PREPARATION FOR THE RT MAJOR

Students seeking admission to the Respiratory Therapy major should consider the following information:

- Applicants for program must have a negative criminal background check and pass a drug screening procedure to participate in any clinical classes.

- Prior to entry into clinical training students are required to take a state approved “Legal Obligations and Ethical Responsibilities of Respiratory Care” course.

- SMC’s RT Program is an “Advanced Practice” level Program, thus graduates are eligible for the national “Registered Respiratory Therapist” exams, as well as the State’s entry-level exam for entry into practice.

- Prospective applicants should consider taking the introductory RT course, RT 1 to find out more about the program and the profession.

- Appointments with the RT Faculty advisor are available by calling for an appointment.

- Clinical experience will be arranged in a variety of excellent medical facilities throughout the Greater Los Angeles area.

The costs associated with the program over the two years are approximately $3,000 - $4,000.

Requirements for Admission are subject to change.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Main campus and mailing address:
Health Sciences, Santa Monica College
1900 Pico Boulevard
Santa Monica, CA 90405
Respiratory Therapy Program/Satellite Location:
3171 Bundy Drive
Los Angeles, CA
(located next to the Santa Monica Airport)
Respiratory Therapy Counseling:
RT Faculty Office: (310) 434-3463
Fax: 310-434-3469

RESPIRATORY CARE BOARD of CALIFORNIA
444 North 3rd Street, Suite 270
Sacramento, CA 95811
Main Telephone: (916) 323-9983
Toll Free in California (866) 375-0386
Fax: (916) 323-9999
Website: www.rcb.ca.gov
E-mail: rcbinfo@dca.ca.gov

COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION FOR ALLIED HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAMS:
1361 Park Street
Clearwater, FL 33756
Phone: 727-210-2350
Website: http://www.caahep.org

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Santa Monica College
Associate Degree in Respiratory Therapy Program

Changing Lives Through Excellence in Education

Santa Monica College in partnership with East Los Angeles College is a unique consortium, pooling the resources and faculty from both community colleges. The partnership was the recipient of the California Community College Student Success award.

Upon completion of the respiratory therapy program, graduates receive their Associate in Arts Degree – RT Majors are eligible for licensure as a “Respiratory Care Practitioner” (RCP) in California, through the Respiratory Care Board of California. Immediately upon licensure, as a graduate of an “Advanced Practitioner” program, graduates may take the National Board for Respiratory Care Advanced Practitioner Registry Exams, to earn the national credential: “Registered Respiratory Therapist, RRT”.

Rev. 06/09
ASSOCIATE DEGREE IN
RESPIRATORY THERAPY (RT) MAJOR
CURRICULUM

PROGRAM PRE-REQUISITES REQUIREMENTS
(21 units)
Anatomy 1 (4)
Physiology 3* (4)
Chemistry 10 (5)
Speech 1 (3)
Math 31 (5)
*Physiology must be completed within the last 7 years at
time of entry to RT program

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS
FOR ASSOCIATE DEGREE
Students should consult with an SMC academic
counselor to insure they meet the current general
education requirements for the SMC Associate
degree. Although not mandatory, it is strongly
advised that students have these requirements met
prior to completion of the RT course sequence.

RESPIRATORY THERAPY SEQUENCE,
FIRST YEAR

Fall Semester 1: (15 units)
RT 1, Introduction to Respiratory Therapy (2)
RT 29, Neonatal/Pediatric Respiratory Care (4)
RT 60, Respiratory Physiology (4)
Microbiology 1, Fundamentals*+ (5)
*Microbiology must be completed within the last 7 years
at time of entry to RT program

Spring Semester 2: (14 units)
RT 2, Fundamentals of RT** (4)
RT 30, Adult Critical Care Monitoring and
Diagnostics (3)
RT 70, Respiratory Pathophysiology (4)
Physics 12, Introductory Physics+ (3)
+ Microbiology and Physics may be taken prior to
entry into RT program. (recommended)
** This course is ONLY offered on the ELAC campus.

SECOND YEAR RT PROGRAM

All RT program coursework is offered on the ELAC
campus. These courses can be transferred to SMC
upon program completion and applied toward the
SMC Associate Degree requirements.

Summer Session 3: (4 units)
RT 15, Introduction to Clinical Practice (4)

Fall Semester 4: (11 units)
RT 3, Application of RT & Clinical I (5)
RT 4, Application of RT & Clinical II (5)
RT 27, Physician Clinical Rounds (1)

Winter Session 5: (1 unit)
RT 31, Neonatal Resuscitation (1) Spring

Session 6: (11 units)
RT 5, Application of RT & Clinical III (5)
RT 11, Application of RT & Clinical IV (5)
RT 28, Physician Clinical Rounds (1)

All courses in the approved RT program must be
completed with a “C” grade or better to meet the
California Respiratory Care Board Licensure
requirements.

Students must obtain an Associate Degree from Santa
Monica College or East Los Angeles College upon
completion of the program requirements, in order to
meet minimum California licensure requirements.

APPLICATION & ACCEPTANCE
PROCEDURES

Students may apply for admission to the RT
program once they can submit documentation
that they have completed all the program pre-
requisites. Contact the Respiratory Therapy
program faculty member at 310 434-3463 for an
application or for a counseling appointment.

For purposes of application to the RT Program,
college transcripts covering all program pre-
requisite coursework must be submitted before
the application will be considered complete and
dated for purposes of application consideration.
For courses taken at SMC or any of the Los
Angeles Community College Districts’
campuses, the student is only required to submit
a copy of their “unofficial internet” transcript for
program purposes. For any pre-requisite work
taken at any other college, “Official” transcripts
must be mailed directly to Health Sciences Dept.
attention RT Program.

Admission to the RT program occurs once a year
in the fall semester. Applications are accepted on
a continuous basis for each Fall Freshman class.
Once the Fall class for a specific year is “full”,
applications will begin to be accepted for the
following Fall class. Students are admitted based
on application date.

For purposes of evaluation for Associate Degree
requirements, official transcripts must be sent
directly from all colleges to:

Admissions & Records
1900 Pico Blvd. Santa Monica, CA. 90405

For all official transcripts, this must be done no
later than the final semester the student is in the
RT program.

Requirements for Admission are subject to change