

Respiratory Therapy

The Respiratory Therapy curriculum prepares individuals to perform as professional respiratory therapists. In these roles, individuals complete diagnostic tests, physical exams, treatments, patient, and family education; assist physicians with procedures; and manage patients with heart and lung diseases.

Students learn to master many skills for treating patients with cardiopulmonary diseases. These skills include assessment, life support, monitoring, and drug administration involving patients of all ages in various settings (emergency room, critical care, or general floor). Graduates of accredited programs are eligible to take the Therapist Multiple-Choice (TMC) Examination and Clinical Simulation Examination (CSE) from the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC). Graduates may be employed in acute and long-term care hospitals, clinics, physician offices, nursing homes, education, industry, and home care.

For specific information about potential positions and wages in respiratory therapy employment, visit the Central Piedmont Career Coach website.

Respiratory Therapy (A45720)

Degree Awarded

The Associate in Applied Science degree - Respiratory Therapy is awarded by the college upon completion of this program.

Admissions

- Complete a Central Piedmont admissions application.
- Admission to the Respiratory Therapy program is competitive. Please note that, in addition to the general application to Central Piedmont, students must complete a separate application for the Respiratory Therapy Program when they are ready to apply.
- See the Respiratory Therapy website for the program application.
- Students must be selected to enter the program. Upon acceptance and enrollment in the program, students must take all courses as scheduled and sequenced.

Program Accreditation

The Respiratory Therapy Program at Central Piedmont is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC).

CoARC
1248 Harwood Road
Bedford, TX 76021-4244
817.283.2835

Additional Expenses and Requirements

Expenses

In addition to tuition and textbooks, costs of this program include the following:

- uniforms, lab coat
- stethoscope, scissors, hemostats, watch with a second hand
- a physical examination, including immunizations such as tetanus toxoid, hepatitis B, TB test, blood test e.g., rubella titer,
- fees for Health Care Provider Cardiac Life Support course
- fees for Self-Assessment Examinations.

Students also are required to submit to a 13-panel drug screen every fall they are in the program at their own expense.

Verifications

- Students must provide a certificate of health or accident insurance.
- To participate in clinical education experiences at healthcare facilities, students may be required to submit results of a N.C. state or national criminal background check at their own expense.
- As a condition of program admission, students may be required to verify that they are United States citizens or are otherwise legally authorized residents of the United States.

Attendance

Attendance at professional seminars and meetings is required.

Grade Requirement

In order to progress in this program, students must earn a "C" or better in all curriculum courses.

Contact Information

The Respiratory Therapy program is in the Therapy and Acute Care Division. For more information, call the program chair at 704.330.2722 ext. 3486. Division offices are located on the 3rd floor of the Health Careers Building in the Belk Wing.

For an admission packet, frequently asked questions and other information, visit the Respiratory Therapy website.

General Education Requirements

ENG 111	Writing and Inquiry	3.0
Select 3 credits from one of the following:		3.0
ENG 112	Writing and Research in the Disciplines	
ENG 113	Literature-Based Research	
ENG 114	Professional Research & Reporting	
ACA 122	College Transfer Success	1.0
Select 3 credits from one of the following:		3.0
MAT 143	Quantitative Literacy	
MAT 152	Statistical Methods I	
MAT 171	Precalculus Algebra	
Select 3 credits from one of the following:		3.0
ECO 251	Principles of Microeconomics	
ECO 252	Principles of Macroeconomics	
HIS 111	World Civilizations I	
HIS 112	World Civilizations II	
HIS 131	American History I	
HIS 132	American History II	
POL 120	American Government	
PSY 150	General Psychology	
SOC 210	Introduction to Sociology	
Select 3 credits from one of the following:		3.0
ART 111	Art Appreciation	
ART 114	Art History Survey I	
ART 115	Art History Survey II	
DRA 111	Theatre Appreciation	
HUM 120	Cultural Studies	
HUM 130	Myth in Human Culture	

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MUS 110	Music Appreciation	
MUS 112	Introduction to Jazz	
PHI 215	Philosophical Issues	
PHI 240	Introduction to Ethics	
REL 110	World Religions	
Major Requirements		
RCP 110	Intro to Respiratory Care	4.0
RCP 111	Therapeutics/Diagnostics	5.0
RCP 113	RCP Pharmacology	2.0
RCP 114	C-P Anatomy & Physiology	3.0
RCP 115	C-P Pathophysiology	2.0
RCP 122	Special Practice Lab	1.0
RCP 123	Special Practice Lab	1.0
RCP 145	RCP Clinical Practice II	5.0
RCP 152	RCP Clinical Practice III	2.0
RCP 210	Critical Care Concepts	4.0
RCP 211	Adv Monitoring/Procedures	4.0
RCP 214	Neonatal and Pediatric Respiratory Care	2.0
RCP 222	Special Practice Lab	1.0
RCP 223	Special Practice Lab (Special Practice Lab)	1.0
RCP 235	RCP Clinical Practice IV	5.0
RCP 247	RCP Clinical Practice V	7.0
Select 5 credits from one one of the following:		5.0
BIO 163	Basic Anatomy & Physiology (BIO 163 can be substituted if student has completed BIO 168 and BIO 169)	
or BIO 168 & BIO 169	Anatomy and Physiology I and Anatomy and Physiology II	
Select 2 credits from one of the following:		2.0
MED 120	Survey of Medical Terminology (Student may complete MED 121 as a substitute for MED 120)	
or MED 121	Medical Terminology I	
Total Credits		72

No diplomas are offered in Respiratory Therapy.

No certificates are offered in Respiratory Therapy.

The following is the suggested sequence for when to take each course to complete the Associate in Applied Science degree, based on the program requirements of the 2022-2023 catalog. This is only a recommendation — you may take courses in another order if you need to. This sequence is based on you starting with college-level math and English courses, starting your program in the fall, and attending full-time. You can also follow this sequence if you attend part-time. Speak with an advisor about the sequence and any questions. This program does not offer diplomas or certificates at this time; visit the catalog or contact the program for details.

Respiratory Therapy suggested course sequence