

# SCSU nursing gets accreditation

The St. Cloud State University department of nursing science has been accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.

The accreditation is for the maximum period of five years, the university announced Thursday.

The first students in the program — 20 of them — will receive their degrees May 9. University officials anticipate 33 others will graduate in spring 2005.

St. Cloud State offers the newest bachelor's degree nursing program in the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system. The program, approved in December 2001 by the Minnesota Department of Nursing, was created to alleviate a shortage of nurses statewide.