Respiratory Care Curriculum

Summer I
Applied Mathematics OR MA 109 College Algebra
BIO 137 Human Anatomy & Physiology I

Summer II
BIO 139 Human Anatomy & Physiology II
ENG 101 Writing I

Fall
Computer literacy
Medical Microbiology OR Principles of Microbiology
Heritage/Humanities/Foreign Language
Oral Communications

Spring
RCP 110 Cardiopulmonary Anatomy & Physiology
RCP 122 Fundamentals of Respiratory Care
RCP 121 Respiratory Care Practice I
RCP 130 Cardiopulmonary Pharmacology
PY 110 General Psychology OR SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology

Summer I
RCP 176 Respiratory Care Practice II
RCP 140 Cardiopulmonary Evaluation

Summer II
RCP 201 Respiratory Care Practice III
RCP 185 Introduction to Mechanical Ventilation

Fall
RCP 195 Patient-Ventilator System Management
RCP 210 Cardiopulmonary Pathophysiology
RCP 212 Neonatal/Pediatric Respiratory Care
RCP 226 Respiratory Care Practice IV

Spring
RCP 228 Preventive & Long-term Respiratory Care
RCP 251 Respiratory Care Practice V
RCP 240 Advanced Cardiopulmonary Evaluation
RCP 245 Advanced Cardiac Life Support
RCP 260 Respiratory Care Seminar

GUIDELINES FOR ADMISSION TO THE RESPIRATORY CARE PROGRAM

All individuals who want to be considered for admission to the Respiratory Care program must submit a “Complete Application Packet” before the October 1st deadline.

◇ Submit an application for admission to the college— for students not currently enrolled.

◇ be eligible for regular college admission status. Individuals enrolled or admitted on academic probation are not eligible to be candidates to the respiratory care program until the academic probation has been cleared.

◇ Submit results of American College Test (ACT) or the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) if less than 12 credits of college work have been completed. The college courses must be numbered 100 or higher excluding remedial courses.

◇ Submit an official transcript from every college attended (except KCTCS schools).

◇ Submit an Observation/Work Experience pertaining to Respiratory Care.

◇ Documentation of attendance at a pre-admission conference. Available dates are listed online.

The “Completed Application Packet” can be picked up and submitted at one of four sites.
BCTC Office of Admissions
200 Oswald Bldg., 470 Cooper Dr.
Lexington, KY 40506-0235

OR
2) The One Stop Student Services at Leestown Campus,
3) Lawrenceburg campus;
4) Danville campus

For more program information contact Marty Baxter at (859) 246-6239 or via email: martin.baxter@kctcs.edu

OR
Visit the Respiratory Care Program website at http://www.bluegrass.kctcs.edu/ah/respiratory_care_program/

The Kentucky Community & Technical College System has added a computer literacy requirement.

Bluegrass Community & Technical College is an equal opportunity employer and education institution.
Respiratory Care Program

What is Respiratory Care?
Respiratory Care is a health care specialty that offers a set of unique challenges in the area of prevention, diagnosis, treatment, management, and rehabilitation of people with lung problems. The respiratory care practitioner works in a fast-paced environment where technology and scientific responsibilities are matched by a real need for human relation skills.

What does a Respiratory Care Practitioner do?
The RCP is involved in a wide variety of life-saving and life supporting situations, working side by side with physicians, nurses and others on the health care team. The practitioner treats patients ranging in age from newborns to senior citizens. The practitioner’s expertise is in demand, and opportunities to expand knowledge and skills are great.

RCPs work under the direction of qualified physicians. Their job frequently involves the administration of daily treatments to a variety of patients. Using sophisticated medical equipment, RCPs help people with such lung disorders as asthma, emphysema, pneumonia, and bronchitis. As practitioner, coach, and friend, they use a personal approach to help these patients.

RCPs also work as members of the critical care team in treating individuals who are seriously ill. This may include using equipment that will mechanically breathe for the patient. With the assistance of sophisticated monitoring devices and techniques, the practitioner gives around the clock care to individuals who otherwise would not be able to survive life-threatening conditions.

Other RCPs spend all or part of their time working in pulmonary laboratories where they help evaluate various cardiopulmonary diseases. By performing diagnostics procedures, such as measurement of lung volumes, they assist the physician in determining the type and extent of the patients disease as well as how well the prescribe therapy is working. Regarded as experts in respiratory and cardiovascular systems, RCPs are often called upon to offer advice and help in deciding which course of care to follow.

Career Opportunities
Part of an ever-changing profession, some RCPs specialize in particular areas of pulmonary care. There is an increasing demand for RCPs to work in the following areas…

- Newborn Care and Pediatrics
- Cardiopulmonary Diagnostics
- Health Education
- Pulmonary Rehabilitation
- Management
- Home Care
- Skilled nursing facilities
- Sleep laboratories

RCPs are expanding their scope of practice. In addition to the hospital, many RCPs now work in home care, long term care facilities and physician offices. RCPs have been identified as one of the best candidates for cross training among allied health care providers because of their broad knowledge base, technical expertise, and assessment skills. Coupled with an aging population and the ever increasing number of cardiopulmonary disorders being diagnosed, the demand for RCP will remain high.

Salaries for the entry level RCP are competitive with other health care professionals with similar education backgrounds.

The Bluegrass Community & Technical College Respiratory Care Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) upon the recommendation of the Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC).