

Respiratory Care

PLEASANT HILL CAMPUS
ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREE

About The Campus

Carrington College's Pleasant Hill campus occupies 28,000 square feet and is housed in four buildings. Less than two minutes from downtown Pleasant Hill, the campus is close by to dining, shopping, and entertainment experiences. And if you enjoy the outdoors, John Muir National Historic Site, Mt. Wanda and Briones Regional Park are all less than 10 minutes away.

The facilities include eight lecture/laboratories, a veterinary lab and surgery room, and labs for Physical Therapist Assistant and Respiratory Care programs. The campus also has a Student Success Center equipped with reference materials, textbooks and journals; a student break room; and a learning lab. The Carrington library website offers online resources and professional organization information.

About This Program

Respiratory care practitioners use their knowledge and expertise under the direction of a physician to bring relief to patients with breathing impairments. 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. Students who successfully complete the RC program are eligible to sit for the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC) credentialing exams¹.

The program culminates in an Associate of Science degree.

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. Respiratory therapists (respiratory therapy technicians) consult with physicians and other health care 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
- Home care
- Assisted living facilities
- Physicians' offices
- Nursing care facilities

** 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. Credential preparation varies by location.*

**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.*

Knowledge and Skills

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

- Differentiate the skills and knowledge to perform entry-level respiratory care therapy
- Utilize appropriate communication strategies to support data collection, intervention, and patient/client response
- Distinguish the appropriate skills and knowledge of interventions to employ in emergency situations
- Demonstrate the ability to use technology and electronic forms of communication

General Education Coursework

Students in Carrington College's certificate programs complete technical coursework and participate in an online career development seminar course.

Technical Coursework

The Respiratory Care program covers medical terminology, patient assessment, a variety of respiratory therapies, ventilation concepts and applications and case analysis and management. Students gain hands-on experience at approved health care facilities during clinical rotations.

Students may also need to meet admission and/or progression requirements, including drug screening and background checks.

Carrington's academic catalog, available at carrington.edu/carrington-college/catalog, provides the most current and detailed program information, including admission and graduation requirements.



Visit Carrington.edu or call:
925-273-3922

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Respiratory Care Campus-Based Program Requirements

Technical and General Education Courses		Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours	Semester Credit Hours
BIO 108 ¹	Anatomy and Physiology	45	0	0	3
MAT 101 ¹	Principles of Mathematics	45	0	0	3
RC 111	Introduction to Respiratory Care	75	30	0	6
RC 110	Pharmacology	45	0	0	3
ENG 101 ¹	English Writing and Composition	45	0	0	3
PSY 101 ¹	Introduction to Psychology	45	0	0	3
RC 120	Clinical Laboratory Practice	0	60	0	2
RC 121	Fundamentals of Respiratory Care	45	30	0	4
RC 122	Respiratory Care Pathophysiology	45	0	0	3
SOC 101 ¹	Introduction to Sociology	45	0	0	3
RC 130	Ventilatory Principles of Respiratory Care	30	90	0	5
RC 300	Clinical Practice I	0	0	135	3
RC 310	Clinical Practice II	0	0	135	3
RC 140	Critical Care Principles of Respiratory Care	30	30	0	3
RC 141	Neonatal and Pediatric Respiratory Care	60	90	0	7
RC 142	Specialized Respiratory Care	60	30	0	5
RC 151	NBRC Review	30	0	0	2
RC 150	Advanced Respiratory Care	60	90	0	7
RC 500	Clinical Practice III	0	0	270	6
Total for Degree		705	450	540	74

Approximate time to complete degree program: 80 weeks (not including breaks)
¹Online General Education Course

Accreditation & Disclosures

Carrington College is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges (ACCJC/WASC), 10 Commercial Blvd., Suite 204, Novato, CA 94949, 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's accreditation and approvals, visit carrington.edu/accreditation.

Visit carrington.edu/student-consumer-info/ 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.

Pleasant Hill Campus

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