



CASE STUDY

NURSING INSTITUTE ON CLOUD NINE WITH NEW STUDENT INFORMATION SYSTEM

Single of purpose, Universal Training Institute's sole focus is Licensed Practicing Nurses. With LPNs always in high demand, UTI's curriculum integrates the art and science of nursing to ready each student for success. The Perth Amboy, NJ institution serves up to 200 diverse students per year, offering Title IV and other financial aid.





TIME FOR A CHANGE: MILLENNIALS & ADULT LEARNERS

Universal Training Institute (UTI) prides itself on a personalized approach to its smaller student population. The campus in historic Perth Amboy, NJ also hosts wide-ranging demographics for whom becoming an LPN will be a life-changing event.

While larger institutions throughout the northeastern United States surround the campus, UTI has established a reputation for helping students complete their studies and start careers with area employers. One drawback, however, of remaining small is that the budgets needed for improvements and bigger, better systems simply are out of reach.

Meanwhile, UTI knew it must advance how it serves its student to meet Millennials and adult learners on their own terms. The institution's longtime legacy student information system (SIS), built on an older architecture, made it impractical to offer self-service student portals, broadcast SMS text messages, or introduce online course registration.

SQUARE ONE

“With the older system, we had challenges with support and patches to do upgrades,” said Siju Saka, project manager for UTI.

Recently, Mr. Saka had joined UTI from the private sector and was tasked with evaluating its SIS options. Walking into UTI, the school's 50 faculty and staff were supporting enrollments up to 200 students on a 35-year old technology. The SIS was not web-friendly and could not tie into the marketing or automate day to day processes, like posting grades.

UTI selected Orbund for its cloud-based architecture and workflow automation.



**TITLE IV &
FINANCIAL AID**

**CLOCK-
HOURS**



**1 CAMPUS
200 STUDENTS**

Fortunately, the search for a new SIS didn't take long. UTI consulted a sister school in New York.

"They had Orbund as their student system, and it sounded like it was doing everything we needed."

Mr. Saka led the organization through a process to gather requirements, creating a checklist of use cases and features drawn from UTI's staff and students. This served two purposes: it would verify that Orbund could deliver on UTI's needs and became a kind of roadmap for implementation.

UTI is a clock-hour school where students attend for up to 18 months.

Doing their coursework and clinical hours, the SIS is responsible for grades as well as tracking the hours necessary to satisfy the program's requirements.

Orbund measured up on all counts, and in less than two months the new system was being put into place. "We did a comparative run of the legacy system alongside Orbund before cutting over," Mr. Saka described.

The side-by-side period enabled the organization to double-check on the configuration and workflows. It also permitted a smoother conversion of historical data from the older system to Orbund.

UTI went live in 2018, experiencing no push-back from its constituents. Often, changing enterprise systems creates turmoil within an organization as people re-learn how to use a system and changes to old routines.

“Orbund is web-based. We have better experiences with upgrades, and for the users it is so simple to use. There’s always a learning curve, but everyone adapted very quickly.”

It helped that Orbund introduced new levels of student services and marketing into UTI. Staff could send emails to groups of students or candidates based on specific criteria, rather than having to do multiple steps in more than one system.

“The student profiles capture more comments as data, so we can do more real-time automation and communication. In the past we simply were not able to do that.”

Flash forward, Mr. Saka has made the transition from private sector to the world of postsecondary education.

“We’re working now on some Department of Education reports.



“I would recommend Orbund to anybody. It is flexible, robust, entirely easier to work with.”

Title IV compliance is essential, of course. Orbund helps with all those reports.”

From his perspective, now having worked in industry and education, Mr. Saka views Orbund as a technically superior platform that keeps his stakeholders satisfied—while addressing the critical operational and regulatory needs of the institution.

“I would recommend Orbund to anybody. It is flexible, robust, entirely easier to work with.”

WHAT IS SaaS?



Orbund is a Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) student information system, running on the cloud. Its adaptive design works on mobile devices.



"Orbund is web-based. We have better experiences with upgrades. And for users, it's easier to use."

Siju Saka



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Postsecondary schools, academies and online education seek student information systems on the cloud. Founded in 2003, Orbund serves 300+ schools and institutions with its Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) SIS platform. Fully featured, Orbund's SIS includes an integrated CRM and Learning Management System (LMS).