

2018-2019

SOUTHEAST  
COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE  
NEBRASKA

# RESPIRATORY CARE

Associate of  
Applied Science  
Degree

LINCOLN CAMPUS AND ONLINE

[www.southeast.edu/RespiratoryCare](http://www.southeast.edu/RespiratoryCare)



*The field of respiratory care has a promising future, and SCC is here to help you! Our program prepares students to become practitioners who evaluate, treat and care for patients with breathing or other cardiopulmonary disorders. Respiratory therapists follow specific, well-defined respiratory care procedures under the direction of physicians.*

## Program Overview:

Students complete a comprehensive curriculum in assessment, treatment, management, diagnostic evaluation, and care of patients with lung and heart problems. Supervised clinical practice gives students experience in common procedures such as administering medical gases, aerosol and inhaled medications, applying ventilator support, and testing techniques used in diagnosis, monitoring and treatment.

Upon completion of the program, students receive an Associate of Applied Science degree, at which time they are eligible to take the National Board for Respiratory Care exams and apply for state licensure.

Lab and clinical practice for the program is provided in cooperation with a variety of health care facilities throughout the region.

This program is located on the Lincoln Campus and online. Lab and clinical courses are hybrid, meaning a combination of face-to-face and online.

**The Respiratory Care program at Southeast Community College offers a traditional and online track.**

### Traditional Full-Time Track:

The traditional full-time (6 quarters/18 months) track is offered on the Lincoln Campus and accepts new students one time per year in the Summer (July) Quarter.

### Online Part-Time Track:

The online part-time (8 quarters/24 months) track accepts new students one time per year in the Winter (January) Quarter. Acceptance to the online program is dependent on securing a clinical/lab site.

### Types of jobs available:

Respiratory therapists work in a variety of settings. Employment of these professionals is expected to increase faster than the average for all occupations through the year 2020 because of substantial growth in the middle-aged and elderly populations, a development that is expected to heighten the incidence of cardiopulmonary disease.

Hospitals continue to employ the vast majority of therapists. For pulmonary disease management and prevention of admission to the hospital, a growing number of therapists can expect to work outside of hospitals in home health care services, offices of physicians, outpatient centers, skilled nursing facilities, and patients' homes.



The Respiratory Care program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care ([www.coarc.com](http://www.coarc.com)) 1248 Harwood Road, Bedford, TX 76021-4244, (817) 283-2835, [www.coarc.com](http://www.coarc.com). Programmatic Outcomes Data can be found at [www.coarc.com/47.html](http://www.coarc.com/47.html).

## Graduate Earnings

Recent graduates report an average starting wage of \$21.85 per hour.

### For more information contact:

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[tklopfenstein@southeast.edu](mailto:tklopfenstein@southeast.edu)

or Health Sciences Advisor  
402-437-2688, 800-642-4075 ext. 2688  
[healthprograms@southeast.edu](mailto:healthprograms@southeast.edu)

or the College Admissions Office  
Lincoln 402-437-2600, 800-642-4075 ext. 2600

Equal Opportunity/NonDiscrimination Policy - It is the policy of Southeast Community College to provide equal opportunity and nondiscrimination in all admission, attendance, and employment matters to all persons without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, marital status, national origin, ethnicity, veteran status, sexual orientation, disability, or other factors prohibited by law or College policy. Inquiries concerning the application of Southeast Community College's policies on equal opportunity and nondiscrimination should be directed to the Vice President for Access/Equity/Diversity, SCC Area Office, 301 S. 68th Street Place, Lincoln, NE 68510, 402-323-3412, FAX 402-323-3420, or [jsoto@southeast.edu](mailto:jsoto@southeast.edu). This publication should not be considered a contract between SCC and any prospective student. SCC's Board of Governors reserves the right to make changes in this publication during the life of the publication and without notice. A0753 - RESP (05/18)

## Admission Requirements:

1. Application to the program
2. Submit program advising sheet showing enrollment in the final quarter/semester of required courses or completion of all program requirements with the required grade-point average.
3. Transcripts from high school, GED® or other colleges (if applicable)

## General Education Requirements:

Contact your program advisor to select general education courses from each category which will meet your program's graduation requirements. See the General Education pages online for a complete list.

(One class from each area below).

Oral Communications	4.5
Written Communications	4.5
Mathematics	4.5
MATH1100 or higher	
Critical Thinking and Problem Solving	4.5
PSYC1250 Interpersonal Relations (4.5) or	
PSYC1810 Introduction to Psychology (4.5) or	
SOCI1010 Introduction to Sociology (4.5)	
	18.0 hours

## Program Requirements:

(May be transferred or earned at SCC. These courses must be completed before entry to the program. Contact a program advisor for specific courses.)

Human Anatomy & Physiology with Lab

## Respiratory Care Courses:

Student must complete the following RESP courses.

Course #	Course title	Credit hrs
RESP1111	Respiratory Anatomy & Physiology	5.0
RESP1113	Respiratory Pharmacology	3.0
RESP1114	Patient Care Principles	4.5
RESP1115	Respiratory Care Lab	.5
RESP1121	Cardiopulmonary Pathology	5.0
RESP1122	Respiratory Care Procedures	8.0
RESP1129	Clinical Education: Orientation	1.0
RESP1132	Mechanical Ventilation 1	6.5
RESP1135	Healthcare Research & Education	3.5
RESP1139	Clinical Education: General/Progressive Care	5.0
RESP1143	Respiratory Care Through the Human Lifespan	5.0
RESP1144	Rehab & Outpatient Services	4.0
RESP1147	Mechanical Ventilation 2	1.0
RESP1148	Critical Care Management	4.0
RESP1149	Clinical Education: Critical Care	5.0
RESP2251	Cardiovascular Principles	5.5
RESP2259	Clinical Education: ICU/Specialty 1	8.0
RESP2266	Introduction to Polysomnography	2.0
RESP2267	Clinical Simulations Lab	1.5
RESP2268	Seminar Review	4.0
RESP2269	Clinical Education: ICU/Specialty 2	8.0
		90.0 hours

## Special Program Requirements:

1. All students must receive a cumulative GPA of 2.5 in the general education courses and the science courses. Science courses include Anatomy, Physiology. General education courses include oral communication, written communication, math, critical thinking and problem solving.
2. A current Basic Life Support (BLS) for the Health Care Provider (HCP) by American Heart Association.
3. Submit completed Health Statement to the Health Sciences Division (upon application to the program.) A Criminal Background Check will be required of each student. Based on the background check, a student may be prevented from taking certain courses, accessing certain laboratory experiences, or completing the program. A non-refundable fee of \$45 will be assessed for this CBC. Please note: Misdemeanor or felony convictions may prevent a graduate from acquiring a state license. (Contact the State Board of Respiratory Care with questions.)
4. Students admitted to a Health Sciences program at Southeast Community College requiring a clinical rotation at a contracted healthcare facility will submit to initial drug and alcohol testing prior to the first clinical rotation.
5. A two-step skin test for tuberculosis and/or a chest X-ray are required. Flu immunization is required.
6. All RESP courses completed with a grade of 75% (C+) or higher to progress through the program. (Classes must be taken in sequence. If a C+ is not achieved, the student will be dropped from the program.)
7. Complete profession awareness activity (Contact Program Chair for specific requirements.)
8. Complete program orientation after being accepted into program.
9. Program offers Web-based courses but requires supervised clinicals/labs at identified locations.



## Frequently Asked Questions:

### Q: What are some tasks performed by respiratory therapists?

- Recommend treatment methods after performing diagnostic testing
- Consult with physicians to recommend a change in therapy based on the evaluation of the patient
- Analyze breathing and blood specimens to determine levels of oxygen and other gases
- Manage ventilators and artificial airway devices for patients who can't breathe normally on their own
- Educate patients and families about lung disease to maximize their recovery, prevent hospital readmission and improve quality of life

### Q: What are some types of jobs that respiratory therapists hold?

- Respiratory therapy is a profession that is constantly changing and growing. Within the profession there are areas of specialization where a therapist can work with children, elderly, in a home-care setting, an acute-care hospital, sleep labs, and diagnostics labs.

### Q: Are there opportunities to continue my education?

- Graduates can continue their education and complete a bachelor's degree at an affiliate university or college, advance into hospital management or education, or change professions into other health care fields.

### Q: What does the job market look like for respiratory therapists?

- According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of respiratory therapists is expected to increase faster than average during the next decade. While U.S. employment in general is forecast to increase by 15 percent, the need for RTs will grow by up to 26 percent. With demand for RTs on the rise, salaries are following suit.

### Q: How do I get started?

- If you are interested in the Respiratory Care program, contact the program chair. He will be able to assist you in scheduling a shadowing experience, determine the prerequisite courses you will need and answer your questions. More information is available about the profession at <http://www.aarc.org/careers/what-is-an-rt/life-breath-video/>



## Estimated Expenses

Nebraska Resident tuition/fee rate is \$69.50 per credit hour. Out-of-state tuition/fee rate is \$83.50 per credit hour. Graduation fee is \$25.

Housing is available at Beatrice and Milford campuses only. Tuition, books and fees are dependent upon classes taken each quarter.

Students should plan a budget that includes room, meals, clothing, laundry, medical care, recreation and entertainment, transportation, insurance, etc.

### LINCOLN CAMPUS (FULL-TIME STUDENT)

FIRST QUARTER		FOURTH QUARTER	
Tuition And Fees	\$904	Tuition And Fees	\$1,077
Books	590	Books	120
Special Fee	5	Special Fee	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,499</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,202</b>

SECOND QUARTER		FIFTH QUARTER	
Tuition And Fees	\$973	Tuition And Fees	\$1,182
Books	140	Books	135
Special Fee	95	Special Fee	85
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,208</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,402</b>

THIRD QUARTER		SIXTH QUARTER	
Tuition And Fees	\$1,043	Tuition And Fees	\$1,077
Books	110	Books	110
Special Fee	5	Special Fee	245
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,158</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,432</b>

**Total Estimate For Program** **\$7,900**

### DISTANCE (PART-TIME STUDENT)

FIRST QUARTER	RESIDENT	NON-RSD
Tuition And Fees	\$661	\$794
Books	590	590
Special Fee	5	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,256</b>	<b>\$1,389</b>

SECOND QUARTER	RESIDENT	NON-RSD
Tuition And Fees	\$591	\$710
Books	140	140
Special Fee	95	95
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$826</b>	<b>\$945</b>

THIRD QUARTER	RESIDENT	NON-RSD
Tuition And Fees	\$626	\$752
Books	110	110
Special Fee	5	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$741</b>	<b>\$867</b>

FOURTH QUARTER	RESIDENT	NON-RSD
Tuition And Fees	\$800	\$961
Books	120	120
Special Fee	5	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$925</b>	<b>\$1,086</b>

FIFTH QUARTER	RESIDENT	NON-RSD
Tuition And Fees	\$695	\$835
Books	135	135
Special Fee	5	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$835</b>	<b>\$975</b>

SIXTH QUARTER	RESIDENT	NON-RSD
Tuition And Fees	\$939	\$1,128
Books	110	110
Special Fee	5	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,054</b>	<b>\$1,243</b>

SEVENTH QUARTER	RESIDENT	NON-RSD
Tuition And Fees	\$904	\$1,086
Books	135	135
Special Fee	85	85
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,124</b>	<b>\$1,306</b>

EIGHTH QUARTER	RESIDENT	NON-RSD
Tuition And Fees	\$1,078	\$1,295
Books	110	110
Special Fee	245	245
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,433</b>	<b>\$1,650</b>

**TOTAL ESTIMATE For Program** **RESIDENT \$8,194** **NON-RSD \$9,461**

### ADDITIONAL RELATED EXPENSES:

Student Health Statement	\$55
Stethoscope	120
Scissors	12
Lab coat/scrubs (3)	160
Patches	8