

## **University of Puerto Rico at Cayey Essential Facts**

The University of Puerto Rico at Cayey (UPR-C) is a four-year public institution, that forms part of the eleven campuses of the UPR system. It is located on 200 acres of subtropical land, nestled in the green hills of Puerto Rico's Cordillera Central. UPR- C is the campus that serves the greatest number of students from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds from the southwestern and central region of the Island, providing them with a high-quality education.

The UPR- C offers 27 bachelor's degrees and ranks 13<sup>th</sup> nationally as source institutions for Hispanic PhDs in natural and social sciences (2007-2011; NSF 2014). The 2011 National Science Foundation Survey of Earned Doctorates (2011) places UPR-Cayey among the top 41 United States baccalaureate institutions of Hispanic Science and Engineering doctorate recipients (2005-2010). The 2017 American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS) report, also places UPR-Cayey as the third institution in Puerto Rico where most of the Puerto Ricans apply to medical school programs and the 21<sup>st</sup> within the USA .

The UPR-C mission emphasizes providing an excellent education that integrates interdisciplinary approaches, research, and community engagement to the academic experience of students. The general education component focuses on content and abilities parting from an interdisciplinary approach, seeking to prepare the student population by enriching their academic experience in a diversity of fields. Furthermore, UPR- Cayey offers students the opportunity to participate in a number of educational activities that support the academic, social, and cultural experience , making UPR-C a vibrant campus with more than 56 active student organizations.

The student body is 99% Hispanic and 65% female, with a five-year average time to degree. In the fall of 2017-18, enrollment consisted of 3,497 undergraduate students, of which 686 were first-time degree-seeking students. Degree retention (86% Cohort 2016-2017) and graduation rates (between 45% and 49%) are among the highest within the UPR system. The students admitted to UPR-C have high academic potential, as the undergraduate campus of the UPR with the highest grade point averages of its applicants. UPR-C also ranks second in the whole UPR system with the highest GPA's. UPR-C graduates go on to graduate school in high numbers, 88% of our students report having applied to graduate studies in 2017, and 65% of those who successfully complete these studies go on to pursue careers in the health sciences.

The UPR-C is classified as a Baccalaureate College of Arts & Sciences by the Carnegie Foundation. It is licensed by the Council on Higher Education of Puerto Rico and accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) and the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP), including the Standards of Professional Accreditation (SPA), Association for Childhood Education (ACEI), National Association for Sports and Physical Education (NASPE), National Science-Teachers Association (NSTA), Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), and Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL). The Business Administration and Office Technology and Administration Programs are accredited by the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP). The General Library is recognized by the Association for College and Research Libraries (ACRL) and The Center for the Interdisciplinary Development of Students (CEDE) is accredited by the International Association of Counseling Services (IACS).

To support the Institution in achieving its mission, the UPR-Cayey has a highly qualified professional staff of 211 full-time faculty members, including teaching and non-teaching faculty (i.e., Researchers, Librarians, Psychologists, and Counselors). The faculty is highly experienced and qualified, many with doctoral degrees from some of the most prestigious institutions in the world. The cultural diversity of the faculty is also strong; professors from India, France, Germany, Spain, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, and the mainland United States, among other countries. Their diverse qualifications reflect the interdisciplinary nature of teaching, research, creative projects, and services in the UPR-Cayey. To access the list of faculty publications, which is regularly updated, please see <https://cayey.upr.edu/publicacionesfacultad/>.

The following programs provide opportunities that enrich the academic and cultural life of our students, faculty and the community at large: the Honors Program, Research Initiative Scientific Enhancement Program (RISE), the Institute of Interdisciplinary Research (IIR), BRAD (2015-2020), and NIH-IPERT (2016- 2021) a first-rate Museum, the Division of Extension and Continuing Education, the International Studies Program, the office of Cultural Activities, the Athletic Program, and Casa Universidad, an off-campus community based project that integrates community service to the academic experience.

In terms of experience in procuring external grants for the benefit of students, the UPR-C has more than 15 years of experience with large NIH-funded programs (RISE 2003-2015, RIMI 2004-2009, BRIC 2010-2015, BRAD 2015-2020, UPR- IPERT 2016-2021) and an excellent track record with research training programs, with more than 300 undergraduates engaged in research annually.

UPR Cayey students and faculty work together through the interdisciplinary curriculum in a stimulating research based framework. The institution hosts great talent and forms creative thinkers to continue to make a mark in discovery, innovation, and design in the sciences, entrepreneurship, arts, and education.

For more information on these and all other institutional information and updates, please access the institutional website at: <https://cayey.upr.edu>.