

Program Curriculum

Respiratory Care Technology

Academic Year – Semester	Course Number	Course Title	Credit Hours
Year One – Fall Semester	RT 100	Introduction to Respiratory Care	1-0-1
	RT 101	Respiratory Care Science 1	3-2-4
	RT 172	Cardiopulmonary Anatomy and Physiology	3-2-4
	FYE 1XX	First Year Experience Elective	1-0-1
	BIO 151	Anatomy and Physiology 1	3-2-4
	ENG 101	English Composition	3-0-3
			17
Year One – Spring Semester	RT 102	Respiratory Care Science 2	3-2-4
	RT 111	Respiratory Clinical Practice 1	1-8-2
	RT 173	Cardiopulmonary Disease	3-2-4
	BIO 152	Anatomy and Physiology 2	3-2-4
	BIO 220	Microbiology	2-3-3
			17
Year One – Summer Semester	RT 103	Mechanical Ventilation	3-2-4
	RT 112	Respiratory Clinical Practice 2	1-16-2
	ENG 102	Composition and Argument	3-0-3
	MAT 131	Statistics 1	3-0-3
			12
Year Two – Fall Semester	RT 201	Advanced Respiratory Critical Care	3-0-3
	RT 202	Specialties in Respiratory Care	2-0-2
	RT 211	Respiratory Clinical Practice 3	1-16-2
	BIO 240	Fundamentals of Pathophysiology	3-0-3
			10
Year Two – Spring Semester	RT 203	Respiratory Care Seminar	1-2-2
	RT 204	Respiratory Care Science Capstone	0-2-1
	RT 212	Respiratory Clinical Practice 4	1-16-2
	PSY 110	Intro to Psychology	3-0-3
			8
Total Curriculum Credit Hours			64

About the Program

A respiratory therapist is a nationally recognized, credentialed professional responsible for the care of patients with acute or chronic cardiopulmonary disease. Students will graduate with an Associate of Applied Science in Respiratory Care. After completing Cincinnati State's accredited associate degree program, graduates will be eligible to take the National Board of Respiratory Care credentialing exams to earn the RRT credential and obtain an Ohio Respiratory Care Practitioner license.

The technical portion (RT courses) of the Respiratory Care program is five semesters. Prerequisites and other non-RT math & science courses may be taken before RT technical courses, and often have evening or online options, but the RT technical courses are offered only during the day. The program also includes a significant clinical component at various hospitals and specialty sites. Therefore, students should plan on being in RT class or clinicals Monday through Friday during the day while in the program. Students should not work night shift while in the technical portion of the program, but working evening shift is feasible as long as students do not exceed the recommended 24 hours per week.

US News and World Report shows that respiratory therapy is ranked #36 on the list of the top 100 jobs!

A day in the life of a respiratory therapist might include—

- ◆ Delivering medications and therapies to patients with lung disease or breathing disorders.
- ◆ Interviewing patients and doing chest physical exams to determine what kind of therapy is best for their condition.
- ◆ Consulting with physicians to recommend a change in therapy, based on your evaluation of the patient.
- ◆ Performing tests to help diagnose or determine the severity of lung disease.
- ◆ Managing ventilators and artificial airway devices for patients who can't breathe normally on their own.
- ◆ Responding to emergencies and other urgent calls for care.
- ◆ Educating patients and families about lung disease so they can maximize their recovery.

Program Goals

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).

Accreditation

The program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC)

Estimated Costs (2020-21)

- ◆ Tuition:
 - Ohio: Approximately \$10,700
(taking exact curriculum courses as stated in catalog, not including prerequisites courses, books or fees)
 - Out-of-state: Approximately 21,400
(taking exact curriculum courses as stated in catalog, not including prerequisites courses, books or fees)
- ◆ Textbooks: Approximately \$1,000
- ◆ Fees-approximately \$1,155

Financial Aid:

Students are advised to work closely with a Financial Aid advisor, and are cautioned to be aware of Financial Aid limits prior to enrolling in coursework not listed in the curriculum.

Program Advisor

Students not yet admitted to the college are assisted by the Admissions Office, please call 569-1544.

Students interested in Respiratory Care Technology should schedule an appointment with the program chair Mike Chaney by calling the Health Division at 513-569-1670.

Background Checks/Licensure Eligibility

All students are subject to background checks once admitted into the technical portion of the program (RT classes). A background check will be required for clinical placement. Students are told when to submit their background checks. Students who have been convicted of felonies and/or misdemeanors are required to contact the program chair before entering the program. Students convicted of possession and/or distribution of controlled substances or who have positive drug screens for non-prescribed controlled substances while enrolled in the program will be automatically dismissed.

What are the job market prospects?

According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of respiratory therapists is projected to grow 21 percent from 2018 to 2028, much faster than the average for all occupations. Growth in the middle-aged and older population will lead to an increased incidence of respiratory conditions such as pneumonia, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), and other disorders that can permanently damage the lungs or restrict lung function. The aging population will in turn lead to an increased demand for respiratory therapy services and treatments, mostly in hospitals.

How much do respiratory therapists make?

According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics the median annual wage for respiratory therapists was \$61,330 in May 2019. The median wage is the wage at which half the workers in an occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$44,850, and the highest 10 percent earned more than \$86,980.

Requirements for Selective Admission

Students will be selected through the selective admission process in order to start the programs technical (RT) courses. The program accepts 25 student yearly. Students must complete the following prerequisites in order to apply for selective admission:

- ◆ High school diploma or GED
- ◆ Admitted to the college and Respiratory Care declared as major
- ◆ High school or college biology and chemistry within the last 6 years with a grade of C or better
- ◆ 2.75 overall GPA from the most recent qualifying institution (at least 12 credit hours)
- ◆ Eligible to take Statistics (MAT 131) and English Comp I (ENG 101)

Students must schedule an appointment with Mike Chaney in order to receive a selective admission packet and review the criteria. For those who have completed the prerequisites, applications for the competitive admission process will be accepted beginning the first day of the spring semester each year and close on February 25. Students will be notified no later than March 15th. Those accepted will begin the technical portion of the program the Fall semester of that year.

Key Components

Respiratory Therapist are responsible for the care of patients, some of who are critically ill. They are often required to manage highly complex pieces of equipment, as well as interact with patients in order to make other therapeutic assessments and decisions. Therefore, in order to be successful in the Respiratory Therapy Consortium, all applicants/students must be able to perform, or be making satisfactory progress toward learning to perform essential functions/technical standards.

Students can find a list of Essential Functions (minimum personal, professional, physical, and other minimum standards required of all students enrolled in the program) at the following link:

<https://www.cincinnatiatstate.edu/academics/degrees-and-certificates/respiratory-care-technology>

Program Chair

Michael Chaney, MS, Ed, RRT

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