

## RESPIRATORY THERAPIST, Associate in Science Degree - 3920

*Health Careers Department*

*CIP Code: 51.0908*

The Respiratory Therapist AS program prepares students to enter the workforce as registered respiratory therapists. The program is offered in cooperation with Life Care Hospital of Mechanicsburg, Penn State Health System - Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, Geisinger Holy Spirit Hospital, UPMC Pinnacle Health System, Summit Health, Wellspan York Hospital, FOX Subacute Hospital, and Pulmonary and Critical Care Associates. The Respiratory Therapist program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care ([www.coarc.com](http://www.coarc.com)). Continuation in this program requires that the student receive a grade of C or higher in each course pursued. Graduation requirements include current Certification in American Heart Association BLS (CPR), American Heart Association Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) certification, American Heart Association Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) certification, professional development credits, and satisfactory performance on comprehensive written, laboratory, simulation, and oral exit examinations. Membership in the American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC) is required by the start of the second semester of the Respiratory Therapist program (#3920). The following must be completed after a student has been selected for, but prior to their start in the clinical portion of the program and are also requirements for continuation: physical examination and required immunizations, background checks (Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance, FBI fingerprint check, and PA State Police Criminal Record Check), and drug and alcohol screens. The student should consider these factors before enrolling in this program. If the student has any questions regarding this, he or she should contact the program director. This program can only be completed at the Harrisburg Campus provided students take some of their required coursework through multiple modalities (e.g. Blended, Online and/or Remote Learning). In addition to tuition and fees, students must purchase uniforms, supplies, liability insurance, testing, and clinical parking fees.

*Selective Program:* Entry into this program is not guaranteed with admission to the College; this is a selective and competitive admission program; specific admissions criteria must be met. Please go to the Health Careers website ([www.hacc.edu/healthcareers](http://www.hacc.edu/healthcareers)) or email at [start@hacc.edu](mailto:start@hacc.edu) for specific program entry requirements.

Please note that students interested in this program must begin in the Pre-Health Professions AS degree. Then, students may apply for admission into this program, once they meet the requirements to apply. Students can discuss these admission requirements as part of their advising process.

### *Career Opportunities*

Graduates find employment as respiratory therapists in hospitals, nursing homes, rehabilitation centers, home healthcare companies, and as pharmaceutical sales representatives.

### *Competency Profile*

This curriculum is designed to prepare students to:

- Demonstrate proficiency as respiratory therapists as described by the National Board for Respiratory Care
- Assist physicians in the diagnosis, management, and treatment of patients afflicted with cardiopulmonary disorders
- Function effectively as members of the healthcare team
- Comprehend, apply, and evaluate clinical information relevant to their role as registered respiratory therapists (Cognitive Domain)
- Demonstrate technical proficiency in all registered respiratory therapist skills. (Psychomotor Domain)
- Demonstrate personal behaviors consistent with professional and employer expectations for the registered respiratory therapist (Affective Domain)

## PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS – Certified Respiratory Therapist (TOTAL CREDITS = 71)

General Education		Major Requirements		Other Required Courses
ENGL 101 English Composition I	3	RESP 100 Intro to Respiratory Care	2	
ENGL 102 English Composition II	3	RESP 120 Cardiopulmonary Anatomy & Physiology	4	
COMM 101 Effective Speaking	3	RESP 130 Hospital Orientation	2	
Humanities & Arts Elective	3	RESP 140 Oxygen Administration	4	
Mathematics Elective	3	RESP 150 Pharmacology	3	
Mathematics <b>or</b> Science Elective - <i>CHEM 100</i>	3	RESP 160 Patient Assessment	3	
Science w/ a Laboratory Elective - <i>BIOL 111 or 121</i>	3 or 4	RESP 170 Therapeutics	4	
Social & Behavioral Science Elective	3	RESP 175 Clinical Practice I	2	
First-Year Seminar Elective	1	RESP 200 Cardiopulmonary Diseases	3	
Wellness	1	RESP 205 Clinical Practice II	2	
	<b>26</b>	RESP 210 Critical Care	6	
		RESP 230 Cardiopulmonary Lab Procedures	2	
		RESP 235 Clinical Practice III	2	
		RESP 245 Clinical Practice IV	2	
		RESP 270 Neonatal/Pediatric Respiratory Care	4	
			<b>45</b>	

*Note: A grade of C or higher is required for ENGL 101, BIOL 111 or 121, CHEM 100 & all RESP courses.*

## RECOMMENDED SEQUENCE FOR FULL-TIME STUDENTS

The program is offered during the day and students may enroll either full-time or part-time. General education courses are offered during the day and evening. Evening clinical rotations may be possible.

Fall Semester I		Spring Semester I		Summer I		Fall Semester II		Spring Semester II		Summer II	
BIOL 111 or 121	3 or 4	COMM 101	3	RESP 140	4	ENGL 102	3	Humanities/Arts Elective	3	RESP 245	2
CHEM 100	3	RESP 120	4	RESP 150	3	Mathematics Elective	3	RESP 210	6	RESP 270	4
ENGL 101	3	RESP 130	2	RESP 175	2	RESP 170	4	RESP 235	2		
FYS Elective	1	RESP 160	3			RESP 205	2	Social/Behavioral Science Elective	3		
RESP 100	2	RESP 200	3			RESP 230	2				
Wellness	1										