Program Overview
Respiratory Therapists (RTs) provide care and treatment for cardiac and pulmonary issues. Practitioners perform diagnostic tests, administer medical gas therapy, access and record patient emulations and implement care for acute and chronically ill patients. They provide mechanical ventilation, therapeutic procedures, and cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Laboratory procedures include pulmonary function testing; sleep study, arterial blood gas draw and analysis, hemodynamic measurements and radiologic evaluation.

Preparation best suited for this program includes excellent reading skills, biology, chemistry and physics. Further, one should have good manual dexterity and an ability to lift fifty pounds. The goal of the program is to prepare graduates with demonstrated competence in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and affective (behavior) learning domains of respiratory care practice as performed by registered respiratory therapists (RRT). Upon completion of the program the student is eligible to take the National Certification exam. Certification is required at graduation for licensure.

Career Opportunities
Employment of respiratory therapists is expected to increase much faster than the average for all occupations because of substantial growth of the middle-aged and elderly population, a development that will heighten the incidence of cardiopulmonary disease. Respiratory Therapists are employed by hospitals, clinics or laboratories and home care agencies. Graduates may find employment through contacts made during the clinical training experiences and employment requests received by the instructional staff.

Licensing or certification exams are independent of graduation requirements.

Program Outcomes
1. Graduates demonstrated knowledge and skills in Respiratory Therapy clinical experiences.
2. Graduates demonstrated knowledge and skills in Respiratory Therapy clinical simulations.
3. Graduates prepared to take the National Certification Exam.
4. Graduates prepared for employment as Respiratory Therapists.
5. Graduates communicate effectively with the Health Care Team.

Program Faculty
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Full-Time Only
Students in this program must be enrolled full-time with a cohort of students. Technical courses are offered only during the day.

Textbook and Supply Costs
Students should expect to spend approximately $2,000, beyond the cost of tuition and fees, for books, for lab coat and other supplies. Additional costs include an ACLS, PALS, BLS course.

Application Process
In addition to completing the regular Saint Paul College application and admission process, students interested in the Respiratory Therapist program must submit a completed Application to Respiratory Therapist Major form and meet the following criteria:

• Completion of the following required General Education courses:
  - BIOL 1730 Human Body Systems
  - ENGL 1711 English Composition
• Documented readiness for, or completion of, the following required General Education course:
  - CHEM 1711 Principles of Chemistry 1
  - Prerequisite for Chemistry 1 is MATH 0920
  - Intermediate Algebra or appropriate assessment score or CHEM 1700
• GPA of 3.0 or above

The Respiratory Therapist Admissions Committee will review each application on the basis of overall academic ability, GPA of college level courses, assessment scores, and meeting the above criteria. Notification of acceptance into the Respiratory Therapist Major will be sent by mail 6-weeks after the deadline date stated on the Application to Respiratory Therapist Major form.

The Application to Respiratory Therapist Major form is available online: saintpaul.edu/programs/Pages/respiratory-therapist.aspx

Minimum Program Entry Requirements
Students entering this program must meet the following minimum program entry requirements:

Reading: Score of 78+ or grade of “C” or better in READ 0722
Writing: Score of 78+ on Reading Comprehension or grade of “C” or better in ENGL 0922
College Level Mathematics: Score of 50+ or grade of “C” or better in MATH 0920

Assessment Results and Prerequisites:
Students admitted into Saint Paul College programs may need to complete additional courses based on assessment results and course prerequisite requirements. Certain MATH, READ, and ENGL courses have additional prerequisites.

Information is subject to change.
This Program Requirements Guide is not a contract.
Respiratory Therapist AAS DEGREE (continued)

Program Requirements

☐ All classes must be successfully completed with a grade of "C" or better.

General Education Requirements

Preliminary courses prior to application

Goal 1: ENGL 1711 Composition 1
Goal 3: BIOL 1730 Human Body Systems
Total Prior to Application

Preliminary courses prior to RESP courses

The following (4) General Education courses must be completed prior to registering for the first Respiratory Care core course:

RESP 1411 Respiratory Care Essentials
RESP 1412 Respiratory Care Essentials Lab
RESP 1510 Cardiopulmonary Pathophysiology 1
RESP 1521 Respiratory Care Therapeutics
RESP 1523 Respiratory Care Therapeutics Lab
RESP 1580 Introduction to Clinical
RESP 1581 Respiratory Care Clinic 1
RESP 1589 Respiratory Care Clinic 3
RESP 1597 Respiratory Care Clinic 4
RESP 1599 Respiratory Care Clinic 5
RESP 2411 Mechanical Vent
RESP 2412 Mechanical Vent Lab
RESP 2420 Cardiopulmonary Pathophysiology 2
RESP 2430 Neonatal/Pediatric RC
RESP 2440 Mgmt of the Critical Ill
RESP 2440 Mgmt of the Critical Ill Lab
RESP 2458 Multidisciplinary RT
RESP 2470 Registry Review
RESP 2510 Survey of Human Disease
RESP 2510 Survey of Human Disease Lab

Total Program Credits

Program Start Dates

Fall

Course Sequence

This course sequence is required for the remaining RESP courses. Students should consult with the Program Advisor each semester. Must complete all courses with a "C" or better to go on to next semester.

First Semester Fall

RESP 1411 Respiratory Care Essentials
RESP 1412 Respiratory Care Essentials Lab
RESP 1540 Respiratory Care Pharm
RESP 1580 Introduction to Clinical
Total Semester Credits

Second Semester Spring

RESP 1510 Cardiopulmonary Pathophysiology 1
RESP 1521 Respiratory Care Therapeutics
RESP 1523 Respiratory Care Therapeutics Lab
RESP 1581 Respiratory Care Clinic 1
Total Semester Credits

Third Semester Summer

RESP 1582 Respiratory Care Clinic 2
RESP 2411 Mechanical Vent
RESP 2412 Mechanical Vent Lab
RESP 2420 Cardiopulmonary Pathophysiology 2
Total Semester Credits

Fourth Semester Fall

RESP 1583 Respiratory Care Clinic 3
RESP 2430 Neonatal/Pediatric RC
RESP 2440 Mgmt of the Critical Ill
RESP 2510 Survey of Human Disease
Total Semester Credits

Fifth Semester Spring

RESP 1597 Respiratory Care Clinic 4
RESP 2452 Advanced Simulation
RESP 2458 Multidisciplinary RT
RESP 2450 Cardiopulmonary Diagnostics
RESP 2470 Registry Review
Total Semester Credits

Sixth Semester Summer

RESP 1599 Respiratory Care Clinic 5
Total Semester Credits

Total Respiratory Care Core Credits

Total General Education Credits

(prior to beginning the RESP major)

Total Program Credits

Transfer Opportunities

Saint Paul College has a transfer articulation agreement between the following program and post-secondary institutions for the baccalaureate degree programs listed below.

For more information please go to saintpaul.edu/Transfer.

Respiratory Therapist AAS

BA Health Care Administration
Concordia University, St. Paul
BA Individualized Studies
Metropolitan State University
BAH Applied Health
University of Minnesota, Crookston
BS Healthcare Leadership & Administration
Winona State University
BS Healthcare and Human Service Management
Saint Mary's University,
Twin Cities Campus
BS Pulmonary Science
Concordia University