

RESPIRATORY CARE

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Skillful providers of respiratory care are in increasing demand. Respiratory care practitioners are prepared to administer pulmonary care under the direction of licensed physicians. Respiratory therapists assist physicians in the diagnosis and treatment of lung and breathing disorders. These tasks include administering medical gases, breathing tests, medications by inhalation and drawing of blood for analysis. Respiratory care practitioners are required to have knowledge of special life-support equipment and methods of monitoring critically-ill patients. Individuals educated as respiratory therapists must complete a minimum of two years of education. Upon completing the minimum education, graduates are eligible to sit for the national board examinations to become a Certified Respiratory Therapist (CRT) and then a Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT, advanced level). Registered respiratory therapists assume primary clinical responsibility for all respiratory care modalities. Therapists scope of practice includes specific knowledge of cardiopulmonary and renal anatomy, pathology, clinical management, therapeutics and diagnostics. Excellent communication skills are necessary in order to consult with physicians and other members of the health care team. **The most important standard in the profession of respiratory care is for practitioners to serve as role models in matters concerning health by abstaining from the use of tobacco products at home, school and work environments.**

Mission Statement and Goals







The Respiratory Care Program prepares students to become competent, professional, advanced-level respiratory therapists.

The goal of the Respiratory Care program is to prepare graduates with demonstrated competence in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and affective (behavior) learning domains of respiratory care practice as performed by registered respiratory therapists (RRTs).

Notice to Prospective or Current Respiratory Care Students

You are at risk if you have been convicted of a prior felony and/or some misdemeanors. You may not be able to participate in clinical education experiences at some hospitals or other clinical sites, therefore, preventing you from completing the program. A criminal record may also prevent you from obtaining a license or certificate in your chosen healthcare profession.

Respiratory Care Associate of Applied Science Degree Structured Course Sequence (6 Semester Plan)

First Year		Hours
Summer		
SDE 1010 	First Year Experience	1
BIO 1110	Anatomy and Physiology I	4
CHM 1120	Introductory Organic and Biochemistry	4
MTH 1151	Quantitative Reasoning	3
RES 1000	Introduction to Respiratory Care	3
Term Hours		15
Fall		
BIO 1120	Anatomy and Physiology II	4
RES 1090	Respiratory Care Pharmacology	2
RES 1110	Cardiopulmonary Anatomy and Physiology	4
RES 1010 	Respiratory Care Procedures I	3
Term Hours		13
Spring		
RES 1120	Pulmonary Diagnostics	3
RES 1410	Clinical Experience I	1
RES 1020	Respiratory Care Procedures II	3
BHS 1390	Medical Terminology	2
COM 1110 	English Composition	3
Term Hours		12
Second Year		
Summer		
RES 2230	Respiratory Disease	2
RES 1420	Clinical Experience II	2
RES 2100	Respiratory Procedures III	3
Term Hours		7
Fall		
RES 2410	Advanced Clinical Experience I	3
BHS 2100	Advanced Cardiac Life Support	1
BHS 2200	Pediatric Advanced Life Support	1
RES 2200	Respiratory Procedures IV	3
BHS 2300	Neonatal Resuscitation	1
Term Hours		9
Spring		
RES 2510 	Respiratory Care Capstone 	1
RES 2430	Advanced Clinical Experience II	4
BHS 1560	Smoking Cessation Education	1
SOC 1010 	Sociology	3
Term Hours		9
Total Hours		65

 Portfolio Courses

 Capstone Course

Prerequisites: Students should check course prerequisites before registering.

All students who apply for acceptance into the Respiratory Care Program have their name placed on a qualified list after they meet the program qualifications listed below.

In addition to the general admission requirements for all students, the following specific requirements must be completed before being added to the qualified list:

1. Complete all required college level math, writing and reading courses and prerequisites with a grade of D or higher, and all college level science requirements and prerequisites with a grade of C or higher; or equivalent placement.
2. Complete RES 1000 with a C or higher.
3. Have a minimum 2.5 grade point average (GPA) for any previous college-level course work at the time of selection and matriculation.

Once the student is admitted into the Respiratory Care program, the program admitted students must show completion of the below requirements prior to start of first term (summer):

1. Complete 16 hours of observation with a respiratory care practitioner in a hospital of the applicant's choice. Appointments with the hospital are made by the applicant.
2. Complete an interview with the Respiratory Care Program chairperson or director of clinical education.

Prior to enrollment in the first clinical course, the student must meet these requirements:

1. Provide the results of a physical examination including laboratory tests and completion of required immunizations before actual clinical course work can be started. The Respiratory Care program also has technical standards for which all students must be capable. These standards specify skills necessary to participate in learning activities and professional practice.
2. Complete an American Heart Association, BLS, Health Care Provider, CPR course prior to clinical course work. Must be maintained through to graduation.
3. Meet the expanding requirements of our clinical affiliates, students will be required to submit to drug screening prior to enrollment in the first clinical course (RES 1410 Clinical Experience I). Positive drug screens will result in dismissal from all clinical courses and consequently from the program. In addition to screening, all students in clinical courses are subject to random and for cause drug screens for the duration of the Respiratory Care program.
4. Complete a mandatory criminal background check. Anyone with a prior felony and/ or some misdemeanors are at risk of being dismissed from the program. A positive criminal record may also prevent an individual from obtaining a license to practice Respiratory Care following graduation. Please refer to the Criminal Background Checks and Drug Screening paragraph in the Division of Health Sciences section of the current college catalog for details.

The Respiratory Care program accepts students once a year in Summer Semester

Rhodes State College Respiratory Care Program number 200324 is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care.

Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC)
 264 Precision Blvd.
 Telford, TN 37690

(817) 283-2835

Programmatic Outcomes Data are available here.

“Programmatic outcomes are performance indicators that reflect the extent to which the goals of the program are achieved and by which program effectiveness is documented.”

The program has been accredited since its inception in 1980.

In 2018, 2019 and 2020 Rhodes State College Respiratory Care Program received The Distinguished RRT Credentialing Success Award. This award is presented as part of the CoARC's continued efforts to value the RRT credential as a standard of professional achievement. From a program effectiveness perspective, the CoARC views the RRT credential as a measure of a program's success in inspiring its graduates to achieve their highest educational and professional aspirations.

Sleep Technologist Certificate

Rhodes State College offers the opportunity for a certificate in Sleep Technology for the enrolled Respiratory Care student or licensed Registered Respiratory Therapist wanting to be employed in a Sleep Center. After successful completion of all courses, the student will be eligible to take the following examinations for the certificate desired:

- Board of Registered Polysomnographic Technologists (BRPT) for the RPGST
- National Board of Respiratory Care (NBRC) for the RRT SDS

First Year		
First Semester		Hours
RES 2610	Polysomnography Clinical I	1
RES 2710	Polysomnography Technology I	3
Term Hours		4
Second Semester		
RES 2620	Polysomnography Clinical II	1
RES 2720	Polysomnography Technology II	3
Term Hours		4
Total Hours		8