



# Accelerated Nursing | BSN

## Program Information

Is Concordia College affiliated with other Concordia colleges or universities?	Concordia College, in Moorhead Minnesota is a college of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). We are not affiliated with other church entities, associated with other universities that have the same name, nor do we participate in any satellite programs.
Where is Concordia College located?	We are located in Moorhead, MN which has a population of approximately 42,000 and borders North Dakota on it's eastern side. Fargo is located across the Red River and has a population of 121,000. The local area is referred to as the <a href="#">F-M area</a> .
Who is the program intended for?	Our accelerated BSN program is specifically for college graduates who have completed a baccalaureate degree in a non-nursing major from a regionally accredited institution who wish to pursue a BSN in nursing.
How long is the program?	The Nursing Department Faculty are pleased to announce a new 12-month, 54-credit, innovative accelerated nursing curriculum. We will enroll the first 16-member cohort in January 2023. The application cycle for the January 2023 cohort will open on March 1, 2022. We will continue to use NursingCAS for the application process. Students will complete the program in December 2023. Admission and prerequisite requirements remain the same.
Can I complete my BSN in nursing online?	No. Our program is classroom-based and follows the traditional academic year and summer sessions. Students have classes 3-4 days per week and clinical experiences 2-3 days per week. Clinical schedules vary across day, evening, night shift, on weekdays and possibly weekends.
Do I need to be admitted to Concordia College before applying?	No. Admission is not completed until an applicant has been accepted into the nursing program.
Do I receive a second baccalaureate degree after I complete the program?	Yes. Upon successful completion of the program, the student will receive a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree.
Are international students eligible to apply to the BSN program?	A baccalaureate or graduate degree in a non-nursing major from a U.S. regionally accredited college or university <b>is required</b> to apply to the program in order to access clinical program sites. <b><u>If you do not have a degree from a U.S. institution with regional accreditation, you do not meet the requirements for this program.</u></b> If you meet the requirement above, you must have a valid/unexpired visa through the duration of the program to participate in clinical activities. Eligible students work closely with the Assistant Director of the International Community to complete required paperwork throughout the program.
How many students are accepted?	The January 2023 cohort will seat 16 students.
Am I eligible to sit for the professional registered nurse (RN) licensure examination following the program?	Yes. Student are awarded a baccalaureate degree in nursing (BSN) and you are eligible to sit for the Nursing Candidate Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN) to become a registered professional nurse (RN).



<b>If I am an LPN or have my associate degree in nursing or a non-nursing major, can I apply to the program?</b>	No. This program is designed for individuals who have already acquired a baccalaureate degree in a non-nursing major. This program is not intended to be a ladder program for LPN to baccalaureate-purposed RNs.
<b>Does my experience in the healthcare field or a related major improve my chance of being admitted to the program?</b>	We do not require students to be Certified Nursing Assistants (CNAs) or Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs). Baccalaureate-prepared nurses function under a completely different scope and standard of practice. Experience in these areas does not influence an individual's chance of admission nor does the type of major completed with the earned baccalaureate degree. We do not give preference to applicants based on the school where the previous baccalaureate degree was earned.

## Admission & Application

<b>Is it difficult to get into the program?</b>	Admission to our program is competitive and based on selective and cumulative GPA, and other application requirements including references, a personal statement and resume.
<b>When can I apply to the program?</b>	<b>Applications for the 2023 cohort will be accepted beginning March 1, 2022.</b> Qualified applicants who complete the process earlier in the application process will have a better chance of being admitted.
<b>What are the requirements for admission to the program?</b>	<p><b>Applicants must meet ALL of the following criteria in order to be considered for acceptance in the program:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A baccalaureate degree in a non-nursing major from a regionally accredited US college or university. The degree must be completed and verified via official transcript(s) prior to application review.</li> <li>- A cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher on all post-high school coursework.</li> <li>- All prerequisite coursework must be completed prior to application review and appear on an official transcript.</li> </ul>
<b>How do I apply?</b>	<p>The application and required materials are processed through <a href="#">NursingCAS</a>. Visit the <a href="#">Applicant Help Center</a> for details about the application process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Select <b>Concordia College, Moorhead MN</b> as your program of interest.</li> <li>- Complete the three NursingCAS application sections and the Concordia College section, including all documents, prerequisite information and questions.</li> <li>- Submit your completed application along with payment of \$60 (first application) and, if applicable, \$45 for each additional application.</li> <li>- Applications will not be reviewed until ALL materials have been submitted and verified. An applicant may check the status of their application in their NursingCAS account.</li> </ul>
<b>How do I submit my official transcripts? Can my transcripts be reviewed prior to the application period?</b>	<p>Official transcripts are requested through NursingCAS and sent to:  <b>NursingCAS Transcript Processing Center</b>  <b>PO Box 9201</b>  <b>Watertown, MA 02471</b></p> <p>We will not review unofficial transcripts sent by mail or email.</p>



### What are the requirements for international students?

**International Students** are required to have a baccalaureate or graduate degree in a non-nursing major from a U.S. regionally accredited college or university in order to apply for the accelerated nursing program. If you do not have a degree from a U.S. institution with regional accreditation, you do not meet the requirements for this program. Additionally, students must have a valid, unexpired visa through the duration of the program to participate in clinicals.

**If these academic and visa requirements are met, students are required to:**

- Contact the Minnesota Board of Nursing (contact information below) directly to discuss their individual eligibility for U.S. Licensure including where they intend to practice nursing following the program.
- Request a written letter from the Minnesota Board of Nursing with details of eligibility for U.S. Licensure.
- Attach the Minnesota Board of Nursing letter to their NursingCAS application under the Documents section as a supplemental document.
- If you are planning on returning to your native country after completing the Concordia College Nursing Program please submit a letter from your country's Board of Nursing stating they will recognize our program and you are eligible for Nursing licensure or certification in your native country.

If the Minnesota Board of Nursing indicates a student is eligible for U.S. Licensure upon completing our program and the student meets all other eligibility requirements (prerequisite coursework, GPA requirements, etc.) their application will be reviewed by the accelerated nursing admissions team. If a student is offered a seat in the program, they will need to work closely with Concordia's Admissions Office and the Assistant Director of the International Community to complete the required paperwork necessary throughout the duration of the program.

#### **Minnesota Board of Nursing**

1210 Northland Drive-Suite 120

Mendota Heights, MN 55120

Phone: 612-317-3000

Fax: 651-688-1841

Email: [nursing.board@state.mn.us](mailto:nursing.board@state.mn.us)

### What prerequisite courses need to be complete prior to applying for the program?

Courses must be at least 3 credits, completed with a letter grade of C- (1.7) or better, not taken as pass/fail, and have a combined GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale. Labs must be linked to the main course and may be in-person or virtual.

**Psychology** | General, Introductory or Lifespan

**Human Nutrition** | General or Lifespan

**Human Anatomy and Physiology** | **Must cover the following body systems:** neurological, cardiac, respiratory, GI, GU, musculoskeletal and integumentary.

Courses that are part of a series must be completed at the same institution (there are limited exceptions to this requirement). **Must include a linked lab.**

**Microbiology** | Fundamental or General. **Must include a linked lab**

**Chemistry** | Introductory Chemistry or higher accepted. Allied Health or Survey of Chemistry courses are accepted. A course that addresses organic and/or biochemistry content is highly recommended to prepare for coursework.

**Must include a linked lab.**

**Mathematics** | College Algebra, Statistics or higher math





<p><b>Are there additional materials required with the application?</b></p>	<p><b>Yes. The following are required to complete the application:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Official transcripts with a degree earned from a regionally accredited US institution</li> <li>- Two professional references</li> <li>- One page resume</li> <li>- A 500-750 word personal statement addressing your motivation for returning to school, vocational and career goals, and what you believe are the necessary characteristics / attributes of a healthcare professional</li> </ul>
<p><b>How does the reference process work?</b></p>	<p>We require two professional references. Employers, supervisors, professors or advisors, or clergy make great references. It is important that the individuals you choose are able to evaluate you on your ability to empathize and care for all clients in a non-judgmental and culturally appropriate manner. This may include examples of observed behaviors. We suggest you identify your references early and let them know they will be receiving a “reference request” from <a href="mailto:nursingcasinfo@nursingcas.org">nursingcasinfo@nursingcas.org</a> on your behalf.</p>
<p><b>How do I know if my application has been reviewed?</b></p>	<p>Once your application is complete and verified, applicants will receive an email through NursingCAS from Concordia that the application is ready for review. <b>Applications are reviewed in the order they are received, so we strongly suggest you apply early!</b> Applicants will be notified of admission to the Accelerated Nursing program promptly following review. Upon acceptance, students are required to pay a non-refundable deposit of \$250. Your deposit reserves a seat in the program and is applied toward programmatic expenses during the first semester.</p>

## Outcomes

<p><b>What should I expect from my clinical experience? How are they arranged?</b></p>	<p>Concordia has long-standing relationships with a variety of healthcare organizations in the community. Students benefit from having all clinical experiences planned and arranged by nursing faculty to acquire 600 hours of clinical practice. We retain a ratio of one faculty to seven students in all clinical settings to ensure direct supervision and strong mentorship. We have contracts with 18 clinical agencies to provide a variety of experiences across specialties, diverse patient populations, and the lifespan.</p>
<p><b>In addition to knowledge from coursework and clinicals, what will I take away from the program?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Apply concepts from arts, humanities and sciences to professional nursing practice.</li> <li>- Communicate clearly and effectively.</li> <li>- Apply critical thinking skills in deliberate decision-making.</li> <li>- Provide nursing care in accordance with <i>Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice</i> (ANA, 2015) and <i>Nursing's Social Policy Statement: The Essence of the Profession</i> (ANA, 2010).</li> <li>- Provide nursing care in accordance with the <i>Code of Ethics for Nurses with Interpretive Statements</i> (ANA, 2015).</li> <li>- Sit for the Nursing Candidate Licensure Examination (NCLEX) to become an RN.</li> </ul>



## Financial Information

<b>What does the Accelerated Nursing program cost?</b>	The Accelerated Nursing program at Concordia College is designed for full-time students to complete in 12 months. Per credit tuition is \$795 for the 2023 cycle. There are other fees students are responsible for. Please see the <a href="#">Program Costs</a> page for details.
<b>Is there financial aid available for the program?</b>	Questions related to tuition and financial aid are addressed through the Business Office (218.299.3150) and Financial Aid Office (218.299.3010) on campus. Scholarships may be available through regional health systems but they are not provided through the Nursing Department or Concordia College. It is your responsibility to seek out these opportunities on their own.

## Other Information

<b>Is housing available for students in the program?</b>	The Fargo-Moorhead community has a variety of housing options available. On campus housing is primarily for undergraduate students, however, there may be exceptions. If you have questions about housing, contact our admissions team.
<b>Am I responsible for my own transportation during the program?</b>	Yes, students are responsible for transportation to all clinical experiences. The F-M area does not offer transportation that coincides with all clinical shifts. Students are able to ride share to some clinicals with other students. Use of Uber, Lyft and/or taxis are not a dependable means of transportation for clinical assignments.
<b>What kind of support will I receive from faculty during the program?</b>	The nursing faculty at Concordia place strong emphasis on advising and mentoring students to achieve their greatest potential. You will receive individual guidance from faculty throughout the program and in your next steps toward becoming an RN.