ASSOCIATE DEGREE IN RESPIRATORY THERAPY CURRICULUM

PROGRAM PRE-REQUISITES: (22 or 24 units)
- Anatomy 1 (4)
- Physiology 3 (4)
- Chemistry 10 (5)
- Communication Studies 11 (3)
- English 1 (3)
- Math 18 (3) or 20 (5)

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ASSOCIATE DEGREE

Students should consult with an SMC RT Counselor to ensure 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.

*** For SMC Associate Degree requirements please visit: http://www.smc.edu/

COURSE RECENCY REQUIREMENTS

Human Physiology must be completed within the last 7 years at the time of admission into RT Program. If Microbiology was taken prior to admission (recommended), it must have been completed within the last 7 years at time of entry into RT Program.

Students must obtain an Associate Degree from Santa Monica College upon completion of the program requirements in order to meet minimum CA licensure requirements.

Students should contact the Health Sciences Department and request an RT academic counseling appointment with an RT Counselor to establish their general education plan, and to have transferring courses evaluated. Please call (310) 434-3446 and request this appointment.

TYPICAL COURSE SEQUENCE

FIRST YEAR: Once a student is admitted to program, an Education Plan is developed that student must follow:

Fall Semester 1: (14 units)
- RT 1, Introduction to Respiratory Therapy (2)
- RT 60, Respiratory Physiology (4)
- *Microbiology 1, Fundamentals (5)
- *Physics 12, Introductory Physics (3)
- *Microbiology and Physics may be taken prior to entry into RT program (Recommended)

Spring Semester 2: (11 units)
- RT 2, Fundamentals of RT (4)
- RT 30, Adult Critical Care Monitoring and Diagnostics (3)
- RT 70, Respiratory Pathophysiology (4)

SECOND YEAR: All RT coursework from this point on in the program is on the ELAC campus. These courses are transferred back 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: (15 units)
- RT 3, Application of RT & Clinical I (5)
- RT 4, Application of RT & Clinical II (5)
- RT 27, Physician Clinical Rounds (1)
- RT 29, Neonatal/Pediatric Respiratory Care (4)

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

APPLICATION & ACCEPTANCE PROCEDURES

Students may apply for admission to the Respiratory Therapy program once they can submit documentation verifying completion of all program prerequisite courses with a grade of C or better. Please visit www.smc.edu/RTLink for an application.

Program Applications with attached official transcripts (Photocopies are OK) from all colleges attended must be mailed/delivered to the program office of your desired Associate Degree campus.

Assignment of an application date is based on the date and time a completed application is received by the program office of the desired campus.

Admission to the Respiratory Therapy program occurs once a year in the fall semester. Applications are accepted on a continuous basis for each Fall Freshmen class with an application deadline of April 1st for each Fall admissions.

Once the fall class for a specific year is “full”, applications are accepted for the following fall class. Students are admitted on the basis of the completion of admission criteria, and the completed 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. This must be done no later than the final semester the student is in the RT program.

Requirements for admission are subject to change

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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.
- Applicants must be able to meet the Technical Standards for Respiratory Therapy Students. For more information see the ELAC/SMC Respiratory Therapy Student Handbook.
- SMC’s RT Program is an “Advanced Practice” level Program, thus graduates are eligible for the “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 an RT Counselor or an RT Faculty advisor are available by calling 310-434-3446 for an appointment.
- Clinical experience will be arranged in a variety of excellent medical facilities throughout the greater LA area.
- Prior to entry into clinical training students are required to take a state approved “Legal Obligations and Ethical Responsibilities of Respiratory Care Practitioners in CA” course.

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

ENROLLMENT IN THE RESPIRATORY THERAPY PROGRAM IS OPEN TO PERSONS REGARDLESS OF SEX, AGE, MARITAL STATUS, DISABILITY, ETHNIC GROUP, RELIGION OR NATIONAL ORIGIN.

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
Website: http://www.smc.edu/RTLink

The ELAC/SMC RT program is accredited by CoARC
1248 Harwood Road
Bedford, TX 76021-4244
817-283-2835
Fax: 817-354-8519
Website: www.coarc.com

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.

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Santa Monica College
Associate Degree in Respiratory Therapy Program

A unique consortium, in Partnership
with East Los Angeles College

Santa Monica College offers an Associate Degree “Advanced Practice” Respiratory Therapy Program in partnership with East Los Angeles College.

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. In addition, as an “Advanced Practitioner” graduate, graduates after licensure can immediately apply for the National Board for Respiratory Care’s, Advanced Practitioner Registry Exams, to earn the national credential: “Registered Respiratory Therapist, RRT”.

Tel: 310-434-3446