

About This Program

The Associate of Science degree in Respiratory Therapy is a three-academic-year (75 weeks) program that prepares graduates for advanced-level respiratory care. The program covers knowledge of anatomy and physiology of cardiac and respiratory systems and biochemical and cellular functions of the human body, as well as knowledge of the general principles of pharmacology and cardiopulmonary drugs, including knowledge of indications, doses, calculations, mechanisms of action, and adverse effects. Skill in patient examination, assessment, intervention, and treatment planning, especially in relation to the pathophysiology of cardiopulmonary diseases, knowledge, and skills in the principles and applications of emergency medicine, resuscitation equipment, intubation, airway clearance, chest tubes, and tracheostomy care. Students who successfully complete the Respiratory Therapy program are eligible for the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC) credentialing exams, which include the Therapist Multiple-Choice (TMC) exam and the Clinical Simulation Examination (CSE)¹.

Careers in Respiratory Care²

Practicing under the direction of a physician, respiratory therapists perform therapeutic respiratory treatments and diagnostic procedures. They are required to exercise considerable, independent clinical judgment in the care of patients with breathing or other cardiopulmonary disorders. They consult with physicians and other healthcare professionals to help develop and modify patient care plans.

There are a number of possible paths that you could follow as a qualified respiratory therapist. You can seek employment in health care settings, such as:

- Hospitals
- Physicians' offices
- Home care
- Nursing care facilities
- Assisted living facilities

Knowledge and Skills

Upon completion of the Respiratory Therapy program, graduates will be able to:

- Perform clinically as a competent advanced-level Respiratory Therapist
- Exemplify critical thinking and judgment skills
- Demonstrate personal and professional behavior consistent with a Respiratory Therapist
- Earn Basic Life Support (BLS), Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS), Pediatric Advanced Life Support Provider (PALS), and Neonatal Resuscitation Provider (NRP) certifications
- Become a Registered Respiratory Therapist
- Characterize the philosophies of lifelong learning and professional growth by participating in continued education and community outreach
- Demonstrate the social skills, professional appearance, attitudes, and behavior that employers expect of graduates
- Relate and apply concepts of communication, reasoning, critical analysis, ethical behavior, and appropriate interpersonal interaction to situations in his or her career and personal life



The program culminates in an Associate of Science Degree.

*Find your
path to change*

¹ Carrington College prepares students to take appropriate certification and licensure exams related to their individual majors. The College does not guarantee students will successfully pass these exams or be certified or licensed as a result of completing the program.

² Individuals seeking to enter this career field may be subject to screenings such as, but not limited to, criminal background checks and drug/alcohol testing prior to externship, to attain occupational licensure/certification or employment, and throughout their careers.

RESPIRATORY THERAPY



Campus Based: Bakersfield, Las Vegas, Ontario, Phoenix, Pleasant Hill, Rancho Cordova, Temecula, and Visalia

Program Requirements

TECHNICAL AND GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES		LECTURE HOURS	LAB HOURS	CLINICAL HOURS	SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS
RCS115	Human Anatomy and Physiology For The Respiratory Care Therapist With Lab	45	30	0	4
RCS125	Introduction to General Chemistry For The Respiratory Care Therapist With Lab	45	30	0	4
RCS135	Microbiology For The Respiratory Care Therapist With Lab	45	30	0	4
RCP100	Introduction of Respiratory Care	90	30	0	7
RCP130	Fundamentals of Respiratory Care	45	30	0	4
RCP110	Respiratory Care Pathophysiology	60	15	0	4
RPC140	Pharmacology	60	15	0	4
RCP150	Ventilatory Principles of Respiratory Care	30	90	0	5
RCP160	Critical Care Principles of Respiratory Care	30	30	0	3
RCP170	Neonatal and Pediatric Respiratory Care	75	75	0	7
RCP180	Specialized Respiratory Care	75	15	0	5
RCP190	Advanced Respiratory Care	75	75	0	7
RCP120	Clinical Laboratory Practice	0	45	0	1
RCP210	Clinical Practice Rotation 1	0	0	225	5
RCP220	Clinical Practice Rotation 2	0	0	225	5
RCP230	Clinical Practice Rotation 3	0	0	225	5
ENG101 ¹	English Writing and Composition	45	0	0	3
HUM200 ¹	Ethics in Contemporary Society (Arizona and California only)	45	0	0	3
MTH151 ¹	College Algebra	45	0	0	3
PSY101 ¹	General Psychology	45	0	0	3
GOV141 ¹	Nevada and US Constitutions (Nevada only)	45	0	0	3
TOTAL FOR DEGREE		855	510	675	86

¹Online general education course

Approximate time to complete degree program: 75 weeks (not including breaks)

Accreditation and Disclosures

Carrington College is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, 428 J Street, Suite 400, Sacramento, CA 95814, (415) 506-0234, an institutional accrediting body recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation and the U.S. Department of Education.

Additional information about accreditation, including the filing of complaints against member institutions, can be found at accjc.org.

For comprehensive information on Carrington College's accreditation and approvals, visit carrington.edu/accreditation. Visit carrington.edu/sci for important information on program outcomes.

Program availability varies by location. Carrington College reserves the right to update information as it becomes available. For the most updated information, visit carrington.edu.