

## 2007-08 Catalog: Programs of Study

### Respiratory Care (2244)

#### Associate in Science or Associate in Applied Science

#### Mission Statement

Creating competent, ethical, confident entry-level health care practitioners committed to professional development through life-long learning in a positive, non-discriminatory and supportive learning environment.

#### The Career

The respiratory care profession is one of the fastest growing allied health specialties. It is involved with the treatment, diagnosis and rehabilitation of patients with diseases of the heart and lungs. Graduates of the Florida Community College respiratory care program are eligible to take the nationally recognized Certified Respiratory Therapist (CRT) examination immediately after graduation. After successful completion of the CRT examination, they are eligible to take the Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) advanced level examinations. This credential offers the therapist excellent employment opportunities as well as a competitive salary.

For additional information on the profession, contact:

**American Association for Respiratory Care**  
11030 Ables Lane  
Dallas, Texas 75229

#### The Program

**This limited access program** is fully accredited by the Committee on Accreditation of Respiratory Care, and enables graduates to sit for both professional examinations. The professional phase of the education makes simultaneous employment difficult due to clinical demands. Students will be expected to lift up to 30 pounds frequently, be mobile and have sufficient motor abilities to provide safe care.

A **brochure outlining costs, requirements, deadlines and procedures is available online.**

#### Prerequisites

The following six courses should be completed, or nearing completion, prior to submitting an application to the program:

- ENC 1101** English Composition I
  - \*Mathematics
- BSC 2085C** Human Anatomy and Physiology I
- BSC 2086C** Human Anatomy and Physiology II
  - \*Social and Behavioral Sciences
  - \*Humanities

#### Certification and Accreditation

This program is fully accredited by the **Committee on Accreditation of Respiratory Care**. Your degree qualifies you to take the national Certified Respiratory Therapist (CRT) followed by the Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) advanced level examinations. Your Florida Community College degree also makes you eligible for specialty certifications such as neo-natal and pediatrics.

#### Articulation

This A.S. degree program articulates into a bachelor's degree program. For more information, please visit the **Transfer Services** Web site.

#### Advanced Placement for CRTs

An advanced placement option is available for this program for Certified Respiratory Therapists. By taking and successfully completing placement exams, students can earn credit for up to seven RET courses (**RET 1024, RET 1276, RET 1485, RET 1824, RET 2484, RET 1008** and **RET 2272L**). Please contact the program manager to arrange these exams.

## Internships/Rotations

Clinical rotations provide care experience in a supervised environment for diverse groups of patients, and generally lead to immediate employment. You may be required to undergo drug screening and criminal background checks prior to placement.

## Career Opportunities, Rapid Placement

An aging population heightens the incidence of cardiopulmonary disease and care. There is a shortfall of 5000 candidates in respiratory care nationwide; and the need is expected to rise 30% annually. Experienced CRTs can rapidly advance to specialty care of critically ill patients, become a supervisor or director, or move into education and marketing.

## Annual Salaries

Median CRT income is \$36,700, while median RRT salary is \$43,150, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics 2004 report (latest available).

## Cost

Estimated cost of tuition is \$5,047 (tuition rated for Florida residents, as of 7/07). The estimated cost of fees, books, uniforms and materials is \$500. See details in the [online brochure](#).

## Application Procedure

To meet minimum requirements for consideration for acceptance to the Respiratory Care program, students must:

1. Complete a Respiratory Care application packet.
2. Applicants must document all eligibility requirements:
  - a. current Health Care Provider Basic Life Support (HCP-BLS) card
  - b. current Health Occupations Test (HOT) scores
  - c. completion of prerequisite courses with a grade of "C" or better
3. Students will be ranked according to the quality points. (Contact the RC office for additional information).
4. The top 25 ranked students will be notified by mail of their acceptance into the program. Orientation and registration information will also be provided. Those who fail to contact our office upon notification of acceptance will forfeit their placement in the program. In case of forfeiture, the next highest ranked student will be notified of acceptance.

## Need More Information? Contact:

**Jim Woods**, North Campus, 904.766.6516

## Curriculum

Course Number and Title	Credits
<b>General Education</b>	
<b>ENC 1101</b> English Composition I	3
<b>BSC 2085C</b> Human Anatomy and Physiology I	4
*Social and Behavioral Sciences	3
*Mathematics	3
*Humanities	3
<b>Credit Hours</b>	<b>16</b>

## Required Professional Courses

<b>BSC 2086C</b> Human Anatomy and Physiology II	4
<b>RET 1024</b> Fundamentals of Respiratory Therapy	4
<b>RET 1824</b> Clinical I	2
<b>RET 1276</b> Physical Assessment Skills	2
<b>RET 1485</b> Cardiopulmonary Anatomy and Physiology	4
<b>RET 2484</b> Pulmonary Pathology	4
<b>RET 2272L</b> Clinical II	4
<b>RET 1008</b> Pharmacology for the Respiratory Therapist	2
<b>RET 2264</b> Ventilatory Techniques	3

<b>RET 1450</b>	Diagnostic Monitoring	3
<b>RET 2265</b>	Advanced Monitoring and Therapeutic Techniques	2
<b>RET 2350</b>	Advanced Pharmacology	2
<b>RET 2714</b>	Neo Natal/Pediatric Respiratory Care	2
<b>RET 2834</b>	Clinical III	11
<b>RET 2520</b>	Community Health	2
<b>RET 2835</b>	Clinical IV	9
	<b>Credit Hours</b>	<b>60</b>
	<b>Total Credit Hours</b>	<b>76</b>

\*Refer to A.S./A.A.S. degree **General Education Requirements**.

#### Note

You have two options in this program: the associate in science (A.S.) degree, which can prepare you for employment or transfer to a state university, and the associate in applied science (A.A.S.) degree, which is intended primarily for students who want immediate employment after graduation. If you choose the A.S. degree you must take **MAC 1105**, **MGF 1106** or a higher level mathematics. The A.A.S. degree requires **MAT 1033** or higher. Please see an advisor to determine the option that is best for you.

#### Record of Conviction of a Crime

The **Florida Board of Respiratory Care** will determine a respiratory care graduate's eligibility for licensure when there is an arrest/conviction record. Students should contact the Florida Board for information regarding potential licensure problems if a student has an arrest/conviction record that may be an issue. The Respiratory Care program will not offer opinions or assurances of licensure to graduates with problematic backgrounds.

#### Note

Most clinical agencies require students to undergo drug screen and criminal background checks prior to placement in the agencies for clinical experiences. Students whose drug screening and criminal background checks are deemed unsatisfactory may be denied access to clinical experiences by the clinical agencies. Failure to qualify for and meet clinical requirements at clinical sites may prevent completion of the program. Withdrawal from the program may be necessary if students cannot be placed for clinical experiences.

The cost of the background check and drug screen is borne by the student. Additionally, it is the student's responsibility to have all paperwork completed by the program's published deadline.

Students who are unable to complete the clinical requirements after acceptance into the selective access programs are not eligible for refunds of tuition.

A physical examination will be required upon acceptance to the program.

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To request information, contact the Learner Support Center at [info@fccj.edu](mailto:info@fccj.edu) or 904.646.2300.

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