



DAYTONA STATE COLLEGE

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for your recent inquiry into the two-year Associate of Applied Science (AAS) Respiratory Care Program at Daytona State College. Respiratory Care practitioners work with patients who may have a variety of lung and/or heart disorders. Although most respiratory care practitioners work in hospitals, other employment opportunities may be available. There are also excellent opportunities in home care and cardiopulmonary rehabilitation. Respiratory care personnel perform a variety of therapeutic, diagnostic and patient management duties. Common therapeutic procedures include the delivery of oxygen and other medical gases, aerosol therapy with an ever-growing number of medications, and chest physical therapy. Diagnostic testing may include procedures such as arterial blood gas analysis, pulmonary function studies, and fiber optic bronchoscopy. Students are also trained in the management of mechanical ventilation (commonly referred to as life support systems) and the development of patient care plans for both short term and long-term care.

Individuals who wish to enter this field must enjoy working with people and also must be sensitive to the physical and psychosocial needs of the patient. The respiratory care practitioner must be able to follow instructions and be a good team worker. In addition to a thorough understanding of human anatomy and physiology with emphasis on the cardiopulmonary system, a background in science and mathematics is essential to student success. The operation of highly technical and often computer-assisted medical devices, requires mechanical ability and a high degree of manual dexterity. Graduates of this program are eligible for credentialing by the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC) and for licensure in the state of Florida.

Enclosed is an application and other information that describe our program's curriculum and objectives. For additional information call me at (386) 506-3759 or Melissa Brown, Academic Advisor at 506-3052 or brownm@daytonastate.edu

Sincerely,

Melanie McDonough, MS, RRT
Assistant Chair
Respiratory Care Program

Enclosure



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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE RESPIRATORY CARE PROGRAM

1. What is the employment outlook?

Employment opportunities in the greater Daytona Beach area are good. For those who are willing to relocate, opportunities statewide are better and nationwide are best.

2. What salary can I expect?

The range of salaries for entry-level graduates in the area currently is between \$12.00 to \$15.00 per hour. The starting salary may also vary with individual health care facilities and locations.

3. What are the typical working hours for this profession?

Those employed in a hospital setting may expect a variety of shifts and hours. Currently, most hospitals in the area work on a 12-hour shift basis, usually 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM or 7:00 PM to 7:00 AM. For those employed in clinics, rehabilitation units, or home care settings, regular day hours (7-3 or 8-4) are the norm.

4. What are the program hours?

The first (Fall) semester of class is classroom-based and is comprised of the major foundation courses and run from 8:00 AM to approximately 12:00 PM Monday through Thursday. For the second (Spring) semester, classes are taught on Monday and Wednesday from 8:00 AM to approximately 12:00 Noon. Clinical classes are held on Tuesday and Thursday from 6:45 AM to 3:15 PM. The second year of the program (Fall and Spring semesters) include classes on Monday and Wednesday from 8:00 AM to 9:30 AM and clinicals on Tuesday and Thursday from 6:45 AM to 3:15 PM. (these time frames are subject to change). ***Times are subject to change*

General education classes needed by the student must be taken during hours that do not conflict with the normal sequence of the Respiratory Care program.



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5. How much does the program cost? What about books, lab fees?

At \$94.90 per semester hour (\$357.90 for out-of-state fees) the tuition for this 76 hour program is \$7,212.00 (27,200.00 for out-of-state fees). (*Tuition may increase subject to Florida legislative action*) Approximately \$800.00 additional is required for books, uniforms and supplies such as a stethoscope.

6. Must I pass a board exam upon completion of this program?

Yes! You are required to take the national entry-level examination upon graduation from the program. You also must within 3 years take the national Registry Examination subsequent to passing the entry-level examination. All examinations are computer-based. Procedures for application and taking the examinations will be explained during the program.

7. Is a state license required to work in this occupation?

Yes! Chapter 468 of the Florida State Statutes requires that all respiratory care practitioners in the state of Florida possess a current occupational license. The procedure for an application and licensure will also be discussed during the course of the program. The issuance of a license is dependent upon passing the different levels of board examinations. A background criminal check is conducted prior to a license being granted.

8. What courses are required?

The only pre-requisite is BSC 1085 and BSC 1085L (Human Anatomy & Physiology I and Lab). Any of the general education requirements listed on the program guide may be taken prior to entry into the program. A good math background is suggested as well.

9. Is clinical or externship training required in this program?

Yes! Approximately 700 hours of clinical training are included in the two-year program. During this time, students work with patients, adult, pediatric and newborn, in a variety of health care settings.



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10. If I have previous college courses, will they count towards graduation from this program?

Transcripts from previous colleges must be submitted to the Admissions Department at, DSC, where the transcript evaluator will determine the number of classes/credits, which are transferable towards the Associate of Science degree. You may also be asked for catalog or course descriptions from your prior college in some cases.

11. FDLE (Florida Department of Law Enforcement) Background Screening

Once provisionally accepted to the program students will be required to complete a Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) Background screening, with a cost of approximately \$24. Forms will be provided once a Student is accepted into the program.

12. When may I start the program?

Applications are accepted throughout the year for the program which begins in the Fall semester (August). The applicant must have completed the pre-requisite course, co-requisite, and developmental courses needed prior to being selected. Students must achieve minimum acceptable scores on college entrance examinations or have prior college courses, which indicate a level of proficiency in Math, Reading and English. Selection is based on the applicants: Cumulative GPA of 2.5 or better, completion of pre and co-requisite courses; **Effective Fall 2010** applicants must have a 2.5 cumulative GPA or better for program consideration. Applicants are usually notified mid May and throughout the summer until the class has been filled, which ever comes first. **Please be advised that application submission does not guarantee program acceptance.**

13. Is a conference with program personnel, Program Manager or Clinical Coordinator necessary?

It is suggested as a way to learn more about the program. This conference may answer questions you have or may put to rest some of the apprehensions you have about entering a medically related career field.



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Two-Year Schedule of Respiratory Classes

Fall	Course Title	Sem. Hrs	Days	Start Time	End Time
1st Year					
RET 1024	Intro to RC	2.0	T-R	9:30 AM	10:50 AM
RET 1026	Fund I	4.0	M-W-F	8:00 AM	10:20 AM
RET 1485	CP, A&P	3.0	T-R	8:00 AM	9:20 AM
RET 2483	Assessment	2.0	M-W-F	10:30 AM	11:50 AM
2nd Year					
RET 2714	Spec Topics II	3.0	M-W	8:00 AM	9:20 AM
RET 2280	Fund III	3.0	M-W	9:30 AM	10:50 AM
RET 2876	Clinical III	4.0	T-R	6:45 AM	3:15 PM
Spring					
1st Year					
RET 1264	Fund II	4.0	M-W	9:30 AM	11:50 AM
RET 1265	Mech Vent	4.0	M-W	1:00 PM	2:50 PM
RET 1293	CP Medicine	3.0	M-W	8:00 AM	9:20 AM
RET 1832	Clinical I	4.0	T-R	6:45 AM	3:15 PM
2nd Year					
RET 2877	Clin IV	4.0	T-R	6:45 AM	3:15 PM
RET 2934	RC Seminar	3.0	M-W	8:00 AM	9:20 AM
Summer					
1st Year					
RET 1414	Diagnostics	3.0	M-W	8:00 AM	10:20 AM
RET 1534	Spec Topics I	3.0	M-W	10:30 AM	12:50 PM
RET 1833	Clinical II	2.0	T-R	6:45 AM	3:15 PM

Class days and times are subject to change at the discretion of the program assistant chair