

Johanna Maldonado
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Hello, I am Johanna Maldonado. Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today about my educational and professional journey.

After being employed at a hospital for over 10 years, I wanted to become a nurse. I became an EMT-B and then a Paramedic, but despite my qualifications and experience, I couldn't find a program that was right for me.

Excelsior offered a rigorous program and the flexibility and accessibility to continue my studies, maintain my responsibilities with my current employer and still have time to spend with my family - all within an affordable budget.

As a working professional, the opportunity to study online and at your own pace, provided the chance for me to take advantage and use my available time wisely for the completion of the program.

I discovered studying online takes self-discipline, self-teaching, and you have to be organized. I can read at my own pace, research and ask for help without disrupting a class. The competency itself requires hours of practice on a self-structured plan at a high performance to achieve perfection.

The knowledge, skills and experience developed during the program prepared me to not only become a professional nurse but after passing the three day CPNE, the confidence to become a productive member of the health care community.

I am now confident of my skills and ability to interact with patients, so when I look for a job I won't feel intimidated.

Achieving my degree and professional license has been a lifelong dream. The benefits of this is not only monetary. My success has also motivated family and friends to go back to school and join the healthcare family.

I feel I can serve as an example to others in different cultures, groups and minorities. Please allow them to follow their dreams.