

# Respiratory Therapy

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This program is offered at **Bakersfield, Rancho Cordova, Ontario, Temecula and Visalia.**

## Program Description

**SJVC's** Respiratory Therapy program prepares students to be a member of a health care team that evaluates, treats, and manages patients with respiratory illness and other cardiopulmonary disorders. In addition to performing respiratory care procedures, respiratory therapists are involved in clinical decision-making and patient education. Students receive extensive clinical practice in hospitals and clinics to gain real world experience.

## Program Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this program, the graduate will be able to:

1. Perform clinically as a competent advanced-level Respiratory Therapist
2. Exemplify critical thinking and judgment skills
3. Demonstrate personal and professional behavior consistent with a Respiratory Therapist
4. Earn Basic Life Support (BLS), Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS), Pediatric Advanced Life Support Provider (PALS), and Neonatal Resuscitation Provider (NRP) certifications
5. Become a Registered Respiratory Therapist
6. Characterize the philosophies of lifelong learning and professional growth by participating in continued education and community outreach
7. Demonstrate the social skills, professional appearance, attitudes and behavior that employers expect



## Admission Requirements

- Applicant must be in good health and physically fit
- Applicant must be age 18 by his/her expected graduation date

Applicants to the Respiratory Therapy program are selected based on points earned in an evaluation process that includes assessment, professional reference, personal interview and previous academic achievement with emphasis on successful completion of college-level math and science courses. Enrollment is subject to the approval of the RT Program Director or his/her designee.

## Graduation Requirements

Successful completion of the courses listed below with a grade of "C" or higher in all RT courses, including co-requisite general education and science course work.<sup>1</sup> Students must meet the minimum requirement of the Health Insurance Portability Accountability Act component; pass the skills competencies and program certifications in the term in which they are given and document a minimum of 85% attendance in each academic and clinical course; successful completion of the Career Services Seminar (CSS 100)

<sup>1</sup>Students who do not achieve this minimum grading requirement, will not be allowed to advance to the next term while waiting to repeat the course(s).

## Professional Certifications

Graduates earn an Associate of Science degree and the following certifications: ACLS: Advanced Cardiac Life Support, PALS: Pediatric Advanced Life Support, NRP: Neonatal Resuscitation Provider, and BLS:P Basic Life Support Provider.

## State Licensure

Graduates are eligible to site for the National Board Respiratory Care (NBRC): Therapist Multiple Choice Exam (TMC). Upon achieving the minimum cut score for registry eligibility on the TMC, graduates will be eligible to take the Clinical Simulation Exam (CSE) leading to the Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) Credential. Applications require a background check. **SJVC** will pay the background check and application fees.<sup>2</sup> Graduates who pass both exams (TMC and CSE) and are credentialed as an RRT by the NBRC are eligible for licensure as a Respiratory Care Practitioner (RCP) by the California Respiratory Care Board which is a requirement to work in the field.

<sup>2</sup>Payment for retakes and subsequent examinations are the responsibility of the graduate. Failure to sit for these exams does not constitute a refund or discount in tuition.

## On-Ground Program

Course descriptions are listed in **Section 8**

| <b>Course ID</b> | <b>Course Name</b>                | <b>Credit Units</b> |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| ENG 121          | Composition and Reading – Part A  | 3.0                 |
| ENG 122          | Composition and Reading – Part B  | 3.0                 |
| MTH 121          | College Algebra – Part A          | 3.0                 |
| MTH 122          | College Algebra – Part B          | 3.0                 |
| PHIL 1C          | Ethics                            | 3.0                 |
| PSY 1            | General Psychology                | 3.0                 |
| SOC 1            | Introduction to Sociology         | 3.0                 |
| BIO 24           | Human Anatomy and Physiology      | 4.0                 |
| CHE 3A           | Introduction to General Chemistry | 4.0                 |
| BIO 31           | Microbiology                      | 4.0                 |
| RT 10            | Introduction to Respiratory Care  | 10.0                |
| RT 20            | Fundamentals of Respiratory Care  | 4.0                 |
| PHAR 21          | Pharmacology                      | 2.0                 |
| RT 30            | Principles of Respiratory Care    | 7.0                 |
| RT 31            | Essentials of Respiratory Care    | 7.0                 |
| RT 40            | Advanced Respiratory Care         | 7.0                 |
| RT 41            | Specialized Respiratory Care      | 7.0                 |
| RT 1             | Clinical Practice – Rotation 1    | 1.0                 |
| RT 2             | Clinical Practice – Rotation 2    | 5.0                 |
| RT 3             | Clinical Practice – Rotation 3    | 6.0                 |
| RT 4             | Clinical Practice – Rotation 4    | 6.0                 |
| <b>Total</b>     |                                   | <b>95.0</b>         |

