

Excelsior College  
Albany, NY  
www.excelsior.edu

**Industry:**

Education

**Annual Revenue:**

\$38 million

**Employees:**

273

**Oracle Products & Services:**

Oracle Database  
Oracle Application Server  
Oracle Application Server Portal  
Oracle Reports  
Oracle Discoverer

**Excelsior College**

Excelsior College helps busy working adults earn the degrees they need with flexible distance education programs. The accredited college was founded in 1971 on the fundamental philosophy that "what you know is more important than where or how you learned it." We recognize that adult learners can attain college-level knowledge in many ways. Our name, which means "Ever Upward," depicts how, with over 105,000 graduates, we propel students toward their goals.

**Challenges**

- Improve unstructured, static Web content and improve content maintenance
- Achieve scalable infrastructure that integrates content and applications with single sign on
- Gain more efficient application development and deployment with defined workflow processes
- Personalize Web site based on student's individual relationship with the college and chosen degree program.

**Solution**

- After evaluating other portal solutions, Oracle Application Server Portal was selected for integration with the Excelsior College student information system and WebCT courseware management system
- Deployed portal using Oracle Application Server Portal
- A personalized MyEC section that students use to access applications such as viewing evaluation summaries from their advisor, selecting new courses, paying their bills, registering for and paying for online courses, and accessing discussion forums or the online library
- Improved Web site is more effective for recruiting prospective students
- Publishing content is easier because it is now done in a systematic, structured manner with re-usable components
- Oracle Application Server Portal also makes development of Web applications easier and more efficient
- System runs on Sun's SunFire V480 servers and 3510FC SAN storage solution