



On September 24, 1895, a group of citizens formed a private corporation to be called The Bethany Training School. The main purpose was the training of nurses and visiting Deaconesses to be located at Bethany Hospital in Kansas City, Kansas. A formal Bethany School of Nurses program was established in 1922 and the School of Nursing continued until 1972. The opening of the west wing in 1957 made Bethany the largest privately owned hospital in Kansas City, Kansas and it remained in operation until it was closed to the public in 2001.

The original schooling of the nurses focused on religion, practicum training and instruction in science through the College of Physicians and Surgeons. The discipline of the school was strict with specific rules and guidelines that the student nurses must obey or they would be dismissed. Such examples are:

- Nurses late for prayers will lose one hour off duty turn. For non-attendance they will lose their one-half day for week.
- Nurses are expected to keep their rooms in perfect order. Failure to do so will be cause for dismissal.
- All nurses must be out in the open air for at least twenty minutes each day.
- Nurses will sleep in their own rooms and beds.
- Plants and flowers must be taken out of rooms and wards at night.
- Night nurses may remove their collars after 10:00 p.m., during summer months.

