



Respiratory Care Science

Texas Southmost College

Division of Health Care Career and Technology Education
80 Fort Brown, Brownsville Texas 78520

Respiratory Care

A Career for Now and in the Future !

WHAT IS RESPIRATORY CARE ?

RESPIRATORY CARE IS A HEALTH CARE PROFESSION THAT IS INVOLVED IN THE EVALUATION, ASSESSMENT, TREATMENT, AND EDUCATION OF PATIENTS WITH DISEASES OF THE LUNGS AND HEART.

A RESPIRATORY THERAPIST.....

- IS A PERSON THAT IS FORMALLY TRAINED IN EITHER A COMMUNITY COLLEGE OR A UNIVERSITY TO PERFORM JOB SKILLS AS OUTLINED IN THE PROFESSION OF RESPIRATORY CARE.

A RESPIRATORY THERAPIST.....

- RECEIVES EITHER AN ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREE (AAS), ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREE (AS), OR BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE (BS) UPON COMPLETION OF THEIR EDUCATIONAL TRAINING.
- EARNS A PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIAL AND MAY BE EITHER A CERTIFIED (CRT) OR REGISTERED (RRT) RESPIRATORY THERAPIST.

A RESPIRATORY THERAPIST.....

- MAY SOMETIMES BE REFERRED TO AS A RESPIRATORY CARE PRACTITIONER (RCP) OR A “RT”.
- IS KNOWLEDGEABLE IN HEART AND LUNG PHYSIOLOGY AND PATHOLOGY, PATIENT ASSESSMENT, MEDICAL EQUIPMENT, PHARMACOLOGY, CPR, LIFE SUPPORT, AND CRITICAL CARE.

THE RESPIRATORY THERAPIST.....

CARES FOR PREMATURE INFANTS.



Photo courtesy of American Association for Respiratory Care

- INFANTS



Photo courtesy of American Association for Respiratory Care



- CHILDREN



Photos courtesy of American Association for Respiratory Care



- AND ADULTS...



Photos courtesy of American Association for Respiratory Care



Photo courtesy of American Association for Respiratory Care

THE RESPIRATORY THERAPIST.....

- TREATS PATIENTS THAT MAY HAVE THE FOLLOWING DISEASES:
 - ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS, EMPHYSEMA
 - CYSTIC FIBROSIS
 - PNEUMONIA
 - CHEST TRAUMA
 - HEART-RELATED DISEASE
 - NEWBORN & PEDIATRIC DISEASE
 - AND MANY, MANY MORE.....

WHERE DO RESPIRATORY THERAPISTS WORK ?

- HOSPITALS AND ACUTE CARE FACILITIES
- REHABILITATION HOSPITALS
- SKILLED NURSING FACILITIES
- DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORIES
- RESEARCH FACILITIES
- HOME CARE BUSINESSES
- PHYSICIAN OFFICES
- EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, COLLEGES, & UNIVERSITIES

WHAT DOES A RESPIRATORY THERAPIST DO ?



Photo courtesy of Puritan Bennett



Photo courtesy of Puritan Bennett

WHAT DOES A RESPIRATORY THERAPIST DO?

- WORKS AS A VITAL MEMBER OF THE HEALTH CARE TEAM.
- ASSESSES PATIENTS VITAL SIGNS AND OVERALL PULMONARY STATUS.
- ADMINISTERS OXYGEN TO PATIENTS TO RELIEVE SYMPTOMS OF SHORTNESS OF BREATH AND CHEST DISCOMFORT.



Photo courtesy of American Association for Respiratory Care

WHAT DOES A RESPIRATORY THERAPIST DO?

- ADMINISTERS MEDICATION AND AEROSOL TO INFANTS, CHILDREN, AND ADULTS.
- ADMINISTERS BREATHING TREATMENTS TO PATIENTS TO AID IN FULLY RE-EXPANDING THEIR LUNGS.
- MAINTAINS AND MONITORS LIFE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT ON CRITICALLY ILL PATIENTS.



Photo courtesy of American Association for Respiratory Care



Photo courtesy of American Association for Respiratory Care



Photo courtesy of American Association for Respiratory Care

WHAT DOES A RESPIRATORY THERAPIST DO?

- SAMPLES AND ANALYZES BLOOD TO DETERMINE VENTILATION AND OXYGEN LEVELS.
- DIAGNOSTIC TESTING FOR LUNG FUNCTION.
- SLEEP STUDIES.



Photo courtesy of American Association for Respiratory Care

WHAT DOES A RESPIRATORY THERAPIST DO?

- ECG'S AND CARDIAC TESTING
- STRESS & EXERCISE TESTING
- PULMONARY REHABILITATION & HOME CARE
- CPR AND EMERGENCY CARE



Photo courtesy of American Association for Respiratory Care



Photo courtesy of American Association for Respiratory Care

WHAT IS THE EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK FOR RESPIRATORY CARE?

- ACCORDING TO THE U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS OCCUPATIONAL OUTLOOK HANDBOOK:

“EMPLOYMENT OF RESPIRATORY THERAPISTS IS PROJECTED TO GROW 12 PERCENT FROM 2014 TO 2024, FASTER THAN THE AVERAGE OCCUPATIONS.

REFERENCE: WWW.BLS.GOV

WHAT IS THE TYPICAL SALARY FOR RESPIRATORY THERAPISTS ?

- THE U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS MAY 2015 SALARY REPORT LISTS THE NATIONAL MEAN HOURLY WAGE FOR RESPIRATORY THERAPISTS AT \$28.67 AND A MEAN ANNUAL INCOME OF \$59,600.00
- THE TEXAS MEAN HOURLY WAGE FOR RESPIRATORY THERAPISTS IS \$27.14 AND MEAN ANNUAL INCOME IS \$56,450.00

REFERENCE: WWW.BLS.GOV

HOW DO I BECOME A RESPIRATORY THERAPIST ?

- MOST RESPIRATORY CARE EDUCATION PROGRAMS ARE TAUGHT AT THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE LEVEL. COLLEGES AWARD GRADUATES OF RESPIRATORY CARE PROGRAMS AN ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREE UPON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE CURRICULUM.
- RESPIRATORY CARE PROGRAMS ARE GENERALLY TWO YEARS IN LENGTH.

HOW DO I BECOME A RESPIRATORY THERAPIST ?

- RESPIRATORY CARE PROGRAMS COMBINE ACADEMIC COURSES SUCH AS ENGLISH, MATH, AND SCIENCE COURSES WITH CLASS, LAB, AND CLINICAL TRAINING IN RESPIRATORY CARE.
- MOST RESPIRATORY CARE PROGRAMS REQUIRE COURSES IN ENGLISH, MATH, ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY, MICROBIOLOGY, & PSYCHOLOGY.

TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE

- TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE OFFERS A PROGRAM IN RESPIRATORY CARE .
- THE PROGRAM REQUIRES THE ACADEMIC PRE-REQUISITES OF ENGLISH 1301, MATH 1314, AND BIOLOGY 2301 & BIOLOGY 2302.

TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE

- ENGLISH 1301 COMPOSITION
- MATH 1314 COLLEGE ALGEBRA
- BIOLOGY 2321 MICROBIOLOGY AND BIOL 2121
- BIOLOGY 2301 HUMAN ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY I
- BIOLOGY 2302 HUMAN ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY II
- PSYC 2301 GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY

* SHOULD BE TAKEN IF STUDENT PLANS TO TRANSFER TO A UNIVERSITY UPON COMPLETION OF THE AAS PROGRAM AT TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE.

TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE

- PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS MUST APPLY FOR THE PROGRAM BY MAY 1ST OF THE DESIRED ENTRY YEAR.
- PROGRAM INFORMATION/APPLICATIONS MAY BE PRINTED ON-LINE AT WWW.TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE.EDU
COLLEGE/ACADEMICS/DEPARTMENTS/ALLIED HEALTH/ RESPIRATORY CARE TECHNOLOGY OR DOWNLOAD FORMS.

TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE

- PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS SHOULD BE NEAR COMPLETION OF PREREQUISITE COURSES WHEN APPLYING TO THE PROGRAM. PREREQUISITES MUST BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO BEGINNING THE PROGRAM.
- THE PROGRAM BEGINS A NEW CLASS OF STUDENTS EACH FALL SEMESTER (MID-AUGUST).
- THE PROGRAM IS TWO COMPLETE YEARS IN LENGTH.

TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE

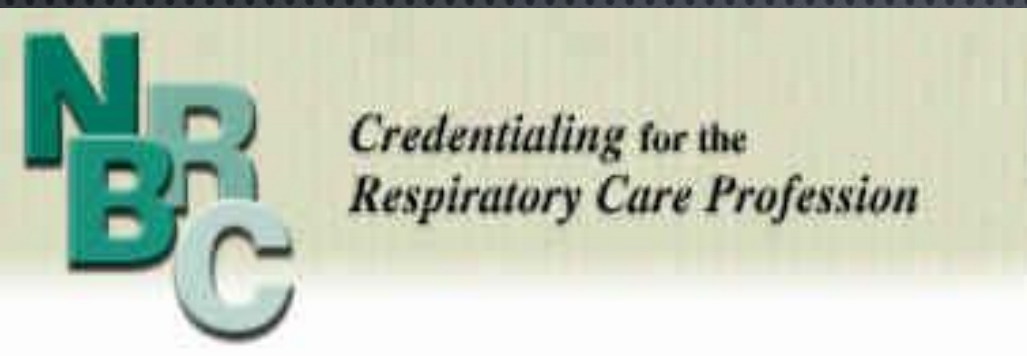
- ONCE ENROLLED, STUDENTS CAN EXPECT TO SPEND APPROXIMATELY 30 HOURS PER WEEK IN CLASS, LAB, AND CLINICAL COURSES.
- STUDENTS WILL LEARN IN A MODERN, STATE-OF-THE-ART, ON-CAMPUS LABORATORY AND PRACTICE THEIR CLINICAL SKILLS IN SEVERAL AREA HOSPITALS, CLINICS, LONG TERM NURSING CARE AND PHYSICIAN OFFICES.

GRADUATES OF THE PROGRAM

- UPON COMPLETION OF THE PROGRAM, GRADUATES WILL RECEIVE AN ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREE FROM THE COLLEGE AND A CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION FROM THE PROGRAM.
- GRADUATES ARE ELIGIBLE TO TAKE THE CERTIFIED RESPIRATORY THERAPIST (CRT) EXAMINATION, THE REGISTERED RESPIRATORY THERAPIST (RRT) EXAMINATION, AND SEVERAL SPECIALTY EXAMINATIONS.

PROFESSIONAL EXAMS

- UPON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE NATIONAL BOARD FOR RESPIRATORY CARE (NBRC) CERTIFIED RESPIRATORY THERAPIST EXAM THE GRADUATE WILL BE CREDENTIALLED AS A CERTIFIED RESPIRATORY THERAPIST.
- UPON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE NBRC REGISTRY EXAM THE GRADUATE WILL BE CREDENTIALLED AS A REGISTERED RESPIRATORY THERAPIST.



The National Board for Respiratory Care is the national examination board for the profession of Respiratory Care.

Graduates of the program apply for their credentialing exams through the NBRC.

For more information go to www.NBRC.org



TEXAS

MEDICAL BOARD

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT BOARD

STATE BOARD OF ACUPUNCTURE EXAMINERS

Safeguarding the public through professional accountability

Graduates must apply for a license to practice Respiratory Care in the State of Texas.

Professional licensure is through the Texas Medical Board. For more information go to www.tmb.state.tx.us



The American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC) is the professional membership organization for the Respiratory Therapist.

To learn more about Respiratory Care as a career opportunity, visit www.AARC.org



The Texas Society for Respiratory Care (TSRC) is the professional membership organization for the Respiratory Therapist in the State of Texas.

The TSRC offers continuing education opportunities for the Respiratory Therapist, as well as, strong support for the profession.

For more information go to www.TSRC.org

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE EXCITING CAREER OPPORTUNITY OF
RESPIRATORY CARE, PLEASE CALL (956)295-3514 OR EMAIL
TOMAS.RAMOS@TSC.EDU FOR MORE INFORMATION.