



# RESPIRATORY CARE

## Associate in Science Degree

Respiratory therapists are an integral member of any medical team and serve as life-support specialists who work to restore the heart-lung system to normal function. A respiratory therapist's main function is to assist physicians in treating patients who experience heart-lung problems that interfere with breathing. Valencia offers an Associate in Science degree in Respiratory Care for those who are interested in working in this highly specialized healthcare field. Valencia's program provides a strong educational base in therapeutic techniques and state-of-the-art equipment as well as hands-on experience at some of the community's major medical centers. Through this combined educational experience, students learn to use their classroom knowledge in real-life situations.

### Note:

The Respiratory Care program is a selective admission, limited enrollment program. Students must be prepared for rigorous coursework, and must meet all prerequisites before continuing in the program.

### Potential Careers

- Respiratory Therapist
- Critical Care Staff Therapist
- Respiratory Care Practitioner
- Neonatal Respiratory Therapist
- Home Health Care Respiratory Therapist
- Pediatric Respiratory Therapist

### Potential Earnings

\$32,000 - \$36,000 per year

### Contacts

Health Sciences Career Program Advisor  
West Campus: 407-582-1288

For more information, visit our Website at:  
[valenciacc.edu/west/health](http://valenciacc.edu/west/health)

### A.S. to Bachelor's Degree Career Path...

Now the A.S. degree has a career path to continue to a Bachelor's degree. All of Valencia's A.S. degrees will transfer into the new B.A.S. program at UCF's regional campuses, as well as other universities. The B.A.S. degree has seven different tracks you can specialize in – and the cool thing is, the specialization you major in does not have to be in the same area as the A.S. degree.

Check it out at [regionalcampuses.ucf.edu/bas](http://regionalcampuses.ucf.edu/bas)

### The Internship & Placement Office

is available to assist you in locating an internship or job resources.

Vertrilla Hunt, East Campus: 407-582-2726

Carmen Diaz, West Campus: 407-582-1034

Matthew Abalos, Osceola Campus: 407-582-4196

For more information, visit: [valenciacc.edu/ipo](http://valenciacc.edu/ipo)

# RESPIRATORY CARE

## Respiratory Care

### Associate in Science Degree

#### Limited Access

This program is approved by the American Medical Association and the Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care.

The program is designed for students who desire preparation for employment as respiratory therapists, and graduates are eligible for registry examination.

Respiratory Care is a limited access program. Admission to Valencia does not imply acceptance to the Respiratory Care Program; students must apply and be accepted into the program. General admission procedures for this program are found in the Admissions section of this catalog. The Health Sciences Division provides information about specific admission criteria.

Program expenses are given in the Financial section of this catalog.

Admission requirements for the A.S. Degree in Respiratory Care are:

- Submit a completed Valencia Community College application
- Complete Respiratory Care Prerequisites for Admission Courses with a minimum grade of "C"
- Have a minimum overall college GPA of 2.0 (including transfer work)
- Satisfy the college entry testing requirements and satisfactorily complete all mandatory courses in reading, student success, mathematics, English, English for Academic Purposes in which you are placed
- Submit a completed Valencia Respiratory Care Program application. A minimum grade of "C" must be achieved in all respiratory care and required courses to meet a prerequisite or graduation requirement.

Any student admitted to the Respiratory Care Program who fails or withdraws from any two respiratory care courses (can be the same course or two different courses) must petition the Health Sciences Admissions Committee for reevaluation and readmission. Students will be allowed to petition one time.

An articulation process between Seminole Community College, University of Central Florida and Valencia is available to provide a means to ensure students continuous advancement in learning by efficient and effective movement of students among said institutions. Several Florida public universities recently have begun to provide opportunities for A.S. degree graduates to pursue a bachelor's degree. Information about such opportunities, including those at the University of Central Florida, is found in the Introduction to this catalog section. Students who want to continue their education should contact their university of choice.

Students are strongly encouraged to consult a Health Sciences advisor for assistance in determining the best education plan for their career goals.

## Year I

### FALL TERM

Course	Title	Credits
+* BSC 2093C	Human Anatomy and Physiology I	4
+* MAT 1033C	Intermediate Algebra or Higher Mathematics	3
	<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>7</b>

### SPRING TERM

Course	Title	Credits
+* RET 1025C	Principles of Respiratory Care	6
+* RET 1485C	Cardiopulmonary Physiology	4
+* MCB 2010C	Microbiology	4
+* ENC 1101	Freshman Composition I	3
	<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>17</b>

### SUMMER TERM

Course	Title	Credits
+* RET 1275C	Clinical Care Techniques	4
+* RET 1450C	Basic Physiological Monitoring	3
+* RET 1295C	Chest Medicine	4
+* BSC 2094C	Human Anatomy and Physiology II	4
	<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>15</b>

## Year II

### FALL TERM

Course	Title	Credits
+* RET 2350	Pharmacology	3
+* RET 1264C	Principles of Mechanical Ventilation	4
+* RET 1874L	Clinical Practice I	4
+* RET 2930	Selected Topics in Respiratory Care	1
	<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>12</b>

### SPRING TERM

Course	Title	Credits
+* RET 1875L	Clinical Practice II	4
+* RET 2244C	Life Support	3
+* HSC 2550	Pathophysiology	4
+* RET 2714C	Pediatric Respiratory Care	4
	<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>15</b>

### SUMMER TERM

Course	Title	Credits
+* RET 2876L	Clinical Practice III	4
+* ENC 1102	Freshman Composition II	3
+ PSY 1012	General Psychology	3
	<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>10</b>
	<b>Total Degree Credits</b>	<b>76</b>

#### NOTES :

All accepted applicants must be screened by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement for criminal history. Applicants for Valencia Community College Health Science Programs must be free of offenses that would disqualify them from a student clinical experience in a health care setting and must have their civil rights intact. This policy is in response to requirements by clinical agencies and State/Federal regulations.

MAC 1105 College Algebra is a university-required math.

Specialized program courses are offered on the West Campus.

Specialized courses may not be offered every session or on every campus.  
 + This course must be completed with a grade of C or better.  
 \* This course has a prerequisite; check description in Valencia catalog.

# RESPIRATORY CARE

General Education courses are in bold print in the course listing.

This A.S. degree is transferable to UCF's regional campuses offering the B.A.S. degree. Check with UCF regional offices for their local campus offerings. The degree may also be transferable to B.A.S. programs offered by USF and Daytona State College. Check with USF and Daytona State College for acceptance of this degree.

Students will be required to take 36 credit hours of General Education courses to earn a Bachelor of Applied Science (B.A. S) degree from UCF.

To graduate from UCF's B.A.S. program, students will also have to fulfill the state's foreign language requirement which is as follows: Two years of the same high school foreign language or two semesters of the same college-level foreign language.

Specialized courses may not be offered every session or on every campus.

+ This course must be completed with a grade of C or better.

\* This course has a prerequisite; check description in Valencia catalog.

# Valencia Community College

## ADMISSION CRITERIA AND CHECKLIST ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE DEGREE RESPIRATORY CARE

Lynn W. Capraun, Program Chair, MS, RRT

This program is approved by the American Medical Association and the Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care Programs. The Respiratory Care Program is designed for students who desire preparation for employment as Respiratory Therapists and graduates are eligible for certification and registry examinations offered by the National Board for Respiratory Care. Students wishing to transfer have the responsibility for securing approval in advance from the transfer institution.

Articulation mechanisms are available with the Respiratory Care Programs at Seminole Community College and the University of Central Florida.

Admission to the Respiratory Care Program is limited to applicants selected by the admission process. Final selection may require a personal interview. Students enter in January (Spring Term) of each year. ***Applicants must be a United States Citizen or permanent resident to be eligible.***

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. Students must submit a completed College Application for Admission by the college Application Deadline and meet the college admission requirements for degree seeking students. College entry level assessments, Computerized Placement Tests (CPT), and all mandatory courses in reading, student success, mathematics, English, and English for Academic Purposes must be completed **prior** to submitting the Program Application.

Visit Valencia's Web site at <http://valenciacc.edu/admissions/> for specific information

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. Students must review all admission and program requirements on the Valencia Respiratory Care website: [www.valenciacc.edu/respiratory](http://www.valenciacc.edu/respiratory)

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. Complete the \*pre-requisite course and other suggested \*courses for the program prior to the deadline of October 1st.

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. Submit the completed program application and required documents (Required documents, i.e., VCC application, program application, 3 references, work experience form, transcripts, and a copy of any certifications.) to the Health Science Career Program Advisor, in the Health Science Advising office Building 2 room 208 no later than October 1st. A \$15 non-refundable Respiratory Care Program fee must be submitted to the Business Office **before** submitting application. **A new application is required if reapplying for admission.**

**\*NOTE:** Students are encouraged to complete required science **AND** general education courses while awaiting acceptance into Respiratory Care. Listed below are required science and general education courses for Respiratory Care:

Special consideration may be given for other degrees, certifications and life experiences.

Students accepted into the program will be notified of the program orientation meeting prior to the start of the term.

The orientation will notify applicants of the process required to complete a background check and deadlines for completion. **Failure to meet the deadline will prevent students from starting classes. Applicants with a positive background check may be denied admission into the program.**

Applicants having concerns regarding their background are encouraged to make contact with the Health Science Career Program Advisor well in advance of the deadline date.

**Background Check Protocols Include:**

- \* Applicants for Valencia Community College Health Science Programs must be free of offenses that would disqualify them from a student clinical experience in a health care setting and must have their civil rights intact. This policy is in response to requirements by clinical agencies and State/Federal regulations.
- \* Each applicant must be screened by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement for criminal history. Each applicant must have a Social Security Verification, Residency History, Nationwide Sexual Offense Registry Search, Nationwide Healthcare Fraud/Abuse Scan, and a US Patriot Act/OFCA search. A Nationwide Criminal Search is also required if the applicant has worked, resided, or has been a student outside of Florida during the 2 year period prior to the start of any Health Science Program at Valencia.

\*Note: No student will be admitted into two (2) different Valencia Community College Health Related Programs within an academic year.

**Contact:**

Career Program Advisor

West Campus Building 2 room 208

Email: [healthscienceadvising@valenciacc.edu](mailto:healthscienceadvising@valenciacc.edu)

Phone: (407) 582-1288

The college-wide Health Science Admission Committee uses the following point system to GUIDE them in the selection of qualified students to be admitted to the Respiratory Care Program.

### GPA Requirements

Overall GPA	Points	
2.00 – 2.35	1	
2.36 – 2.70	2	
2.71 – 3.00	3	
3.01 – 3.29	4	
3.30 – 3.50	5	
3.51 – 3.70	6	
3.71 – 3.80	7	
3.81 – 3.90	8	
3.91 – 3.99	9	
4.00	10	

### Science and General Education Courses

<b>BSC 2093C</b>	*Human Anatomy & Physiology I (pre-requisite course)	A=5 pts, B=4 pts, C=3 pts	
<b>BSC 2094C</b>	Human Anatomy & Physiology II	A=5 pts, B=4 pts, C=3 pts	
<b>MCB 2010C</b>	Microbiology	A=5 pts, B=4 pts, C=3 pts	
<b>HSC 2550</b>	Pathophysiology	A=5 pts, B=4 pts, C=3 pts	
<b>ENC 1101</b>	Freshman Composition I	Completed - 2 pts, In Progress - 1 pt	
<b>ENC 1102</b>	Freshman Composition II	Completed - 2 pts, In Progress - 1 pt	
<b>MAT 1033C</b>	Intermediate Algebra	Completed - 2 pts, In Progress - 1 pt	
<b>PSY 1012</b>	General Psychology	Completed - 2 pts, In Progress - 1 pt	
<b>Elective</b>	Any Humanities or Fine Arts	Completed - 2 pts, In Progress - 1 pt	
<b>Bonus</b>	<i>Completion of all Science and General Education courses</i>	<b>8 pts</b>	

**Work Experience or Tech Prep - Points may be earned for ONLY ONE of the following areas:**

Certified Respiratory Care Practitioner	5 pts (Current certification required)	
On the job Trained Respiratory Assistant	3 pts (Min. 1 yr exp. with letter from employer)	
2 pts Tech prep	Tech Prep graduate with documentation on transcript	

### Additional Points

HSC 1004	Professions of Caring	3 pts	
HSC 1531	Medical Terminology	3 pts	

**Total Points = \_\_\_\_\_**  
**Total Possible Points: 59**

Note: Valencia Community College reserves the right to make changes in admission criteria and program information as circumstances require, and is an Equal Opportunity Institution.

Name of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Valencia ID \_\_\_\_\_

Valencia Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

TO: Name of Reference \_\_\_\_\_

Position/Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

RE: Letter of Reference

I have applied for admission into the Respiratory Care Program at Valencia Community College in Orlando, Florida.

Please complete the reference information requested on the reverse side of this letter and return it directly to:

Program Chair, Respiratory Care Program  
Valencia Community College  
P. O. Box 3028 Mail Code 4-14  
Orlando, FL 32802

I authorize you to release a candid evaluation and realize that the material will be kept confidential both from me and the public.

Thank you.

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

(see reverse)

Equal Opportunity Institution

Rev. 01/09

**Valencia Community College**  
**P. O. Box 3028**  
**Orlando, Florida 32802**  
**Letter of Reference**  
**Respiratory Care Program**

(1) Please check the appropriate category and complete the items indicated.

( ) I have employed and/or supervised the applicant.

- a. From \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Position(s) held \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Full time ( ) Part time ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
- d. Reason(s) for leaving \_\_\_\_\_
- e. I would ( ) would not ( ) recommend this applicant for the Respiratory Care Program.

If not, please comment.

( ) I have taught the applicant.

- a. Institution \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Courses taught \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Length of time I have known the applicant \_\_\_\_\_
- d. I would ( ) would not ( ) recommend this applicant for the Respiratory Care Program.

If not, please comment.

(2) Evaluation:

Factor Evaluated	Out-standing	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Not Observed
Ability to make logical decisions.....					
Ability to recognize patient care problems.....					
Ability to take directions from those in authority.....					
Attitude toward work and motivation concerning it.....					
Degree of cooperation with others.....					
Ability to recognize patient emotional needs.....					
Personal appearance.....					
Reaction to frustration.....					
Dependability.....					

(3) Comment on applicant's strengths and weaknesses \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Reference \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



**HEALTH SCIENCE PROGRAM APPLICATION**

A \$15 non-refundable application fee to the program (check or money order payable to Valencia Community College) must be submitted to the Business Office with **each** application.

**By mail:** Please mail application and check together to the address listed below. Do not send separately.

Valencia Community College  
Business Office, SSB 101  
1800 S. Kirkman Road  
Orlando, FL 32811

**Finance Use**

**In person:** Please make payment to the Business Office **before** turning in your application to the Health Science Advising Office on the West Campus, building 2, room 208.

**OPTIONAL INFORMATION SHEET**

Information concerning employment will assist your advisor in assessing possible advance placement in a Health Sciences Program course through the use of a local challenge exam, etc., and in realistically advising you concerning your load.

Are you presently employed?       YES       NO

If yes, where are you employed? \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Do you plan to be employed while attending Valencia?     YES       NO

If yes, number of hours per week. \_\_\_\_\_

Previous experience in health related areas?

For how long?

- |    |  |  |
|----|--|--|
| 1. |  |  |
| 2. |  |  |
| 3. |  |  |

Have you ever been arrested or convicted for other than minor traffic violations?     YES       NO

If yes, explain. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Is there other information you might like to share such as: Test scores, motivation, personal references, goals, etc.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## INDIVIDUALS WITH A DISABILITY:

For the purpose of the Respiratory Care Program a "Qualified individual with a disability is one who, with or without reasonable accommodation or modification, meets the essential eligibility requirements for participation in the program."

Respiratory Care is a practice discipline with cognitive, sensory, affective, and psychomotor performance requirements. Based on these requirements a list of "Core Performance Standards" has been developed. Each standard has an example of an activity which a student will be required to perform while enrolled in the Respiratory Care Program. These standards are a part of each respiratory care course.

These standards should be used to assist students in determining whether accommodations or modifications are necessary for a student to meet program requirements. Students who identify potential difficulties with meeting the Core Performance Standards must communicate their concerns to the college counseling and advising staff.

Determination is made on an individual basis as to whether or not the necessary accommodations or modifications can be made reasonably.

### CORE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR ADMISSION AND PROGRESSION

Issue	Standard	Some Examples of Necessary Activities (not all inclusive)
Critical Thinking	Critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment	Identify cause-effect relationships in clinical situations, develop respiratory care plans
Interpersonal	Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds	Establish rapport with patients/clients and colleagues
Communication	Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form	Explain treatment procedures, initiate health teaching, document and interpret respiratory care actions and patient/client responses
Mobility	Physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room and maneuver in small spaces	Moves around in patient's rooms, work spaces, and treatment areas, administer cardio-pulmonary procedures
Motor Skills	Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective respiratory care	Calibrate and use equipment; position patients/ clients
Hearing	Auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs	Hears monitor alarm, emergency signals, auscultatory sounds, cries for help
Visual	Visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in respiratory care	Observes patient/client responses
Tactile	Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment	Perform palpation, functions of physical examination and/or those related to therapeutic intervention, e.g., insertions of a catheter

## **Cost of Respiratory Care Program 2009/10**

Approximate costs for instate students in the Respiratory Care program during the two years curriculum include:

*Tuition fees (\$77.83 cr. hr. x 76)	\$5,915.08
Liability Insurance	36.00
Accident Insurance	499.00
Physical Exam	200.00
Hepatitis Immunization	150.00
PPD, MMR, Tetanus and Varicella Immunizations	165.00
CPR Certification	40.00
Books and Syllabi (approximate)	600.00
Uniforms, Lab Coat, Shoes	250.00
Background Check	49.00
Name Pins and Uniform Patches	25.00
Graduation Pin (estimate)	50.00
Supplemental Certifications	200.00
<b>Approximate Total for Two Years</b>	<b>\$8,179.08</b>

***\*Current fees subject to change***

(To view current tuition fees, please visit, <http://www.valenciacc.edu/finanserv/fees.cfm>)

To be licensed, the graduate must successfully complete the following:

National Board of Respiratory Care Exam	\$190.00
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Respiratory students will be responsible for furnishing transportation to the community and/or hospital facilities used by the college for clinical practice.