



RESPIRATORY CARE PROGRAM

Thank you for your interest in our Associate Degree in Respiratory Care. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), employment of respiratory therapists is growing much faster than the national average for all occupations. During the 10-year period between 2016 and 2026, BLS expects the need for RTs to increase by 23%. The Gulf Coast State College Associate Degree in Respiratory Care is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC).*

Respiratory Therapists:

- Specialize in the evaluation, treatment, and care of patients with breathing disorders.
- Perform procedures crucial in maintaining the lives of seriously ill patients with breathing problems.
- Assist in the treatment and rehabilitation of patients with heart and lung disease.
- Are employed in hospitals, rehabilitation facilities, sleep disorders clinics, pulmonary function labs, hyperbaric chambers, skilled nursing facilities, and home health agencies.

Program curriculum includes classroom, laboratory, and supervised clinical instruction covering cardiopulmonary anatomy, physiology and pathophysiology, therapeutic treatments, cardiopulmonary diagnostic technology, critical care and life-support technology for adults, children and infants, respiratory home care, and pulmonary rehabilitation.

Upon successful completion of this program, graduates are eligible to take the Therapist Multiple Choice Examination (TMC) administered by the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC). The Therapist Multiple Choice Examination is designed to objectively measure essential knowledge, skills, and abilities required of entry-level respiratory therapists. There are two established cut scores for the Therapist Multiple Choice Examination. If a candidate achieves the lower cut score, they will earn the Certified Respiratory Therapist (CRT) credential. If a candidate achieves the higher cut score, they will earn the CRT credential AND become eligible for the Clinical Simulation Examination (CSE) to earn their Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) credential. The CRT and/or RRT credentials are used as the basis for licensure in 49 states as the basis for licensure to practice respiratory care.

Rolling Selection Criteria

A student may be considered for conditional acceptance (for the next program start date) if he / she meets the following criteria:

- Completed Respiratory Care program application and applicant checklist.
- Demonstrate competency in Math / Algebra, English, and Reading.
- Successfully completed Anatomy and Physiology I and the Lab (BSC 2085 and BSC 2085L).
- Successfully completed college-level Math (MAC, MGF, or STA prefix course)

If you don't meet the Rolling Selection Criteria, you may still be considered for admission. Please consult with us for guidance with the application process.

We are grateful that you are considering Gulf Coast State College for your educational needs. If you have any questions, or would like to speak to an advisor, please call 850.872.3837, or e-mail me at jbarber@gulfcoast.edu or contact our Health Sciences Academic Programs Specialist, Adam Carlini, at ucarlini@gulfcoast.edu or 850.913.3311.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Barber

Jennifer Barber, MS, RRT, RRT-ACCS
Coordinator, Respiratory Care Program
850.872.3837

Theresa Porter

Theresa Porter, MHL, RRT
Assistant Coordinator, Respiratory Care Program
850.769.1551, x5835



Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC) can be contacted at 264 Precision Boulevard, Telford, Tennessee 37690, USA Telephone 817.283.2835

Rev. 10/2021



CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS

As part of your provisional acceptance into the Respiratory Program, an acceptable background check (including Level II fingerprinting) and drug screening must be completed prior to final acceptance into the program. The background check will be scheduled and performed at the discretion of the Division of Health Sciences at GCSC. Information and instructions on how to complete the background check will be sent by the program coordinator. Criminal background checks performed through other agencies will not be accepted. The student must also be aware that clinical agencies may require an additional background check prior to clinical access.

It is possible to graduate from a program at GCSC but be denied the opportunity for licensure because of an unfavorable background check. An applicant must consider how his / her personal history may affect the ability to meet clinical requirements, sit for various licensure exams, and ultimately gain employment. Most healthcare boards in the State of Florida make decisions about licensure on an individual basis. You may visit the Florida Department of health website (www.floridahealth.gov/licensing-and-regulation/index.html) for more information regarding licensure. We offer this information so that you can make an informed decision regarding your future.

Student applicants DO NOT complete background check until provisionally accepted into the Respiratory Care Program. Information and instructions on how to complete the background check will be given to you during the Respiratory Care orientation prior to beginning the Fall semester.

Please read the following information carefully.

Any student who has been found guilty of, regardless of adjudication, or entered a plea of nolo contendere, or guilty to, any offense under the provision of 456.0635 (see below) may be **disqualified** from admission to any Health Sciences program. In addition to these specific convictions, there are other crimes which may disqualify applicants from entering into the Health Sciences programs and / or clinical rotations. The statute can be found online at:

http://www.leg.state.fl.us/Statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&Search_String=&URL=0400-0499/0456/Sections/0456.0635.html

456.0635 Health care fraud; disqualification for license, certificate, or registration.

- (1) Health care fraud in the practice of a health care profession is prohibited.
- (2) Each board within the jurisdiction of the department, or the department if there is no board, shall refuse to admit a candidate to any examination and refuse to issue a license, certificate, or registration to any applicant if the candidate or applicant or any principal, officer, agent, managing employee, or affiliated person of the applicant:
 - (a) Has been convicted of, or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, a felony under chapter 409, chapter 817, or chapter 893, or a similar felony offense committed in another state or jurisdiction, unless the candidate or applicant has successfully completed a drug court program for that felony and provides proof that the plea has been withdrawn or the charges have been dismissed. Any such conviction or plea shall exclude the applicant or candidate from licensure, examination, certification, or registration unless the sentence and any subsequent period of probation for such conviction or plea ended:
 1. For felonies of the first or second degree, more than 15 years before the date of application.
 2. For felonies of the third degree, more than 10 years before the date of application, except for felonies of the Third degree under s. 893.13(6) (a).
 3. For felonies of the third degree under s. 893.13(6) (a), more than 5 years before the date of application;
 - (b) Has been convicted of, or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, a felony under 21 U.S.C. ss. 801-970, or 42 U.S.C. ss. 1395-1396, unless the sentence and any subsequent period of probation for such conviction or plea ended more than 15 years before the date of the application;
 - (c) Has been terminated for cause from the Florida Medicaid program pursuant to s. 409.913, unless the candidate or applicant has been in good standing with the Florida Medicaid program for the most recent 5 years;
 - (d) Has been terminated for cause, pursuant to the appeals procedures established by the state, from any other state Medicaid program, unless the candidate or applicant has been in good standing with a state Medicaid program for the most recent 5 years and the termination occurred at least 20 years before the date of the application; or
 - (e) Is currently listed on the United States Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General's List of Excluded Individuals and Entities.

RESPIRATORY CARE PROGRAM - APPLICANT CHECKLIST

Applications will be considered at any time! The checklist below will help with the application process.

_____ 1. **New students should apply for General Admission to GCSC – (Choose Planned Course of Study: AS Respiratory Care Applicant.** Failure to declare the correct major can result in lengthy evaluation delays.) Applications are available online at: <http://www.gulfcoast.edu/admissions/index.html>. You may also call or visit GCSC Enrollment Services to obtain information on the college admissions process, or call (850) 872-3892.

Returning students who have not attended GCSC in the past year must re-apply for admission.

While working on admission to this program, you may choose the Associate of Arts as your major only if you intend to complete that separate degree either before or after this limited access program. To request a major change, visit: <https://www.gulfcoast.edu/admissions/documents/program-change-form.pdf>. Students declaring an unintended major for the sole purpose of receiving financial aid may be subject to penalties, including repayment of any financial aid received.

_____ 2. **Submit the completed, signed Respiratory Care application,** included in this packet, to the Health Sciences Division, Room 200, or scan to HealthSciencesGCSC@gulfcoast.edu. Include with your application the **signed Core Performance Standards form and a written response addressing "Why you are interested in becoming a Respiratory Therapist."**

_____ 3. **Request OFFICIAL High School transcripts, or equivalent GED scores, and have them sent to GCSC Enrollment Services.** (For high school seniors, conditional acceptance can be granted before graduation. However, a high school diploma must be received immediately upon graduation.)

Note: Official transcripts are those **sent** directly from other institutions attended to Enrollment Services at GCSC. Transcripts mailed by you, faxed by you, or hand-delivered by you are **not** considered official transcripts.

_____ 4. **Request OFFICIAL transcripts from all colleges attended, and have them sent to GCSC Enrollment Services.** These must be received and evaluated by Enrollment Services before the application can be considered.

Note: Official transcripts are those **sent** directly from other institutions attended to Enrollment Services at GCSC. Transcripts mailed by you, faxed by you, or hand-delivered by you are **not** considered official transcripts.

_____ 5. **Demonstrate competency in Math / Algebra, English, and Reading using one of the following methods:**

Subject	PERT	Accuplacer (CPT)	ACT	SAT	College Course
English	≥103	≥83	≥17	Old: ≥440 (verbal)	Successful completion of ENC 1101
Reading	≥106	≥83	≥19	New: ≥24	
Math / Algebra	≥114	≥72	≥19	Old: ≥440 (math) New: ≥24	Successful completion of a 3-credit minimum course with prefix MAC, MGF, or STA

If the applicant wishes to use test scores to demonstrate competency for any of the above, and the test was not administered at GCSC, the applicant must have an **official** score report mailed to the GCSC Testing Center. Test scores that have been in the student's possession, regardless of whether they are "sealed," stamped, or in a sealed envelope, are not considered official and will not be accepted. All applicants are responsible for ensuring that their scores are received and posted to their GCSC record prior to the application deadline.

It is the Applicant's responsibility to make sure their application folder is complete.

Rolling Selection Criteria

A student may be considered for conditional acceptance (for the next program start date) if he / she meets the following criteria:

- Completed Respiratory Care program application and applicant checklist
- Demonstrate competency in Math / Algebra, English, and Reading
- Successfully completed Anatomy and Physiology I and the Lab (BSC 2085 and BSC 2085L)
- Successfully completed college-level Math (MAC, MGF, or STA prefix course)

If you don't meet the Rolling Selection Criteria, you may still be considered for admission. Please consult with Mrs. Barber for guidance with the application process.

After Conditional Acceptance into the Respiratory Care Program, students will need to satisfactorily complete the following by the first day of class.

- a. **Satisfactory fingerprint/criminal background check** at student's expense – specific instructions will be provided in your acceptance packet.
- b. **Current GCSC Physical Examination (less than a year old) and GCSC Immunizations Forms**, with satisfactory results signed by a physician, are required for the Respiratory Care Program. The GCSC forms to be used will be included in the acceptance packet.
- c. **Current TB Skin Test, TB blood test, or current chest x-ray report** (less than a year old) are required for the Respiratory Care Program. The form will be included in the acceptance packet.
- d. **Copy of current, valid American Heart Association Basic Life Support (BLS) CPR certification and maintain current certification throughout the program.**
- e. **A 10-panel urine drug screen** at student's expense – specific instructions will be provided in your acceptance packet.

GENERAL EDUCATION COURSE REQUIREMENTS FOR A.S. DEGREE

Non-Professional Courses	Credits	✓ Completed
BSC 2085 Anatomy & Physiology I	3	
BSC 2085L Anatomy & Physiology I Lab	1	
BSC 2086 Anatomy & Physiology II	3	
BSC 2086L Anatomy & Physiology II Lab	1	
HSC 1531 Medical Terminology	2	
*College-level Math: successful completion of 3-credit minimum course with prefix MAC, MGF, or STA	3	
ENC 1101 English Composition I	3	
Course in Humanities I, II, or III	3	
Course in an approved Elective	3	
Choose one of the following: SYG 2000 Sociology or PSY 2012 General Psychology	3	

ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE DEGREE - COURSE REQUIREMENTS and CURRICULUM PLAN

Courses that may be taken prior to entering *OR* during the Respiratory Care Program and must be completed with a "C", or higher, are indicated below. (Students are *strongly encouraged* to take as many of these courses as possible *prior* to entering the Respiratory Care Program.)

BSC 2085	Anatomy and Physiology I	3 credits	Preferred completion before/by end of Semester 1
BSC 2085L	Anatomy and Physiology I Lab	1 credit	Preferred completion before/by end of Semester 1
HSC1531	Medical Terminology	2 credits	Preferred completion before/by end of Semester 1
BSC 2086	Human Anatomy and Physiology II	3 credits	Preferred completion before/by end of Semester 2
BSC 2086L	Human Anatomy and Physiology II Lab	1 credit	Preferred completion before/by end of Semester 2
XXX XXXX	College-level Math (MAC, MGF, or STA prefix)	3 credits	Preferred completion before/by end of Semester 3
XXX XXXX	Course in an approved Elective	3 credits	Preferred completion before/by end of Semester 3
ENC 1101	English Composition I	3 credits	Preferred completion before/by end of Semester 4
XXX XXXX	Course in Humanities I, II, or III	3 credits	Preferred completion before/by end of Semester 4
PSY 2012 <i>or</i> SYG 2000	Psychology <i>or</i> Sociology	3 credits	Preferred completion before/by end of Semester 5

RESPIRATORY CARE CORE COURSES

After acceptance into the Respiratory Care Program, the following required Respiratory Care courses are taken in sequence over 5 semesters (2 in Fall, 1 in Summer, and 2 in Spring). Classes are held Monday through Friday. Class and clinical times vary semester-to-semester.

Course	CRN	Course Name	Credits	Semester Credits
Semester 1: (Fall)	RET 1005	Mgmt of Cardiopul Microbiol & Disorders	3	12
	RET 1024	Respiratory Care I	3	
	RET 1024L	Respiratory Care I Lab	2	
	RET 1485	Cardiopulmonary Anatomy & Physiology	3	
	RET 1832	Respiratory Care Clinical I	1	
Semester 2: (Spring)	RET 1264	Respiratory Care II	3	12
	RET 1264L	Respiratory Care II Lab	2	
	RET 1400	Cardiopulmonary Procedures	3	
	RET 1483	Cardiopulmonary Assessment	3	
	RET 1833	Respiratory Care Clinical II	1	
Semester 3: (Summer)	RET 1934	Selected Topics Seminar - ACLS	1	8
	RET 2834	Respiratory Care Clinical III	2	
	RET 2878	Respiratory Care III	3	
	RET 2878L	Respiratory Care III Lab	2	
Semester 4: (Fall)	RET 2007	Cardiopulmonary Pharmacology	3	10
	RET 2280	Respiratory Care IV	3	
	RET 2280L	Respiratory Care IV Lab	2	
	RET 2835	Respiratory Care Clinical IV	2	
Semester 5: (Spring)	RET 2714	Respiratory Care V	3	8
	RET 2714L	Respiratory Care V Lab	2	
	RET 2836	Respiratory Care Clinical V	3	

GULF COAST STATE COLLEGE

RESPIRATORY CARE PROGRAM

FEE SCHEDULE **

	<u>In-State</u>	<u>Out-of-State</u>
<u>ENROLLMENT FEES</u>		
Placement Tests (if needed)	\$ 7.50	\$ 7.50
GCSC - application fee (new students)	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00
Criminal Background Check	\$ 85.00	\$ 85.00
CastleBranch: Drug Screening/Compliance Tracker	\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00
<u>TEXTBOOK FEES</u>		
Textbooks (approximate)		
Required texts	\$1,000.00**	\$ 1,000.00**
<u>TUITION FEES</u> (see current College Catalog)		
Gen Ed and Corequisites (25 college credits)	\$ 2,468.75 (CC \$98.75)	\$ 8,992.75 (CC \$359.71)
Fall Term - 1st semester (12 college credits)	\$ 1,185.00	\$ 4,316.52
Spring Term - 2nd semester (11 college credits)	\$ 1,086.25	\$ 3,956.81
Summer Term - 3rd semester (8 college credits)	\$ 790.00	\$ 2,877.68
Fall Term - 4th semester (12 college credits)	\$ 1,185.00	\$ 4,316.52
Spring Term - 5th semester (8 college credits)	\$ 790.00	\$ 2,877.68
<u>LAB FEES</u> (Includes Student Liability/Accident Ins.)		
Fall Term - 1st semester	\$ 131.00	\$ 131.00
Spring Term - 2nd semester	\$ 64.00	\$ 64.00
Summer Term - 3rd semester	\$ 124.00	\$ 124.00
Fall Term - 4th semester	\$ 81.00	\$ 81.00
Spring Term - 5th semester	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
SUPPLIES / UNIFORMS:	\$ 350.00**	\$ 350.00**
Total Program Fees (approx.):	\$9,617.50	\$29,387.10

Fee schedule includes approximate fees for the entire program. Fees are subject to change without notice. See current information available in the Enrollment Services Office. Anyone requiring financial aid must initiate arrangements with the Financial Aid Office. Refund policy is outlined in the current Gulf Coast State College Catalog.

** Fees listed above are currently accurate, but subject to change without notice due to price changes from the other requirements, manufacturer, or provider.

GULF COAST STATE COLLEGE - HEALTH SCIENCES DIVISION

APPLICATION FOR PROGRAM ADMISSION

5230 West U.S. Highway 98
Panama City, FL 32401-1058
(850) 872-3827 or 913-3311
fax: (850) 747-3246

RESPIRATORY CARE PROGRAM

Answer ALL questions: please TYPE or PRINT. (Please submit form as soon as possible.)

Name: _____
First
Middle
Last
Maiden Name

Mandatory GCSC Student ID #: **A0** _____ Male Female

Home Address: _____
Street & Number
City
State
Zip
County

Permanent or Mailing Address (If different from above): _____

E-Mail: _____ Home Phone: () _____

Business Phone: () _____ Cell Phone: () _____

EDUCATION
OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT(s) must be received by GCSC Enrollment Services.
ALL schools and colleges attended must be listed for the application to be complete. **Use additional sheets if necessary.**

Name of School	Location of School	From (Mo./Yr.)	To (Mo./Yr.)	Did you receive diploma, degree, or certificate?	What was your Major / Minor?
High School or GED:					
Vocational / Other Technical Program:					
College or University:					
College or University:					

LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS

Type	Issued by which State or Agency?	License / Cert. Number	Date Issued / Expired

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please provide information about two people who will always know where to locate you.

	Name	Mailing Address	Telephone Number
1.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____

HEALTHCARE RELATED WORK EXPERIENCE and/or VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Use additional sheets, if necessary.

1. EMPLOYER: _____

Address _____ Telephone No. _____
 Street and No. City State

Supervisor's Name _____ Title _____

Dates employed: From _____ to _____ Nature of your Job Duties _____
 Mo./Yr. Mo./Yr.

Reason for Leaving _____ Full-Time _____ Part-Time _____

2. EMPLOYER: _____

Address _____ Telephone No. _____
 Street and No. City State

Supervisor's Name _____ Title _____

Dates employed: From _____ To _____ Nature of your Job Duties _____
 Mo./Yr. Mo./Yr.

Reason for Leaving _____ Full-Time _____ Part-Time _____

PLEASE READ AND SIGN THE FOLLOWING

I hereby certify that the information contained in this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any misrepresentation, omission or falsification of information is cause for denial of admission to the program. I understand that illegal use, possession, and/or misuse of drugs are reasons for immediate dismissal from any of the programs in the Health Sciences Division. I further understand that background checks and drug screening are routinely required at most clinical facilities prior to the students' clinical placement.

Note: Gulf Coast State College does not discriminate against any person in its programs, activities, policies or procedures on the basis of race, ethnicity, color, national origin, marital status, religion, age, gender, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, disability, or veteran status. All questions or inquiries regarding compliance with laws relating to non-discrimination and all complaints regarding sexual misconduct or discrimination, may be directed to the Executive Director of Human Resources/Title II/504/Title IX Coordinator and Employment Equity Officer, Gulf Coast State College, 5230 West U.S. Highway 98, Panama City, FL 32401; (850) 872-3866.

Applicant Signature Date

RETURN APPLICATION TO:
Gulf Coast State College
Health Sciences Division
5230 West U.S. Highway 98 - Room 200
Panama City, Florida 32401

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, PLEASE NOTIFY:
Name: _____
Address: _____

Phone: _____

**GULF COAST STATE COLLEGE – RESPIRATORY CARE
CORE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR ADMISSION AND PROGRESSION**

ISSUE	STANDARD	EXAMPLES OF NECESSARY ACTIVITIES (not all inclusive)
Critical Thinking	Think critically with sound judgment, emotional stability, maturity, empathy, and physical and mental stamina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify cause-effect relationships in clinical situations • Develop care plans • Make rapid decisions under pressure • Handle multiple priorities in stressful situations • Assist with problem solving
Interpersonal	Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, educational, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish rapport with patients/clients and colleagues • Cope effectively with high levels of stress • Cope with anger/fear/hostility of others in a calm manner • Cope with confrontation • Demonstrate high degree of patience
Communication	Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain treatment procedures • Initiate client education • Document and interpret nursing actions and patient/client responses
Mobility	Physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room, to maneuver in small spaces and to perform procedures necessary for emergency intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move around in patients' rooms, workspaces, and treatment areas • Administer cardio-pulmonary resuscitation procedures • Walk the equivalent of 5 miles per day • Remain on one's feet in upright position at a workstation without moving about • Climb stairs • Remain in seated position
Motor Skills	Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective patient care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calibrate and use equipment • Position patients/clients, manage a 200 lb. patient • Perform repetitive tasks • Able to grip • Bend at knee and squat. • Reach above shoulder level • Lift and carry 25 lbs., with assistance 50 lbs. • Exert 20-50 pounds of force (pushing/pulling)
Hearing	Auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hear monitor alarms, emergency signals, auscultatory sounds, and cries for help • Hear tape recorded transcriptions • Hear telephone interactions
Visual	Visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in respiratory care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observe patient/client responses • Identify and distinguish colors
Tactile	Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform palpation, functions of physical examination and/or those related to therapeutic intervention, e.g., insertion of a catheter
Environmental	Ability to tolerate environmental stressors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adapt to shift work • Work with chemicals and detergents • Tolerate exposure to fumes and odors • Work in areas that are close and crowded • Tolerate the wearing of required mask for up to 12 hours

I have read and understand the performance standards necessary to perform the duties of a Respiratory Therapist. If I become unable to meet these standards, I will inform the Respiratory Care Program Coordinator immediately.

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Respiratory Care Program - 2022

Name: _____ Date: _____

Discuss (in 250-500 words): "Why are you interested in becoming a Respiratory Therapist?"

Your response should be submitted with your Respiratory Care Program application to:

Gulf Coast State College
Health Sciences Division - Room 200
5230 West U.S. Highway 98
Panama City, Florida 32401-1058
Fax: (850) 747-3246