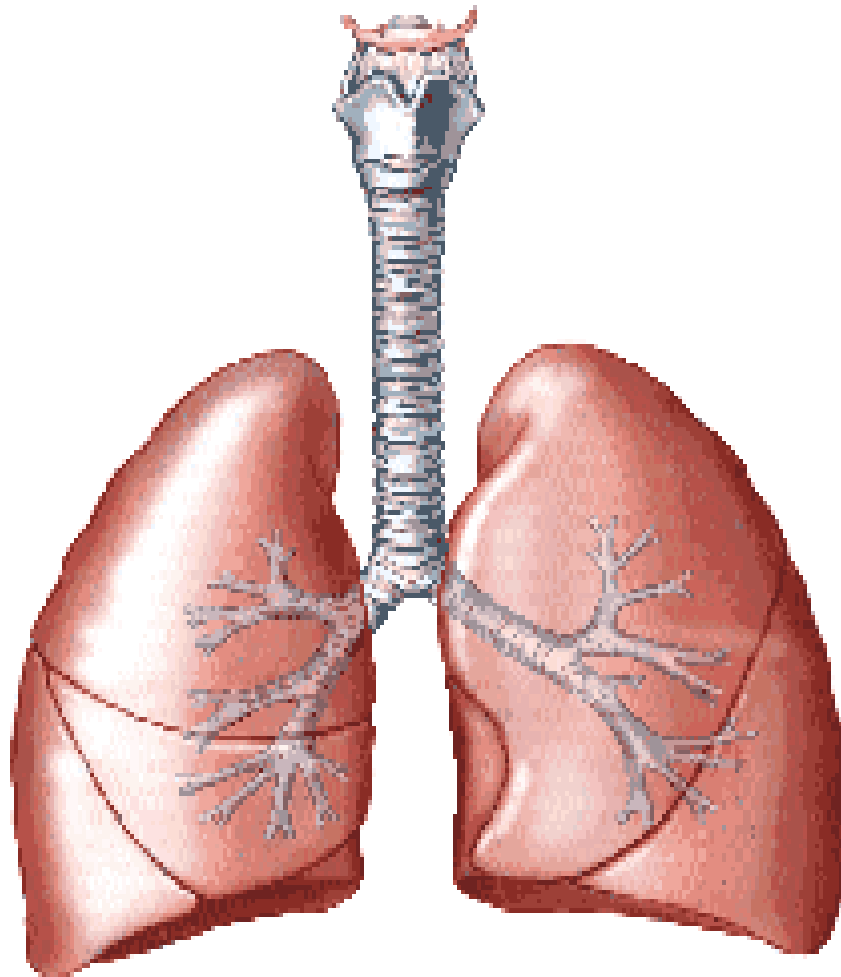


Respiratory Therapy 2012*



*Subject to change; for additional information, see
www.cvcc.edu/health_services

A word about criminal background checks for health programs...

SOME FACILITIES WILL REQUIRE STUDENTS TO UNDERGO CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS AND/OR DRUG TESTING; STUDENTS MAY BE REQUIRED TO PAY THE FEES ASSOCIATED WITH THESE SCREENINGS.

CLINICAL FACILITIES MAY REFUSE ACCESS TO CLINICAL EXPERIENCES BASED ON THE CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS AND/OR DRUG TESTING, WHICH WOULD RESULT IN THE STUDENT BEING UNABLE TO CONTINUE IN THE PROGRAM.

Catawba Valley Community College

Respiratory Therapy Program - Fall Semester 2012

We are glad you have chosen CVCC to further your educational goals. This packet provides you with information to assist you with the admissions process for the Respiratory Therapy program. **Please carefully review all information provided in this packet.** If you have questions regarding this information, please contact Cathy Bitsche, Department Head for Respiratory Therapy, at 828/327-7000, extension 4391, or at cbitsche@cvcc.edu, or Caroline Farmer, Director of Health Services Admissions, at 825/327-7000, extension 4218, or at cfarmer@cvcc.edu.

General Information

For general information related to the profession of respiratory therapy, refer to the Bureau of Labor Statistics provided by the U.S. Bureau of Labor at <http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos084.htm>. For additional information about the Respiratory Care Profession: www.AARC.org.

What is the class schedule/length for the Respiratory Therapy program? Respiratory classes are held during the day. Students are expected to participate in classroom, laboratory, and clinical experiences*. The Respiratory Therapy program consists of five semesters, taking two years to complete. Practitioners must be licensed by the NC Respiratory Care Board. Graduates of the program are eligible to apply for and take the two-tiered exam offered by the National Board for Respiratory Care. Successful completion of the entry-level exam confers the certified respiratory therapist (CRT) credential. Successful completion of the advanced practitioner exam confers the registered respiratory therapist (RRT) credential. Applicants who wish to do so may take the general education/related coursework for the Respiratory Therapy program prior to being admitted to the program. Please note that taking these courses does not shorten your program length as the actual Respiratory courses take two years (five semesters) to complete.

***Criminal Background Check: These clinical facilities may require students to undergo criminal background checks and/or drug testing. Clinical facilities may refuse access to clinical experiences based on the results of criminal background checks and/or drug testing, which would result in the student being unable to continue in the Respiratory Program.**

Admission: The Respiratory Therapy program begins in the Fall Semester. Admission to the program is based upon completion of all minimum requirements as listed on the attached "Minimum Requirements" sheet by the specified deadline date, the number of vacancies in the program, and the competitive selection process. To begin the admissions process, complete the CVCC Application for Admission and visit with a counselor in Student Services by the specified deadline date.

Costs: College tuition is set by the North Carolina State Legislature and is subject to change. Students are required to purchase a variety of books, clinical uniforms, malpractice insurance, accident insurance, and other fees as set by the College. The approximate cost for the Respiratory Therapy program is \$4500. (This figure is based upon in-state tuition rates and reflects an approximate cost only.)

Financial Aid: All applicants are encouraged to apply for financial aid by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). For information about financial aid, contact the Financial Aid Office at 828-327-7000.

Computer Access: Coursework requires ready access to a reliable computer with Word, PowerPoint and Excel. Upon application to CVCC, students are assigned a CVCC email address. It is the student's responsibility to open his/her email account frequently as the College provides crucial program information through this email account.

You may be notified via your CVCC email account concerning your status in the program.

RESPIRATORY THERAPY PROGRAM Fall Semester 2012 - - Minimum Requirements

These minimum requirements must be met prior to being considered for competitive selection for the Respiratory Therapy program.

Applicants must complete ALL the following requirements by March 1, 2012 to be considered for admission for Fall Semester 2012.

1. Applicants must complete the CVCC application for admission and the application must be received in Student Services. Applications completed **on-line** will **NOT** be processed until the applicant comes in and meets with a Student Services counselor **prior** to the requirements deadline stated above.
2. Applicants must be a high school graduate or have received a GED. An official high school transcript showing graduation date or an official copy of the GED scores **must be received by CVCC. To be considered official, transcript/GED score reports must be received by the College in a sealed envelope or they will not be accepted.** The high school transcript requirement is waived if the applicant has graduated from a regionally accredited two-year or four-year college.
3. Applicants must provide official transcripts from all previously attended colleges. **To be considered official, transcripts must be received by the College in a sealed envelope or they will not be accepted.** Grades less than "C" are not transferable.
4. All applicants must "shadow" a respiratory therapist in a hospital setting. See the enclosed Shadowing Information Form for directions on scheduling the shadowing.
5. **Applicants who do not meet testing exemptions must take the required Reading, Writing placement tests.**

Applicants who are required to test must either place out of or complete the following courses with a grade of "C" or better to be considered for the Respiratory Therapy program: RED 070, 080, 090 – ENG 070, 080, 090/090A. **Please contact the Advising Center to discuss the results of your placement testing.**

6. Applicants who have taken coursework at CVCC or are currently enrolled in coursework at CVCC must have a minimum cumulative (overall) grade point average of 2.00 on all CVCC coursework.
7. Applicants must complete one course in chemistry at CVCC or another college* with a minimum grade of C. (*An official transcript must be provided.) **Applicants who have not completed a college-level chemistry course (CHM 100 level or higher—CHM 130 is recommended) and who do not meet the criteria specified in the enclosed "Testing Exemptions" will be required to take the Math placement test. You may be required to take developmental mathematics coursework prior to enrolling in a chemistry course.** Please contact the Advising Center for details.

Applicants applying for admission for the Fall Semester 2012 must complete **ALL** minimum admission requirements by the specified deadline. **The Respiratory Therapy program expects to accept 15 students for fall. Completion of the minimum admission requirements is not a guarantee of acceptance.** Applicants will be notified of acceptance in May 2012.

Applicants not admitted for Fall 2012 must see a counselor in Student Services to re-apply if they wish to be considered for the next fall class. CVCC does NOT use waiting lists for any health services program. Health program applicants must re-apply for each year they wish to be considered for admission.

Competitive Criteria for Selection for the Respiratory Therapy Program

The following process will be used to select the best qualified applicants out of those who completed all minimum admission requirements by the specified deadline.

Each applicant will be evaluated using the criteria listed below. The points an applicant receives from each of these criteria will be added together. Those applicants receiving the highest number of points will be admitted to the program until the class is filled. **The Respiratory Therapy program expects to accept 15 students.**

Criterion 1: Past Academic Performance

- a) Assignment of points for all general education courses in the RT curriculum
- b) Assignment of points for the applicant's chemistry grade

Optional Bonus Points: Health Care Experience

Letter of recommendation from supervisor documenting experience in another health care profession (minimum of six (6) months FT equiv. since 3/1/09)

If there are vacancies in the program after the competitive selection process is complete, applicants who applied **by the specified deadline date** and who will successfully complete the minimum requirements for admission by the end of spring semester would be eligible to be **considered** for admission. The March and (if needed) May selections will be based on the competitive admission policy and available vacancies in the program.

Completion of the minimum admission requirements is not a guarantee of acceptance.

After initial acceptance, but before the first day of class, applicants are required to:

- 1) attend an orientation session with the Director of the Respiratory Therapy program
- 2) submit a health examination form verifying that he/she appears to be able to participate in the activities of a health professional in a clinical setting.

Each applicant is responsible for completion and confirmation of admission requirements and informing the College of any personal information changes. Personal information changes require appropriate identification. Please come to the Student Records Office to make these changes.

Mail Applications and Transcripts to:

Catawba Valley Community College
Student Records/Allied Health Admissions
2550 Highway 70 SE
Hickory, NC 28602

For additional information, contact Cathy Bitsche, the Respiratory Therapy Department Head, at 828/327-7000, extension 4391 or Robin Ross, the Clinical Coordinator for the Respiratory Therapy Program at extension 4462.

(Admission criteria outlined in this packet are subject to change.)

RT Selection Process Tally Sheet

*This tally sheet is provided for informational purposes only and is subject to change.
The official tally sheet used for calculation will determine points used in selecting the class.*

Applicant Name _____ **Student ID#** _____

Criterion 1: Points for General Education Courses and Chemistry

<u>General Education Course/Point Assignment</u>	<u>College (if not CVCC)</u>	<u>Course (if not one listed)</u>
BIO 163 Basic Anatomy & Physiology <input type="checkbox"/> A = 12 <input type="checkbox"/> B = 8 <input type="checkbox"/> C = 5	_____	_____
BIO 175 General Microbiology <input type="checkbox"/> A = 12 <input type="checkbox"/> B = 8 <input type="checkbox"/> C = 5	_____	_____
Humanities/Fine Arts Elective <input type="checkbox"/> A = 8 <input type="checkbox"/> B = 4 <input type="checkbox"/> C = 2	_____	_____
ENG 111 Expository Writing <input type="checkbox"/> A = 8 <input type="checkbox"/> B = 4 <input type="checkbox"/> C = 2	_____	_____
ENG 112 or 113 or 114 <input type="checkbox"/> A = 8 <input type="checkbox"/> B = 4 <input type="checkbox"/> C = 2	_____	_____
Social/Behavioral Science Elective <input type="checkbox"/> A = 8 <input type="checkbox"/> B = 4 <input type="checkbox"/> C = 2	_____	_____
CHM 130 or higher <input type="checkbox"/> A = 12 <input type="checkbox"/> B = 8 <input type="checkbox"/> C = 5	_____	_____
CHM 130A <input type="checkbox"/> A = 5 <input type="checkbox"/> B = 3 <input type="checkbox"/> C = 1	_____	_____

(A 100-level chemistry will be accepted, but CHM 130 is recommended)

Criterion 1 Point Total: _____ **(Maximum 73 Points)**

Optional Bonus Points - Work Experience: _____ **(Maximum 12 Points)**

Criterion 1 Points: _____ **+ Optional Bonus Points:** _____ **= Total Points:** _____
(Maximum 73 Points) **(Maximum 12 Points)** **(Maximum 85 Points)**

Shadowing Information

All applicants must “shadow” a respiratory therapist in a hospital setting. The Director of RT Clinical Education at CVCC will conduct the shadowing experience. Shadowing appointments must be scheduled with Robin Ross by calling 828-327-7000, Ext. 4462.

Applicants will meet with the Clinical Director at a local clinical site and will be exposed to the various duties, equipment, and procedures relating to the performance of Respiratory Therapy. Shadowing experiences may take 2-3 hours, depending on the availability of procedures to observe that day.

Applicants are expected to be dressed in casual business attire, with NO jeans, t-shirts or open-toed shoes.

Meeting times will be arranged so that groups of 3-4 may go together. Applicants will meet the Clinical Director in the front lobby of the predetermined clinical site. If an applicant is unable to keep their shadowing appointment, it is the applicant's responsibility to reschedule at a later date.

At the end of the shadowing experience, the Clinical Director will provide each applicant with a form documenting completion of the shadowing. **It is the applicant's responsibility to return the form to Caroline Farmer, Director of Health Services Admissions, by the specified deadline date.**

To set up your shadowing appointment, contact Robin Ross, Director of Clinical Education for the Respiratory Department, at 828/327-7000, extension 4462.

Essential Functions for Respiratory Therapy Students

The following activities are examples of the types of activities which a student in the Respiratory Therapy program will be required to perform in order to successfully complete the program. Please note that these examples are not all inclusive.

- 1. Critical Thinking:** Respiratory Therapy students should possess critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment. For example: students must be able to identify cause and effect relationships in clinical situations; develop and/or participate in the development of respiratory care patient plans.
- 2. Interpersonal Skills:** Respiratory Therapy students shall possess interpersonal abilities sufficient for interaction with individuals, families, groups, etc. from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds. A student must be able to establish rapport with patients, families and other health care members.
- 3. Communication Skills:** Respiratory Therapy students shall possess communication skills sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form. For example: explain treatment procedures, initiate health teaching, document and interpret therapeutic interventions and patient/client responses.
- 4. Mobility:** Respiratory Therapy students shall possess physical abilities sufficient to move room to room and maneuver in small spaces, stand and walk extensive periods of time. For example: move around in patient's rooms, work spaces and treatment areas, administer cardiopulmonary procedures.
- 5. Motor Skills:** Respiratory Therapy students shall possess gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective respiratory care procedures. For example: set up, calibrate and use equipment, position patients/clients, perform CPR.
- 6. Hearing:** Respiratory Therapy students must possess auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs. For example: hear monitor alarms, emergency signals, auscultatory breath and heart sounds, cries for help.
- 7. Visual:** Respiratory Therapy students shall possess visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary for patient care. For example: observe patient/client responses, see calibration and alarms for equipment, patient assessment.
- 8. Tactile:** Respiratory Therapy students shall possess tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment. For example: auscultation, percussion, palpation and the therapeutic modalities related to therapeutic interventions. For example: insertion of arterial lines, chest tubes, perform percussion and vibration treatments.
- 9. Weight-Bearing:** Respiratory Therapy students shall possess the ability to lift and/or manipulate 45-50 lbs. For example: position patients/clients, move equipment.
- 10. Cognitive Abilities:** Respiratory Therapy students shall possess ability to be oriented to time, person and place, organize responsibilities, and make decisions. For example: student shall assess patient/client complaints and implement appropriate treatment.
- 11. Occupational Exposures:** Respiratory Therapy students may be exposed to communicable diseases and/or body fluids, toxic substances, medicinal preparations and latex. Students shall use appropriate precautions at all times. For example: student may be assigned a client/patient with a communicable disease and shall provide total care using universal precautions.

Respiratory Therapy Program Estimated Additional Costs

The costs listed below are **estimates**. Please be aware these are subject to change.

Items/Services	Estimated Costs
Scrubs (2 sets) & Lab Coat (1)	\$150.00 (Fall Semester)
Clinic Shoes (white tennis shoes or nurses shoes, leather with closed heel and toe)	\$100.00 initial (Spring Semester)
Criminal Background Check/Drug Screening	Approximately @85.00
Medical Malpractice Insurance	Approximately \$30.00/year (Each Fall)
Stethoscope, scissors, HEPA mask, calculator, goggles	\$165.00 (Spring Semester)
Review books for Boards - ordered through Kettering National	\$300.00
Final Mock Exams	\$100.00
NC provisional License & Criminal Background Check	\$138.00
NC Initial License	\$175.00
Credentialing Fee: \$190.00 for CRT/\$390 for RRT	\$580.00
Pinning Ceremony – provided by the underclassmen for the graduating class	Based on Student Planning/Fund Raising (@ \$20.00)
Pins	\$50.00 (Final Spring Semester)
Travel Expenses – gas and parking	@700.00/semester

**These estimates do not include tuition and fees, which are set by the state.
Please factor in the cost of tuition and fees when planning your finances.**

A Hepatitis B vaccine is needed to attend clinicals. This series can be taken at the health department for a cost of around \$130.00. Also needed is the TB test (x2). The estimated cost is \$56.00.

- There is a physical required prior to acceptance. This cost varies.
 - A flu shot is strongly encouraged prior to start of clinical. Approximate cost is \$25.00.
- ** Most Respiratory textbooks are purchased the 1st semester of the program, and will cost approx. \$500 - \$600. Book costs the remaining semesters will be approx. \$100/semester.

Remember: To be considered for Fall 2012, the deadline to apply and submit all admission requirements is **March 1, 2012.**

Applicants will be notified of acceptance in May 2012.