SUNY Canton's online nursing program gets five-year accreditation for first time

CANTON -- SUNY Canton's online bachelor of science in nursing program recently earned its initial five-year accreditation from the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN).

The announcement was a result of a successful site visit by ACEN accreditors in February, according to SUNY Canton. The program was previously operating under ACEN candidacy status since its creation in 2009.

"The accreditation reaffirms that our program is the right choice for our students," said nursing professor and program director Debra M. Backus. "We have an ideal learning environment for employed nurses looking to advance their education."

The program offers open enrollment for students who possess a valid United States nursing license and have earned an associate degree in nursing. Some of the students are nurses working at area hospitals including Canton-Potsdam Hospital, Claxton-Hepburn Medical Center, Gouverneur Hospital, Hospice and Palliative Care of St. Lawrence Valley, Massena Memorial Hospital and Samaritan Medical Center. Another substantial population of students are from New York City and Long Island Hospitals.