

Respiratory Care

Associate of Applied Science Degree

Program Overview:

The Respiratory Care program is six semesters and qualifies graduates to take the Entry Level Examination to become a Certified Respiratory Therapist (CRT) and the written and simulation portions of the Registry Examination to become a Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT). Through a combination of classroom and laboratory instruction and clinical practice, students gain knowledge and skills in cardiopulmonary testing and therapy. Graduates will meet the requirements as a respiratory therapist as defined in the Tennessee Respiratory Care Practitioner's Act.

Accredited by the Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care.

How Much Can I Earn?

\$26,470 - \$41,610

*wages and salary data provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Tennessee Department of Labor

What Will I Do On The Job?

Respiratory therapists specialize in breathing disorders or other cardiopulmonary disorders. Under a doctor's supervision, they find the source of a patient's breathing problem and treat it with oxygen, medication, or both. Respiratory therapists evaluate and treat all types of patients, ranging from premature infants whose lungs are not fully developed to elderly people whose lungs are diseased. Respiratory therapists provide temporary relief to patients with chronic asthma or emphysema, and they give emergency care to patients who are victims of a heart attack, stroke, drowning, or shock.

What Skills Will I Use On The Job?

It helps to be a critical thinker who is focused on detail. You should also be an excellent communication and effective team member, not to mention good with your hand and with machines.

Possible Job Titles:

Respiratory Therapist, Respiratory Therapy Technician

Who Will Hire Me?

Hospitals, physician offices or other health practitioners, consumer-goods rental firms that supply respiratory equipment for home use, nursing care facilities, and home health care services.

Chattanooga State graduates work for such organizations as: Hutcheson Medical Center, Memorial Hospital Grandview Hospital, Skyridge Hospital, Parkridge Hospital

Need More Information?

www.bls.gov ▪ tcids.tbr.edu/index.html

Career Services & Counseling Center

Student Center Room 137 ▪ 423-697-4421