

EARN A NURSING BACHELOR'S DEGREE ONLINE!

 **CharterOak**SM
STATE COLLEGE

Degrees Without Boundaries

**Bachelor of Science Degree
Nursing**



Flexible, affordable online degree
for working RNs



Nursing Major

The Program

This online Bachelor of Science in Nursing program was designed by Charter Oak State College to fulfill the increasing need for baccalaureate (BSN) prepared nurses nationwide. Our 120-credit program's core nursing courses were specifically developed to meet the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) *Essentials of Baccalaureate Education (AACN, 2008)*.

Online courses combined with a clinical practice component provide students the opportunity to apply

new knowledge and skills. The degree specifically addresses the gap between Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) and Baccalaureate degree nursing programs by addressing health care policy, evidence-based practice, population health, continuous quality improvement, safety, interprofessional collaboration, and leadership within the health care system.

The program offers generous acceptance of prior ADN credits in accordance with the recommendation of the *Connecticut Articulation Model for Nurse Educational Mobility*.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor cites the need for 1.1 million new nurses nationwide by 2023.

Graduates of the Nursing program will learn to:

- Demonstrate a strong foundation in evidence-based nursing practice through purposeful, informed, outcome-oriented thinking and action that reflects a commitment to lifelong learning.
- Utilize and apply knowledge, critical thinking, and clinical decision-making skills to make sound clinical judgments that identify and address individual, population, and organizational challenges.
- Integrate leadership skills of systems thinking, communication, and change facilitation to meet patient care and organizational needs across the continuum of care.
- Guided by the acquisition of a liberal arts education, utilize an ethical framework to advocate for patients amid economic, political, social, and demographic forces affecting the delivery of regional, national, and global health care.
- Integrate determinants of health and patients' cultural beliefs and practices into the delivery and management of care to promote health across the lifespan.
- Interact using effective communication skills with patients, families, and interprofessional team members that fosters mutual respect and shared decision-making to enhance patient satisfaction and health outcomes.
- Apply evidence-based practice models to identify and integrate scientific evidence to address practice issues and assure quality nursing care outcomes.

- Advocate for and participate in patient safety and quality initiatives as a member of the interprofessional health care team.
- Utilize informatics and patient care technology to enhance communication in the provision and management of safe, effective patient care.
- Incorporate professional nursing standards and accountability into practice as a member of the interprofessional health care team.

The Nursing Major Curriculum

Major Courses:

- NUR 301 Baccalaureate Nursing Role
- NUR 310 Health Care Policy, Economics, Regulation, and Ethics
- NUR 315 Nursing Research and Expanded Evidence-Based Practice
- NUR 320 Population Health
- NUR 400 Continuous Quality Improvement, Safety, and Interprofessional Collaboration
- NUR 410 Systems Leadership/Continuum of Care
- NUR 495 Baccalaureate Nursing Capstone

Students may transfer up to 2 courses in the major provided they meet program requirements.

Completing a BSN degree requires participation in two on-ground practicum experiences, one in NUR 320 and the other in NUR 495. Students are subject to a criminal background check and drug screening prior to being placed in any practicum. Students who have been convicted of a felony and/or misdemeanor may not be able to complete practicum experiences.



Ranked 11th best school in the nation for superior educational experience for returning adults. *College Factual*



Academic Requirements

Bachelor of Science Degree

- General Education: Minimum of 40 credits
- Major: Minimum of 26 credits
- Elective credits: To bring the total to 120 credits
- 30 credits must be at the upper level
- At least 60 of the 120 credits need to be in liberal arts subjects
- Cornerstone Seminar (IDS 101)

Admissions Requirements

Admission to the RN to BSN program is selective. Candidates to the program must have:

- A minimum calculated Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.3, based on the Charter Oak State College Nursing Program of Study (Advising Worksheet), to be accepted into the Nursing Program

- Graduated from a nationally accredited (ACEN or CNEA) Associate degree in Nursing or Diploma Nursing Program
- A current, unencumbered RN license

**Note: Applicants who have not yet received their RN license, but meet other admissions requirements, will be permitted to enroll in the college for one semester. Proof of RN licensure must be provided for continued enrollment.*





Why A BSN?

The American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN), the national voice for baccalaureate and graduate nursing programs, states that education has a significant impact on the knowledge and competencies of the nurse clinician. Those with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree are well-prepared to meet the demands placed on today's nurse. BSN nurses are prized for their skills in critical thinking, leadership, case management, and

health promotion. Health care employer organizations recognize the unique value that BSN nurses bring to the practice setting.

Why Charter Oak?

For the working RN, time is of the essence. Online coursework suits the needs of busy, RNs who want, and are increasingly required, to gain additional education and expertise. The Charter Oak RN-to-BSN curriculum was built around the *Massachusetts Nurse of the Future Core Competencies* (MA DHE, 2016) and the *Essentials of Baccalaureate Education* (AACN, 2008) and values acceptance of prior education and experience. It is meant to bridge the formal education and skills gap between RN and BSN to increase an employee's marketplace value, with opportunities for advancement and increased earning potential in the workplace.

500,000 nurses are expected to retire by 2022 nationally, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor. The Connecticut Department of Labor projects the need to hire 2,100 nurses per year through 2026.


Use the Credits You've Earned! We accept credits from:

- College-level examinations
- Non-collegiate courses evaluated by American Council on Education (ACE) or National College Credit Recommendation Service (NCCRS)
- ACE evaluated military credit
- Most credits earned at other regionally-accredited institutions including up to 87 credits from two year colleges

Advance your Career...Change your Life

Charter Oak State College is Connecticut's public online college offering associate and bachelor's degree completion programs in a number of high-demand fields including Nursing, Health Information Management, Health Care Administration, Cyber Security, and others. Our students complete degrees through the use of our online courses and by combining other sources of credit. Our institution is accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education.



 *“We focus on a curriculum that builds from the strong foundation of associate degree and diploma education, maximizes prior education and experience, and minimizes redundancy. Nurses who graduate from Charter Oak’s program will have acquired the latest and most relevant skills utilizing the online approach that suits the busy lifestyles of today’s working nurses.”*

Linda Perfetto, PhD, RN, FAADN, CNE, CNOR, Director, RN to BSN Program

The program is licensed and accredited by the Connecticut Board of Regents for Higher Education and has submitted application for accreditation by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

Contact Us

www.CharterOak.edu/RN-to-BSN // admissions@charteroak.edu // 860-515-3701

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A Connecticut State College accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education.

Charter Oak State College complies with all applicable federal and state laws regarding nondiscrimination and affirmative action.