

(Information in this packet is subject to change)

Please refer to the Respiratory Care Web site at

www.scc-fl.edu/respiratory

A.S. DEGREE RESPIRATORY CARE

WHAT IS RESPIRATORY CARE?

Respiratory Care is a challenging and rewarding health care specialty that deals with patients who have deficiencies and abnormalities of their cardiac and pulmonary systems. Under the direction of a physician, the Respiratory Therapist aids in the diagnosis, management, treatment, and evaluation of patients with heart and lung problems. The Respiratory Therapist works in hospitals, nursing homes, home health care, physicians' offices and medical equipment supply companies. Patients treated by Respiratory Therapists range from premature infants to the elderly.

RESPIRATORY SERVICES INCLUDE:

- Therapeutic and diagnostic use of medical gases such as oxygen, helium, and carbon dioxide
- Application and use of environmental control systems, humidification, and aerosol therapy
- Administration of drugs and medications to the cardiopulmonary system
- Mechanical ventilation, including the maintenance and management of life support systems
- Chest physical therapy, bronchopulmonary drainage and breathing exercises
- Respiratory and cardiac rehabilitation
- Cardiopulmonary resuscitation
- Maintenance of natural airways, including the insertion of and maintenance of artificial airways
- Pulmonary function testing and evaluation
- Arterial blood gases and analysis
- Physiologic assessment using ECG and chest x-rays
- Assist in research, diagnosis, monitoring and treatment of those with cardiopulmonary disorders

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- Length of training is 2 years
- This is a limited access program and a student needs department approval to enter
- Applications are available at <http://www.scc-fl.edu/respiratory/media/application.pdf>
- Application deadline is May 31
- Respiratory Care starts in August of each year for beginning students and May of each year for advanced students who are already a CRT
- Approximate total cost is \$5700

Students interested in Respiratory Care should have the following characteristics: sensitivity, excellent communication skills, attention to detail, enjoy working with complex medical equipment and be able to work as a part of a team with other healthcare professionals.

ASSOCIATE DEGREE RESPIRATORY CARE

ADMISSION / APPLICATION PROCEDURES

- Submit a Seminole Community College application for admission and complete required college placement testing if necessary.
- Request official transcripts from all colleges attended after reviewing the Seminole Community College Guidelines for Transcript form. A grade of “C” or better must be attained in all the general education course requirements for the Respiratory Care program. Official transcripts from other colleges must be submitted to the SCC Records Office no later than 4 months prior to the date you intend to submit your Respiratory Care application.
- Attend a mandatory information session. <http://www.scc-fl.edu/respiratory/infosessions.htm>
- Submit a completed Application Packet to room A106 or A108 on the Altamonte Springs campus. Place all the required information in a sealed envelope and write your name and Respiratory Care Program on the outside of the envelope. This packet must include:

1. The Respiratory Care application: <http://www.scc-fl.edu/respiratory/media/application.pdf>

This form must be submitted during the application window (September 1st to May 31st) and is valid for that current academic year. For those students not admitted, a new application packet must be submitted the following year.

2. A copy of your MySCC unofficial transcript

An **Overall GPA** of 2.50 on a 4.00 scale is required to apply to the Respiratory Care Program. In addition, a grade of "C" or better must be attained in all the general education and support course requirements. Prerequisites for the program are: ENC1101 English I, BSC2093C Anatomy & Physiology I, and be eligible for College Algebra through test scores (or complete MAT 1033 Intermediate Algebra). The other general education classes needed for the completion of your degree are indicated on the Curriculum page in this packet.

3. Math Eligibility Form (available in the Counseling & Advising Office)

Must be signed by a counselor/advisor verifying your eligibility for College Algebra.

4. The Plan of completion form, which is a part of the Respiratory Care application.

NOTE: It is the student's responsibility to provide to the records department a new transcript reflecting the course grade for any general education courses that are concurrently taken at the time the application is submitted.

Official Transcripts from other colleges must be submitted to the SCC Admissions Office no later than 4 months prior to the Respiratory Care Program's deadline for application.

ASSOCIATE DEGREE RESPIRATORY CARE

CURRICULUM

For your academic success we strongly recommend that you complete as many General Education courses as possible before starting the A.S. Respiratory Care Program. Please remember that many of the General Education courses have prerequisites and you should check the catalog or speak to a counselor.

GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES* **		
Course No.	Course Name	Units
BSC 2093C	Anatomy and Physiology I	4
BSC 2094C	Anatomy and Physiology II	4
ENC 1101	English I	3
MCB 2010C	Microbiology	4
PSY 2012	General Psychology	3
HUM xxxx	Humanities	3
CHM 1032C	Foundations of College Chemistry	4
OR	OR	OR
PHY 1001 PHY 1001L	Physics (Lecture and Lab)	4
	Total	25

MAJOR COURSES		
Course No.	Course Name	Units
RET 1025C	Principles of Respiratory Care	6
RET 1485C	Cardiopulmonary Physiology	4
RET 1275C	Clinical Care Techniques	4
RET 1450C	Basic Physiologic Monitoring	3
RET 1295C	Chest Medicine	4
RET 2350	Pharmacology	3
RET 1264C	Principles of Mechanical Ventilation	4
RET 1874L	Clinical Practice I	4
RET 2244	Life Support	3
RET 2714C	Pediatric Respiratory Care	4
RET 1875L	Clinical Practice II	4
RET 2876L	Clinical Practice III	4
RET 2877L	Clinical Practice IV	4
	Total	51
	TOTAL EARNED IN PROGRAM	76

General Biology BSC1010C is a pre-requisite for A&P I and Microbiology (MCB 2010c) at Seminole Community College. Students with transfer credit for A&P I, II and Microbiology will not be required to take the General Biology.

Respiratory Care Application Selection Process

All applications must meet the following requirements to be considered:

- An overall GPA of 2.5 or higher.
- Successful completion of the following courses (grade of 'C' or better):
 - BSC2093c Anatomy and Physiology 4 credit hrs.
 - ENC1101 English 3 credit hrs.
- Eligible for College Algebra (through test scores or course completion)

If applications meeting the above criteria are greater than the number of seats available in the program, applications will be sorted by the following criteria.

- Completion of additional general education courses
 1. Applicants who have completed all of the required general education courses.
 2. Applicants who have completed four science courses and two non-science courses.
 3. Applicants who have completed four science courses and one non-science course.
 4. Applicants who have completed three science courses and:
 - 3 non-science courses.
 - 2 non-science courses.
 - 1 non-science course.
 5. Applicants who have completed two science courses and:
 - 3 non-science courses.
 - 2 non-science courses.
 - 1 non-science course.
 6. Applicants who have completed one science course and:
 - 3 non-science courses.
 - 2 non-science courses.
 - 1 non-science course.
- Re-calculated GPA
GPA of completed general education courses required by the program.
- Date of Application

Applicants who have not completed all of the General Education Courses must include a Plan of Completion form with their application.

RESPIRATORY CARE CURRICULUM SEQUENCE

Year	Term I Fall Semester Aug-Dec	Term II Spring Semester Jan-May	Term III Summer May-Aug
1 st	RET 1025C Prin of Respiratory Care RET 1485C Cardiopulmonary Phys RET 1275C Clinical Care Techniques	RET 1295C Chest Medicine RET 2350 Pharmacology RET 1874L Clinical Practice I	RET 1450 C Basic Physiological Monitoring RET 1264C Prin. of Mech. Vent. RET 1875L Clinical Practice II
2 nd	RET 2244 Life Support RET 2714C Pediatric Respiratory Care RET 2876L Clinical Practice III	RET 2877L Clinical Practice IV	

RESPIRATORY CARE TRANSITION TRACK

This program offers a unique opportunity for graduates of any AMA approved Respiratory Therapy Technician Program. All CRT's (Certified Respiratory Therapists), may be awarded 33 units in Respiratory Care course work for the following courses:

RET1025C, RET1485C, RET1275C, RET1450C
RET1295C, RET1264C, RET1874L, and RET1875L

Students seeking admission to the transition track should apply by January and begin their Respiratory Care courses in May.

BACKGROUND CHECK FOR THE STUDENT

If you are accepted to the Respiratory Care program, clinical agencies mandate that all students have a criminal background check. Information obtained from the background check may result in your inability to perform clinical activities in the healthcare facilities and therefore will disqualify the student from entering or continuing in the Respiratory Care program. The clinical agencies decisions are final and cannot be revoked. There is a fee that you will incur to cover the cost of this processing. You will also be responsible for notifying the Program Manager of any arrests, regardless of adjudication, that occur after acceptance and during enrollment in the program. Failure to promptly notify the Program Manager may be grounds for dismissal from the Respiratory Care program.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Respiratory Care Therapists are very much in demand. As the number of older Americans increase, the need for Respiratory Care Therapists will also grow. Our faculty is constantly contacted by hospitals looking for qualified graduates to fill their job openings. The demand for qualified personnel continues to exceed the number of available trained applicants nationwide. Average starting salaries for licensed Respiratory Care Practitioners is approximately \$34,000.

Graduates of the program are eligible to apply to the National Board of Respiratory Care (NBRC) to sit for examinations to become a "Certified Respiratory Therapist" (CRT), and to become a Registered Respiratory Therapist" (RRT). Graduates are also eligible to apply for the required state license from the Department of Health, Division of Medical Quality Assurance. Graduates can transfer to the University of Central Florida to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Cardiopulmonary Science in just 2 terms.

Criminal Background Check Policy

Applicants for Seminole Community College's Nursing and Health Care Professions programs must be free of offenses that would disqualify one for employment in a health care setting. This policy, required by the clinical agencies that the programs utilize for clinical experiences, complies with state and federal regulations.

Each applicant will be screened through an SCC approved criminal background check process. All fees for required background checks are the responsibility of the applicant. Judgments of guilty or pleas of Nolo Contendere to crimes listed in the Florida State Statutes 435.04, sections a – uu, and 741.28 will disqualify the applicant from admission into any of SCC's nursing program. These statutes can be viewed at <http://www.flsenate.gov/Statutes/index.cfm>. Below is a non inclusive list of the offenses:

- Murder
- Manslaughter
- Vehicular homicide
- Assault
- Battery
- Aggravated assault
- Aggravated battery
- Kidnapping
- False imprisonment
- Sexual battery/misconduct
- Domestic Violence
- Prohibited acts of persons in familiar or custodial authority
- Prostitution
- Lewd and lascivious behavior
- Lewdness and indecent exposure
- Arson, theft, robbery, and related crimes
- Fraudulent sale of controlled substances
- Drug offenses involving a minor
- Incest
- Abuse or neglect of a disabled adult or elderly person
- Exploitation of a disabled adult or elderly person
- Child abuse
- Aggravated child abuse
- Negligent treatment of children
- Sexual performance by a child
- Delinquency and/or dependency of a child
- Resisting arrest with violence
- Obscene literature
- Violation of drug abuse prevention and control laws (including but not limited to possession, sale, purchase, manufacture, or use of controlled substance)

While enrolled in any of the SCC Nursing and Health Care Professions programs, the student is also responsible for notifying the program director of any arrests, regardless of adjudication, that occur after acceptance and during enrollment in the program. Failure to promptly notify the program director shall be grounds for dismissal from the program. After admission into the program, the student must remain free of the disqualifying charges listed in the above mentioned state statutes. Failure to do so will result in dismissal from the program.