Excelsior College offers relevant programs to advance your career in nursing. Our programs of study let you build on what you already know and complete your degree through online courses and credit by exam options.

When you apply to Excelsior College, admission counselors review your previous learning experience and talk with you about your prior work and training. In many cases, we can accept credits earned from other schools, and award credits for what you’ve learned on the job, through professional and industry training programs, and in the military.

We want to know where you want to go so we can help you get there. The key to your success lies in finding a flexible degree path that fits with your interests and will help you reach your professional goals—all while working with the realities of your day-to-day life.
Choose a degree program that's a good fit with your experience, interests, and goals.

**Program Options**

**Associate in Science in Nursing**

The associate degree programs provide an alternative educational approach to earning an associate degree in nursing. The degree programs have identical nursing requirements, but the general education requirements differ very slightly. The nursing component is designed to ensure students possess competence in theory and performance in nursing comparable to that of graduates of campus-based associate degree programs. It requires outstanding critical thinking skills and nursing judgment as well as commitment to academic rigor.

67 credits

**Associate in Applied Science in Nursing**

The associate degree programs provide an alternative educational approach to earning an associate degree in nursing. The degree programs have identical nursing requirements, but the general education requirements differ very slightly. The nursing component is designed to ensure students possess competence in theory and performance in nursing comparable to that of graduates of campus-based associate degree programs. It requires outstanding critical thinking skills and nursing judgment as well as commitment to academic rigor.

67 credits

**Bachelor of Science in Nursing**

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing program uses an online course model to build on the student’s prior knowledge with new learning. The curriculum serves as a foundation for graduate study and the pursuit of lifelong learning, which is essential for practice in the nursing profession. The general education requirements ensure the student develops college-level competence in arts and sciences areas including humanities, social sciences/history, and natural sciences/math. Credits may be earned through courses and UExcel exams, or transferred from accredited, degree-granting institutions or approved examination programs. Students eligible for the program will be granted 30 semester hours of nursing credit for prior learning at the lower level, which is validated by the successful completion of the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). The required nursing component focuses on knowledge and professional competencies expected of graduates of bachelor’s programs. It emphasizes the integration of nursing and related arts and sciences knowledge in complex situations related to nursing care of individuals, families, aggregates, and communities. The nursing component requires outstanding critical thinking skills and nursing judgment as well as commitment to academic rigor.

121 credits
Master of Science in Nursing

SPECIALIZATIONS:
Nursing Leadership and Administration of Health Care Systems, Nursing Education, Nursing Informatics

The Master of Science in Nursing program prepares registered nurses for successful careers in a variety of academic and service settings as leaders and administrators in health-care systems, nurse educators, and nurse informaticists. Using an instructional model through online courses and practice experiences and a rigorous, challenging curriculum, the program provides a flexible means for registered nurses to obtain a master’s degree and preparation for advanced professional roles. The nursing component requires outstanding critical thinking skills and nursing judgment as well as commitment to academic rigor.

36–38 CREDITS

RN to Master of Science in Nursing

SPECIALIZATIONS:
Nursing Leadership and Administration of Health Care Systems, Nursing Education, Nursing Informatics

The RN to Master of Science in Nursing program enables registered nurses to earn a Bachelor of Science in Nursing as well as a Master of Science in Nursing. Students take graduate-level courses that replace some of undergraduate requirements and earn both degrees more efficiently than completing the two programs separately. The nursing component focuses on knowledge and professional competencies expected of graduates of bachelor’s and master’s programs. It emphasizes the integration of nursing and related arts and sciences knowledge in complex situations related to nursing care of individuals, families, aggregates, and communities. Students eligible for the program will be granted 30 semester hours of nursing credit for prior learning at the lower level, which is validated by the successful completion of the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). The nursing component requires outstanding critical thinking skills and nursing judgment as well as commitment to academic rigor.

142–144 CREDITS

WOULD RECOMMEND EXCELSIOR COLLEGE TO OTHERS

According to the One-Year Survey of graduates between July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014. 92%
Student Experience

Become part of a community of encouraging and knowledgeable instructors, academic advisors, coaches, career counselors, and peers. If you run into obstacles or need personal guidance, you can turn to helpful members of your support network and use resources that will keep you moving toward your goals.

ACADEMIC ADVISING
Work with an academic advisor to determine the right path to achieving your academic and professional goals.

ORIENTATION TO THE ONLINE CLASSROOM
Become familiar with the learning management system—your online classroom—where you will interact with faculty who are subject matter experts.

FACULTY
Learn with faculty experts who support your academic development.

SUCCESS COACHING
Keep moving forward with support from success coaches to build on your strengths and overcome challenges.

CAREER CENTER
Find tools for self-assessment, career exploration, job search techniques, graduate school preparation, goal setting, decision making, and more.

CENTER FOR MILITARY AND VETERAN EDUCATION
Receive an evaluation of training for credit, work with an academic advisor to select a program, and get help with military tuition assistance.
“The instructors with Excelsior College are knowledgeable and were eager to help me succeed in my journey. The flexibility of online learning and the outstanding staff made my dream achievable.”

SCOTT DUGAN
Master of Science in Nursing, 2017
Admissions Requirements

UNDERGRADUATE

Applicants to the associate degree programs must have nursing experience as a licensed practical or vocational nurse (LPN or LVN), paramedic, or in certain classifications of military medical personnel. In addition to experience in one of those health-care backgrounds, applicants must earn the minimum required score on the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) on a single attempt and no more than a year prior to their application date. Applicants must submit a form that verifies current employment in a health-care setting.

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing program is open to applicants who hold an active and unencumbered RN license in the United States and have earned an associate degree or diploma in nursing from an accredited nursing program at a regionally accredited institution. Students from outside the United States must submit official transcripts and demonstrate that they have an equivalent U.S. Registered Nurse licensure. To be eligible for admission, the applicant must be a graduate of an approved school of nursing in their country of education and hold an active and unencumbered nursing license. If the applicant is licensed in multiple jurisdictions and/or countries, all licenses will be validated by primary source verification.

Applicants to the RN to Master of Science in Nursing program must hold an active and unencumbered RN license in the United States and have earned an associate degree or diploma in nursing at a regionally accredited institution. Students who have an RN license and who have earned an associate degree and a bachelor’s degree other than nursing may also apply. Students from outside the United States must submit official transcripts and demonstrate that they have an equivalent U.S. Registered Nurse licensure. To be eligible for admission, the applicant must be a graduate of a regionally accredited institution. Students from outside the United States must submit official transcripts and demonstrate that they have an equivalent U.S. Registered Nurse licensure. To be eligible for admission, the applicant must be a graduate of an approved school of nursing in their country of education and hold an active and unencumbered nursing license. If the applicant is licensed in multiple jurisdictions and/or countries, all licenses will be validated by primary source verification.

FINANCIAL AID

Work with a financial aid counselor and fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to apply for grants, loans, and scholarship opportunities.

SPECIAL TUITION RATES

You may be eligible for reduced tuition if your employer, association, or community college has established an educational partnership with Excelsior College. Military servicemembers, veterans, family members, and DoD civilian employees are also eligible to receive tuition discounts.
ABOUT EXCELSIOR COLLEGE

Excelsior College is a regionally accredited, nonprofit distance learning institution founded in 1971 focused on providing educational opportunity to adult learners. The College contributes to the development of a diverse, educated society by valuing lifelong learning with an emphasis on serving individuals who are historically underrepresented by higher education. Excelsior meets students where they are—academically and geographically—removing obstacles to the educational goals of adult learners through affordable access to quality instruction and the assessment of learning. Our pillars include innovation, flexibility, academic excellence, and integrity.

ACCREDITATION

Excelsior College (and under its former name, Regents College) has been continuously accredited since 1977 by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, 3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104, 215-662-5606. Middle States is an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).

The associate, bachelor’s, and master’s degree programs in nursing at Excelsior College are accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN):

Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)
3343 Peachtree Road, Suite 850
Atlanta, GA 30326
404-975-5000
www.acenursing.org

The ACEN is a specialized accrediting agency for nursing recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).

All the College’s academic programs are registered (i.e., approved) by the New York State Education Department.

RECOGNITION

The National League for Nursing (NLN) has designated the Excelsior College School of Nursing as a Center of Excellence in Nursing Education, 2016–2021. This distinction has been awarded in recognition of the College’s sustained achievements in creating environments that promote student learning and professional development, and it is the fourth consecutive designation the School has received since the NLN began the program in 2005.