

History

In 1971, the New York State Board of Regents founded Regents College, now known as Excelsior College. The college's initial development was funded by major grants from the Ford Foundation and the Carnegie Corporation. From 1971 until 1998, Regents College operated as a program of the Board of Regents (which also served as its board of trustees) and under the authority of The University of the State of New York by which degrees and diplomas were awarded during that period.

In April 1998, the Board of Regents granted the College a charter to operate as a private, non-profit, independent institution and on January 1, 2001, Regents College changed its name to Excelsior College. Today, an independent board of trustees governs Excelsior College and it is comprised of prominent individuals in the fields of education, business and the professions from across the United States.

From 1971 to April 1998, degrees and transcripts were issued under the name of The University of the State of New York. From April 1998 through 2000, degrees and transcripts were issued under the Regents College name. Since 2001, degrees and transcripts have been issued under the Excelsior College name.

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 9104, 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 National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC), 3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850, Atlanta, GA 30326, 404-975-5000. The NLNAC is a specialized accrediting agency for nursing recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).

The bachelor's degree programs in electrical engineering technology and nuclear engineering technology are accredited by the Engineering Technology Accreditation Commission of ABET, Inc., 111 Market Place, Suite 1050, Baltimore, MD 21202, 410-347-7700. ABET is a specialized accrediting agency recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).

The baccalaureate degree programs in accounting (NYS CPA Track) and business are accredited by the International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education (IACBE),

11257 Strang Line Rd., Lexena, KS 66215, 913-631-3009. IACBE is a specialized accrediting agency recognized by 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 Excelsior College School of Nursing is designated a Center of Excellence in Nursing Education, 2005-2008, 2008-2011, & 2001-2016 by the National League for Nursing. It has also been designated a Best School of Nursing for Men by the American Assembly for Men in Nursing four times.

The Master of Arts in Liberal Studies program has been accepted into full membership by the Association of Graduate Liberal Studies Programs (AGLSP).

Excelsior College Examinations

Founded on the philosophy that “what you know is more important than where or how you learned it”[®], Excelsior College offers a series of college-level proficiency examinations whereby students may demonstrate competence in various subjects. Each year tens of thousands students, not just those of Excelsior College, take Excelsior College Examinations (formerly known as Regents College Examinations) to earn credit or for advanced placement purposes at nearly 1,000 colleges and universities.

The American Council on Education’s College Credit Recommendation Service (ACE CREDIT) has evaluated and recommended college credit for Excelsior College Examinations. Excelsior College Examinations in nursing are the only nursing exams that have been evaluated and recommended for college credit by ACE CREDIT.