

**Concordia University
Division of Nursing
Second-Degree Accelerated BSN Program**

Frequently Asked Questions

Who should apply?

Persons interested in nursing, who have a bachelor's degree and who can attend school full-time. Before you apply for the program, take time into considering your financial situation, career goals, family responsibilities and your ability to become a full-time college student again. Keep in mind that the program is very intense. Consider if you reasonably can devote 40 or more hours a week to course and clinical work for a 12-month period.

Do I have to be a graduate of CUI in order to get into the Accelerated Nursing program?

No, you do not have to be a graduate of CUI in order to get into the Accelerated program. Our program is open to any applicant who has completed their bachelor's degree and graduated from an accredited university/college.

How long is the Second Degree Accelerated Nursing program?

Concordia University's program is full-time and 12-months long.

Is there a part-time option?

At this time, there is not a part-time option

Is the TOEFL required?

Yes, the TOEFL is required for all applicants whose native language is not English.

I received my first bachelor's degree in another country. Will these courses transfer?

Possibly, but they must be evaluated by World Education Service (<http://www.wes.org>). This organization will convert your transcript to American credit units and American semester grades. An official WES report as well as an official copy of your original transcript must be sent with your application.

Do I need to meet with someone in the nursing school? Is an interview required?

An interview is not required. If you would like to meet with someone in the nursing school to review transcripts and ask questions, please call 949-854-8002 ext. 1275 to set up an appointment.

How do I apply? Where can I get the application?

Make a formal application to the School of Nursing using the Application for Admission located at Concordia University's website www.cui.edu.

Do I need letters of reference?

Reference letters are not required, but we will accept them.

Is there a time limit on prerequisites?

Prerequisites must be completed before the first day of class. When applicants apply, they must show in writing which prerequisites they are currently taking, the name of the university/college where the classes are being completed and when they expect to complete the classes.

What courses should I now be taking?

There are several prerequisite courses for the Second Degree program as follows:

- Chemistry or Physics 3 – 4 units
- Human Anatomy with lab 3 – 4 units
- Human Physiology with lab 3 – 4 units
- Microbiology with lab 3 – 4 units
- Human Nutrition 3 units
- General Psychology 3 units
- Written Communications 3 units
- Oral Communication/Speech 3 units
- Psychology Lifespan Development 3 units
- Introduction to Sociology or Anthropology 3 units
- Philosophy/Theology 6 units must be completed at CUI

Do I have to have all the prerequisite courses completed before I apply?

You do not have to have all prerequisite courses completed before you apply. All must be completed before you begin classes. A prerequisite completion plan must be submitted along with the application. There is no room to take prerequisites during the program. Students will be asked to complete the philosophy/theology 6 units one semester before entering the nursing program.

Is there a time limit on when I took my prerequisites? Will my chemistry class from 20 years ago count towards my prerequisite work?

There is not a time limit on prerequisite work. However, please remember the intent of prerequisites is to prepare you for the courses of the Nursing program. For example, if you had Physiology 15 years ago and have not been using it in everyday work since then, it would be in your best interest to take a refresher course.

Do I have to complete an application to the university and to the nursing school?

Only one (1) application to the School of Nursing needs to be completed

How many students do you admit to each class?

Class size is limited to thirty-three (33) students.

Is there a profile of typical successful applicants?

- GPA 3.0 or higher
- Completion of application by deadline date
- Ability to follow instructions
- Typed personal statement explaining reasons why you want to be a nurse, steps that led you here and your long-range goals
- Official transcripts received by deadline date
- Prerequisite completion plan

How will I know if I have taken an accepted lifespan development course?

The course must survey major developmental theories, developmental changes across the entire lifespan, and the hereditary and environmental influences on individuals from infancy to the elderly.

Can I take Bioethics and Philosophy/Theology at another school?

No, you must complete these courses at Concordia University per university policy.

Do I have to obtain my own liability insurance for clinical rotations?

Yes, you must obtain your own liability insurance.

Is financial assistance available? What is the tuition for the program?

Yes, a limited amount of financial aid is available. Please contact Concordia University's financial aid department at 949-854-8002 ext. 1136. The cost for the program is \$500.00 per unit.

Is housing available?

No, campus housing is not available to Second Degree students. Check with local newspapers or apartment rental websites for current listings of nearby apartments/houses.

How many hours per week can I work while enrolled in the program?

It is highly recommended that nursing students do not work during the nursing program.

Is the program accredited and by whom?

The university is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). The department of nursing will be seeking accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) after the first class begins. The Department of Nursing is seeking accreditation from CCNE in the spring 2009.

Licensure

Upon program completion, graduates are eligible to sit for the NCLEX-RN licensure required for a Registered Nurse license.