



Belmont Abbey
COLLEGE

*That in all things God
may be glorified*

For Immediate Release

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Belmont Abbey College Announces New Online RN-BSN Program

Belmont, N.C. (August 4, 2022) – Belmont Abbey College announces the launch of its online RN-BSN nursing program. This comes alongside Belmont Abbey's pre-licensure Bachelors of Science in nursing degree and is part of the institution's focus on increasing offerings in healthcare education. To support these new programs, Belmont Abbey began construction in early 2021 on brand-new nursing classrooms, labs, and offices on the Sacred Heart extension. These facilities opened in April of 2022. The RN-BSN application is open now and classes begin later this month.

The RN-BSN program at Belmont Abbey College comes at a time when quality nurses are in high demand. "We've gone from a nursing shortage to what I call a nursing crisis. We have an aging professional population, plus a shortage of nursing educators. Many clinical training sites shut down during the pandemic, which affected students. Thankfully those are back up and running now, so we can continue our efforts to send nurses back out into the world," says Dr. Carolyn Harmon, Dean of Nursing at Belmont Abbey. The accelerated RN-BSN program provides an avenue to get qualified nurses in action quickly. "The RN-BSN presents an incredible opportunity for practiced nurses in the field to advance in their careers while providing the compassionate, skilled nurses that we need," says Dr. Harmon. Belmont Abbey College nursing graduates emerge with a desire to provide exceptional patient care and leverage compassion to better the lives of others.

Belmont Abbey College's nursing program provides a solid foundation in theology, scripture, and philosophy while exploring the connection between faith and healthcare. To be eligible for the program, applicants must have completed prerequisite classes that include Anatomy and Physiology and Microbiology. The RN-BSN program is an 8-week accelerated format and requires students to complete 34 credit hours prior to graduation. "We recognize the value of registered nurses for their experience, knowledge, and commitment to the profession. We want to come alongside them and offer a flexible, affordable path to advancing their careers. The RN-BSN program allows us to help solve the issue of the nursing crisis by placing more qualified nurses on the front lines," says Dr. David Williams, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs at Belmont Abbey College. The first RN-BSN cohort will graduate in the spring of 2024.

Belmont Abbey College is not the only institution in Gaston County to place a focus on healthcare. In 2021, Gaston Early College opened a Medical Services institution that allows students to complete their high school and Associates' degrees in 5 years. Students who want to continue their education are encouraged to continue at Belmont Abbey College. Additionally, Belmont Abbey

About Belmont Abbey College: Founded in 1876, Belmont Abbey College is a private, Catholic baccalaureate and liberal arts institution. Our mission is to educate students in the liberal arts and sciences so that in all things, God may be glorified. Guided by the Catholic intellectual tradition and the Benedictine spirit of prayer and learning, we welcome a diverse body of students and provide them with an education that will enable them to lead lives of integrity, to succeed professionally, to become responsible citizens, and to be a blessing to themselves and to others. Our beautiful and historic campus is conveniently located just 10 miles west of Charlotte, N.C., and is currently home to more than 1500 students. For more information, visit <https://belmontabbeycollege.edu/>.

College and Caromont Health are building a hospital on Abbey land that will open in 2023. This facility affords nursing students the opportunity to learn the best nursing practices and prepare for service and ethical leadership in the healthcare community.