the spine, and a process to affect long term changes in spinal health based upon an understanding of the complex interrelation between spinal units. Great technique is much more than moving bones!

Great adjustors **know and can utilize a variety of technique systems** and choose the technique they will use based on their patient's unique needs.

Great adjustors **specialize** in one or two technique systems and hone those skills to a very high level.

Great adjustors have **confidence** in their knowledge of the spine and all its fascinating components and are very **competent** in delivering a high level physical performance.

At Life West, you will get your hands on the spine early and often. You will learn technique from world class teachers who are still in active practice. You will have access to technique open labs where you can practice your skills with assistance from faculty every day. You will have more opportunities to learn more techniques than any other chiropractic college anywhere!

Life West has created a lasting culture of truly great technique instruction and competency. At Life West, we teach many types of techniques which can be used in very different situations. This broad education includes a number of upper cervical techniques, chiropractic for sports, techniques for pregnancy, infant and child adjusting and techniques geared for working with seniors.

The 13 techniques offered at Life West are:

NUCCA	Blair	Diversified	Extremities
CBP	Toggle	Activator	EPIC (Evolutionary Percussive Instrument Correction)
SOT	Network Spinal Analysis	Knee Chest	
Thompson		Gonstead	

But the learning doesn't stop there! Life Chiropractic College West also offers numerous technique electives and clubs for those who wish to pursue advanced learning and gain hands-on experience in techniques. Many top technique instructors regularly offer special classes on campus.

To learn more about these techniques and how they can help you succeed in business, contact the Admissions Office at **+1 (510) 780-4501**.

How to Visit Life West

Picking the right school requires an in-person visit to campus. You want to see the facilities, meet the students, faculty, staff and leadership, and cut through all the marketing fluff. Most prospective students tell us that their visit was the most important thing they did while researching which school to attend. Once you tour the facility and interact with our community, you will see why Life Chiropractic College West is so special.

There are two ways to visit Life West:

1

Champions Weekend is the ideal visit program for prospective students. This two day event is MUCH more than a campus tour. This program will allow you to fully immerse yourself in the Life West world. This event occurs once per quarter (in January, April, August and October) so you will have numerous opportunities to find a date that works for you.



When you visit Life West for Champions Weekend, you and your guest are offered:

- One night complimentary hotel stay
- Meals on event days

At Champions Weekend you will:

- Meet the President of Life West
- Spend lots of time with current students, finding out everything about the real student experience
- Meet with alumni, admissions staff, and financial aid staff
- Be inspired! Hear first rate chiropractic speakers
- Collaborate with doctors from the field who want to mentor and assist you



Register for Champions Weekend at www.lifewestchampions.com

2

Campus Visit Program: Life West offers a Campus Visit Program every Monday and Friday while classes are in session and students are on campus. Our tours are delivered by current student volunteers who will show you a view into their world. Our visit program allows you to see what it is really like to be a Life West student.

You will want to arrive on campus ten minutes prior to the start time to park and get settled. The tour typically lasts until 1:00 pm and then there is an option to have a one-on-one chat with admissions, financial aid and housing assistance. Please let us know if you would like to schedule this type of appointment.

For our out of town guests, we offer one night free accommodation at a local hotel. For hotel reservations please call admissions at **+1 (510) 780-4501**. Some restrictions apply.

Register for a campus visit at www.lifewest.edu



How to Apply for Financial Aid

We recommend that you start the process of applying for financial aid four to six months prior to the quarter you plan to start. The Office of Financial Aid has created this check list to assist you in better understanding the financial aid process and the necessary steps required to complete your financial aid file.

The steps outlined below may also be found in the financial aid section of the Life West website along with other useful information.

www.lifewest.edu/prospective-students/financial-aid/how-to-apply-for-financial-aid/

1. File the FAFSA form at www.fafsa.ed.gov
2. Complete the Online Master Promissory Note (subsidized and unsubsidized)
<https://studentloans.gov/myDirectLoan/index.action>
3. Complete the online Loan Entrance Counseling (Q&A on your rights and responsibilities).

Once step 1 is complete, we will send you an award letter to accept or decline the federal aid offered.

Your initial award letter will only include the federal unsubsidized federal loans and if eligible a federal work study award. If you wish to pursue additional borrowing with the federal credit based Graduate PLUS loan please contact the Financial Aid Office.

4. Sign and return your Financial Aid Award Letter to the Financial Aid Office

Oh wait...there's one more step!

5. Apply for scholarships (optional): We encourage you to apply for our incoming student scholarship(s). Be sure to check for each scholarship's deadline. Applications for scholarships are available online:
www.lifewest.edu/prospective-students/financial-aid/scholarships/.

Forms Required:

FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) *Online — Life West college code is 015732*

Federal tax transcript(s) *if requested by FAO*

Master Promissory Note *see step 2 above*

Resources:

An excellent resource with detailed information on student financial aid including loan calculators:

www.studentloans.gov. Another helpful website is NSLDS, the National Student Loan Data System, a National database of a student's federal grants and student loans: www.nsls.ed.gov



To find out more about financial aid options, contact the financial aid department at +1 (510) 780-4500 x2690 or finaid@lifewest.edu.



Financial Aid FAQs



When applying for financial aid, do I need to include my parent's income and assets?

You will only need to provide your personal income (and your spouse's income, if applicable). Chiropractic students at Life West are considered independent since they are enrolled in a graduate/professional degree program.



Can I also borrow for living expenses?

Chiropractic education requires a very intense course of study and most students choose not to work full time while going to school. Most students take out loans to cover the cost of living. The student loan budget includes tuition, books, and a standard cost of living expense.



Do you have scholarships?

Life West has a number of institutional scholarships, which are available to both incoming and current students. Detailed information and applications are available online.

We also recommend you look into outside scholarships (not funded by the school) for options. You can use the following websites to research scholarship opportunities: www.fastweb.org or www.federalstudentaid.ed.gov. A variety of free scholarship websites are available, therefore we do not recommend paying to search.



What kind of resources are available to assist students with managing their finances?

Financial Literacy Seminar is a part of every freshman's first quarter schedule. At Life West, we feel it is essential that our students develop skills in budgeting, financial strategies and financial management. Later in the program the courses in the business curriculum will offer additional information on financial planning tailored to chiropractic practice.

In addition, the college has partnered with American Student Assistance to provide their financial literacy platform (SALT) to Life West students. This program provides money management tools and outreach.



Do you have financial aid programs for veterans?

Educational benefits are available to veterans attending Life West through the various assistance programs provided by the federal government. Students are eligible to use the GI Bill®.* Detailed information, eligibility criteria and updates on the various chapters may be found at www.GIBILL.va.gov.

The **Post 9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Improvements Act of 2010** caps payment for a 12 month period (period renews each August) for private education. In addition, the **Post 9/11 Act** provides a monthly stipend and an annual book allowance. If you have less than 36 months of service all benefits are prorated based on your length of service.

Life Chiropractic College West is also a proud member in the **Yellow Ribbon Program**. Through this program it is possible for U.S. veterans to be eligible to have up to 100 percent of out-of-pocket tuition and fees covered. Our participation in this program means coverage of all your tuition not already provided for by the **Post 9/11 GI Bill®**.

**GI Bill® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). More information about education benefits offered by VA is available at the official U.S. government Web site at <http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill>.*

Thank you for your interest in Life Chiropractic College West! This booklet contains all the basic information you will need to navigate the application process.

We know what a big decision this is and how much information you are processing. We'd love to help you. Life West is a very unique place and we'd like to offer our special way of helping students find the right fit.

Please give us a ring or send us an email anytime! We are here to serve you.

Mary Lucus-Flannery, DC

Dean of Enrollment
Life Chiropractic College West
admissions@lifewest.edu



**LIFE CHIROPRACTIC
COLLEGE WEST**

Life Chiropractic College West

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