

COLLEGE OF DUPAGE
Entry into
RESPIRATORY CARE
Professional Practice
Associate of Applied Science Degree
Fall Semester 2021

**THE APPLICATION DEADLINE IS:
June 16, 2021 at 5 pm**

Accreditation

The Respiratory Care program at College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (www.coarc.com).

Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care
1248 Harwood Road
Bedford, Texas 76021-4244
(817) 283-2835

Note: Please see specific program registration or admission packets for detailed information on when to begin completing health requirements, drug tests, CPR, criminal background checks and proof of insurance submission. Timing varies depending upon either entrance to or participation in the clinical component of a given program. Funds paid to Edward Corporate Health or to a personal health care provider/ source, CastleBranch.com, insurance companies, and funds used towards CPR completion are not eligible for any sort of refund from College of DuPage if the required course(s) are not successfully completed.

Students are not accepted into this program until they receive an official acceptance e-mail from the College of DuPage Nursing & Health Sciences Division. Program acceptance does not guarantee program completion. Preference in admission is given to residents of District 502 who meet the stated minimum acceptance criteria for the program.

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the Respiratory Care Program at the College of DuPage. This packet contains general information that should promote your understanding of what a Respiratory Care Practitioner does, the process and requirements for application to the Program and what to expect after successfully completing the Program. The Respiratory Care Program is looking for students who are energetic, dedicated, enthusiastic and reliable, and who possess the desire to deliver quality patient care. Students should be adult learners who are able to adapt to a variety of teaching/learning styles. Competent communication skills are required. If you have any questions about the Program after reviewing this packet, please do not hesitate to contact us.

The goal of the Respiratory Care Program is to prepare graduates with demonstrated competence in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and affective (behavior) learning domains of respiratory care practice as performed by registered respiratory therapists (RRTs).

Sincerely,

Barbara Coe, MS, RRT
Program Chair
HSC 2202U
(630) 942-2518
coebarb@cod.edu

What is a Respiratory Care Practitioner?

A Respiratory Care Practitioner is a board certified and state licensed provider of healthcare services whose practice is centered on the cardiopulmonary system. Most Respiratory Care Practitioners work in the hospital setting where we provide services to patients in all age ranges. In the hospital, a Respiratory Care Practitioner will typically:

- Administer inhaled medical gases and medications
- Provide therapies to maintain clear airways
- Perform arterial artery punctures and analyze the blood for the adequacy of oxygenation and ventilation
- Assist in cardiopulmonary resuscitation efforts in the emergency room or elsewhere
- Manage patients on mechanical ventilators and assist in their transport by land or air
- Test patients for pulmonary function and assist in pulmonary rehabilitation exercises
- Educate patients with asthma and COPD in the best methods for managing their disease
- Screen patients for sleep disordered breathing

Respiratory Care Practitioners can also work in home care, physician offices, and in the private sector as clinical specialists or marketing representatives for providers of respiratory care equipment.

More information about the profession can be found at the American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC) web site: www.aarc.org.

How do I know if I am accepted into the Program?

After the application deadline, all of the applications will be evaluated and ranked by the Respiratory Care Admissions Committee. A cohort of students will be selected for admission and e-mails notifying the applicants will be sent 1-3 weeks after the application deadline via e-mail by the third week in July. All applicants will be notified of their status (accepted, alternate list or did not meet the prerequisites). The admission e-mail will also include instructions on what classes to register for in the Fall semester for accepted students. If a student who is accepted into the program declines their seat, the alternate list is used to fill the open seats. Students who are not accepted into the program must reapply the following year to be considered for admission.

How much will the program cost?

For in-district residents, approximate cost for tuition, fees, books and other program expenses are outlined below:

Item	Estimated Cost
Non-Refundable College of DuPage Application	\$20.00
Non-Refundable Associate Degree RESP Program Application Fee	\$50.00
In-District Tuition (based on 64 credits) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 46 credits of Respiratory courses (https://cod.edu/costs/tuition/)• 18 credits of General Education courses	\$8,832.00
Fees (Respiratory coursework only) *subject to increase	\$1342.00
Uniform (lab coat, scrubs, stethoscope)	\$150.00
Books: Program only; print books plus software license fee. Cost through Follett Bookstore	\$1094.00
Criminal Background Check, Drug Screen, & Medical Document Manager (CastleBranch.com)	\$101.50
Health Requirements (see Health Requirement Packet for details)	\$336.00
Trajecsyst Online Clinical Management Tracking System	\$150.00
AARC membership 25.00/year for entirety of program	\$50.00
ESTIMATED TOTAL	\$12,125.50

TUITION COSTS*

64 semester credit hours at the [current tuition rate](#)* for in-district (District 502) residents (included respiratory courses and general education courses). [Special Residency classifications](#) are also available to applicable students.

* Subject to change without notice; prerequisite costs for math and science are included. Tuition costs will be reduced if general education coursework is already completed.

What are the courses required for the Respiratory Care Program?

Fall 2021			Credit Hours
Respiratory Care	1101	Basic Respiratory Care	3
Respiratory Care	1105	Respiratory Assessment and Procedures	4
Respiratory Care	1120	Cardiopulmonary Anatomy & Physiology	4
Respiratory Care	1121	Science for Respiratory Care	5
Spring 2022			
Respiratory Care	1111	Clinical Practice I	2
Respiratory Care	1102	Intermediate Respiratory Care	3

Summer 2022

Respiratory Care	1103	Advanced Respiratory Care	3
Respiratory Care	1113	Intensive Respiratory Care Clinical Practice	1

Fall 2022

Respiratory Care	2205	Neonatal and Pediatric Intensive Respiratory Care	3
Respiratory Care	2206	Advanced Intensive Respiratory Care-Adult	2
Respiratory Care	2280	Advanced Clinical Assessment & Protocol	4

Spring 2023

Respiratory Care	2201	Advanced Life Support and Monitoring	4
Respiratory Care	2202	Pulmonary Function Testing	3
Respiratory Care	2207	Advanced Intensive Respiratory Care Neonatal Pediatric	1
Respiratory Care	2250	Respiratory Care Board Review	4

Total**46 credit hours****Do I need to take any courses in addition to the Respiratory Care Courses?**

Yes. Graduates of the Respiratory Care Program earn an Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree. The AAS degree requirements include at least 18 hours of semester credit in seven subjects in addition to the Respiratory Care classes. To enter the program, you will have completed coursework in two of the seven categories (math and science). The other 5 categories are English, Speech, Humanities and Fine Arts, Social and Behavioral Sciences, and Global/Multicultural Studies or Contemporary Life Skills. To evaluate your current status regarding completion of the general education requirements, perform a "Degree Audit", which can be found after you log into [MyAccess](#). Select Respiratory Care as your degree goal.

Are there any other requirements I need to complete besides respiratory and general education classes?

Yes. To become eligible to attend clinical training at local hospitals, which begins in the second semester, students are required to provide a statement of health, pass a criminal background check and a drug test, secure health insurance and earn certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation. All of these activities are completed in the first semester of the program prior to mid-November. **Please do not begin these requirements until instructed to do so.** Information regarding each category and other College policies are detailed below.

Criminal Background Check Information

All health care workers and student health care workers are required to undergo a criminal background check in order to work in a clinical setting. A student with a positive background check containing disqualifying conditions as defined by Federal and State law will not be allowed to enter the clinical portion of the program. A student with a positive background check containing disqualifying conditions as defined by Illinois State Law ([225ILCS46/25](#)) and 77 Ill Adm. Code 955 Section [955.160](#) will not be allowed to enter the clinical portion of this program, thus preventing the student from obtaining mandated certification and/or licensure.

NOTE: You may have been convicted and not sent to jail. People are often fined or given probation or conditional discharge rather than jail time, but these are still considered convictions. If you are unsure as to whether an arrest resulted in a conviction, contact the county in which you were arrested and speak to a representative in the Circuit Clerk's office, State's Attorney's office or your attorney.

Statement of Health

Please see the [health requirement packet](#) for details. Applicants to any Health Career program at College of DuPage must complete and submit a current College of DuPage physical history and physical examination form completed by a physician. Students with chronic medical problems or physical limitations, such as back or knee

problems, must have these conditions specifically addressed on the forms, including any restrictions and current medications the student is required to take for health maintenance. For all students, the physician must indicate whether the student's health status will allow them to safely pursue the educational objectives of the program to which they have applied and/or have registered. The health examination and vaccinations are completed at the student's expense.

If applicants do not submit the necessary paperwork, do not obtain the required examinations and vaccinations, and/or are unable to obtain clearance to participate in all the program's clinical activities, without restrictions and/or precautions, they may be considered ineligible for the program and can be withdrawn from the program courses in which they are registered. ***The required requirements include a background check, drug screen, Edward Corporate Health Clearance, and completion of the Medical Document Manager piece provided through CastleBranch.com. Please see the Health Requirements Packet for details.***

Mandatory Drug Testing: Policy and Procedures

- Health Career students with direct patient contact must be drug tested at a minimum annually prior to clinical experience in every program.
- New admissions to Health Career Programs that test positive without appropriate physician documentation will be considered ineligible for admissions into the program and will be withdrawn from program classes.
- Continuing Health Career Program students who test positive without appropriate physician documentation may not seek readmission to the same program or initiate admission to another program for a minimum of one year.

Statement on Medical Care and Health Insurance

Students are responsible for their own medical care and health insurance while in the program. Students must possess health care insurance in order to train at the clinical affiliate. The student is responsible for any costs that may be incurred related to personal injuries he/she may acquire while performing activities at the clinical affiliate. The affiliating clinical facility and/or College of DuPage cannot be held liable for such injuries. Please visit the [Student Health Insurance](#) website for additional details. Students are required to provide evidence of current health insurance coverage. Please follow specific guidelines as instructed for submitting proof of insurance.

Statement on Medical Malpractice Insurance

Malpractice insurance is required and is included in the clinical education tuition costs on an annual basis. That is, the cost of the insurance is included with the tuition costs for RESP 1111 and RESP 2206. Students must be officially registered and listed on the instructor's class roster to be covered by the malpractice insurance.

Citizenship/Visa Status

If you are not a U.S. citizen or a permanent resident of the U.S., and if you have any questions or concerns regarding your eligibility to participate in health sciences programs, please contact the **International Student Office**, SSC 2225, (630) 942-3328, e-mail: intlstdt@cod.edu.

Qualified applicants will be considered out-of-district in the admissions ranking process if they are **not** a:

- U.S. citizens
- Permanent residents

Program Admission Preference

Preference in admission is given to residents of District 502 who meet the stated minimum acceptance criteria for the program. Priority for admissions are a) In-district applicants; b) Out-of-district applicants working full-time in-district (proof of in-district employment will be required each semester); and c) Out-of-district applicants including those students with a joint or chargeback agreement and International students.

Non-discrimination Statement

The College prohibits discrimination in its admissions, employment, and educational programs or activities on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, creed, national origin, age, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, arrest record, military status or unfavorable military discharge, citizenship status, and physical or mental disability. The College will protect an individual's right to express their viewpoint or opinion, so long as it does not violate State or Federal law and is not detrimental to the College.

This Policy against discrimination applies throughout all College environments, whether on campus, at work assignments off campus, at College-sponsored social functions, or otherwise.

Procedures to facilitate the College's prohibition of discrimination will be promulgated consistent with the Policy. (Board Policy 20-5).

Student E-Mail Policy

College of DuPage will send all official communications to you through your official COD email (dupage.edu). You will no longer be able to use a preferred email account. You do have the option to forward these communications to a personal email account if you wish.

Check out your COD email to get the message about:

- Official COD communications
- Financial aid communications
- Petition to graduate
- Transfer credit evaluation
- Prerequisite proof Sensitive
- FERPA-related communications
- Transcript order Important messages from instructors

https://cod.edu/student_life/resources/information_technology/email/email-policy.aspx

1. **Rules, regulations and procedures:** Students are expected to comply with the rules, regulations, and procedures of the College of DuPage and its affiliated clinical training centers. Noncompliance with rules, regulations and procedures is a basis for student dismissal from the Respiratory Care training program. See the College's Policy for Professional Conduct here:
https://www.cod.edu/admission/health_science/pdf_health/policy_professional_conduct.pdf
2. **Students interested in the program should consult with the Coordinator *as early as possible*.** Early application and advising are highly recommended for any health program with limited enrollment. The program admits students based upon the available clinical seating.
3. **Transportation:** Students are required to have access to reliable transportation in order to attend clinical training at geographically diverse clinical sites. Current clinical sites include:

Bolingbrook Hospital Bolingbrook	Hines VA Medical Center Maywood	Northwestern Memorial Hospital Chicago
Lurie Children's Hospital Chicago	Children's Hospital Oak Lawn	St. Joseph Hospital Joliet
Delnor Community Hospital Geneva	Kindred Hospital Sycamore	Mercy Medical Center Aurora
Edward Hospital Naperville	Kishwaukee Medical Center DeKalb	South Suburban Hospital Hazel Crest
Good Samaritan Hospital Downers Grove	La Grange Memorial Hospital, LaGrange	RML Specialty Hospital Hinsdale

Gottlieb Memorial Hospital Melrose Park	Loyola University Medical Center Maywood	Rush-Copley Memorial Hospital Aurora
Hinsdale Hospital Hinsdale	Lutheran General Hospital Park Ridge	Christ Medical Center Oak Lawn
UIC Chicago	Central DuPage Hospital Winfield	Alexian Brothers Hospital Elk Grove
Elmhurst Hospital Elmhurst	Suburban Lung Associates Elk Grove	AMITA Health St. Alexius Hoffman Estates
DuPage Medical Group Naperville		

What can I expect after graduating from the Respiratory Care Program?

Graduates of the Respiratory Care program are eligible to sit for two board exams administered by the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC.org).

The first test the graduate must take is the “[Therapist Multiple Choice Exam](#)”. Achieving a minimum cut score on this exam earns the student the “Certified Respiratory Therapist” credential which allows the graduate to apply for a license to practice in the State of Illinois (and most other states in the lower 48 states). A license is required in order to work as a respiratory care practitioner. The most recent data on student success in the Certified Respiratory Therapist exam demonstrates a 94.3% pass rate for our graduates. Achieving the higher cut score on the exam allows the student to take the second board exam.

The second exam the graduate may pass is the “[Clinical Simulation Exam](#)”. Successful completion of this exam earns the student the “Registered Respiratory Therapist” credential and makes the graduate eligible for a wider range of job responsibilities and higher compensation in most institutions. Many institutions are requiring this credential before considering a graduate for employment and we encourage all graduates to sit for this exam. The most recent data on student success in the Registered Respiratory Therapist exam demonstrates pass rate of 71.4% for our graduates.

After obtaining a license to practice, 87.6% of students have found employment in the field or continue their education. Graduates of the Respiratory Care Program are also eligible to apply for a seat in the 3+1 bachelor’s degree program at Concordia University. More information on the degree can be found here: https://cod.edu/academics/transfer/pdf/concordia_aas_respiratorycare.pdf

Respiratory Care Program Requirements & Application Checklist

NOTE: Admission Committees for all Health Science programs has the right to deny admission to any applicant that they feel is unable to fulfill these essential functions as described.

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all material listed below have been completed and received by the designated office, by 5 pm on June 16, 2021.

- _____ 1. Attend a mandatory **Respiratory Care [Advising Session](#)**. **It is required that an applicant attend an advising session within a 12 month period prior to the application deadline.** A Photo ID is required for attendance at advising sessions.

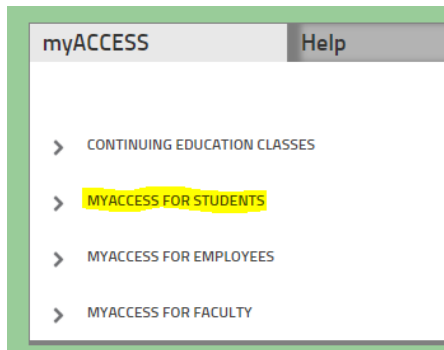
- _____ 2. If you have not been admitted to College of DuPage, please complete the **non-refundable \$20 [College of DuPage General Admissions Application](#)** online. **This application is for general admissions to College of DuPage only; it is not an application to the Health Sciences Limited Enrollment Respiratory Care program.**

- _____ 3. To ensure that all of your eligible credits are evaluated towards the admission requirements, turn in **ALL** official Transcripts from institutions that you have attended. Immediately:
 - a. Submit your official transcript(s) to **College of DuPage, [Office of Student Records](#)**. **If College of DuPage is the only institution you have attended, you do not need to request official transcripts.**

 - b. Verify receipt of your transcript(s). Log into myACCESS account, click on 'myACCESS for Students', select '**My Profile**'. The receipt status of your transcript will be listed under '**Transcript Institutions**'.

NOTE: If you have an international transcript from high school or college, it must first be evaluated. Please visit the following website http://cod.edu/regISTRATION/records/trans_eval_listing.aspx for details.

- _____ 4. Complete the **non-refundable \$50 [Health Career Selective Enrollment Program Application](#)** online by logging into the student portal at <https://inside.cod.edu>
 - Click on myACCESS for Students



- Click on the Health Careers Applications link



- Select Health Careers Application



- Select **Respiratory Care Degree** when asked “What selective enrollment program are you applying to?”

Once the application is submitted, you may not change the term or program. If you do not have a credit card, you can purchase a prepaid credit card from your local retailer

_____ 5. Complete the [College of DuPage Residency Verification form](#) and provide 2 proofs of residency to the **Office of Student Registration Services, Student Services Center (SSC) Room 2221** by the program application deadline date.

Note:

- **If this residency requirement has not been submitted to Registration by the program application deadline date, you will not be considered for admission.**
- **Separate Residency Verification Forms must be submitted for each program application.**

_____ 6. Completion of a college level Math course (must be MATH 1102 or higher). Course must be 3 semester hours; minimum grade of “B” taken after 6/16/14. **NOTE:** If the Math class was taken prior to 6/16/14, you must complete a proctored [ALEKS Math Placement test](#) by the application deadline date. You **MUST** score ≥ 30 on a proctored ALEKS Placement test. However, your score from your original Math course will be used for the merit evaluation ranking.

_____ 7. Completion of a college level course in Science: Biology (excluding BIO 1110) Chemistry, or Anatomy and Physiology that had a lab component and where you earned at least 4 semester credit hours with a minimum grade of “B”.

_____ 8. Completion of the college’s placement tests in Reading and Writing and score in [Category One](#). The Reading & Writing placement test is required for ALL applicants.

Placement test taken prior to April 2016:

You must complete the COMPASS Reading and Writing placement test and score Category One on both.

Placement test taken after April 2016:

You must complete the ACCUPLACER placement tests. You must complete the [ACCUPLACER Reading Comprehension](#) and [ACCUPLACER Writing Sentence Skills](#) and score Category One on both.

For ESL students:

Placement test taken prior to October 2019:

You must have completed all four of the ESL ACCUPLACER series which include Reading Skills, Sentence Meaning, Language Use, and Listening and score 102 or higher.

Placement test taken after October, 2019:

You must complete all of the Kite series and must reflect a Category 1. Tests include:

- Reading and score 500 or >
- Writing and score 500 or >
- Listening and score 535 or >
- Speaking and score 500 or >
- Grammar and score 535 or >

_____ 9. A cumulative grade point average of at least 2.75 for general education classes listed on page 11. Please be sure to submit all transcripts to the Office of Student Records, SRC 2150.

“All application documents delivered to the College of DuPage pertaining to a health sciences admissions file become the property of the College of DuPage and will not be returned to applicants. This includes but is not limited to transcripts, letters of recommendation, clinical evaluation forms or outside test reports.”

Requests for admission are **not** automatically carried over to the following cycle. Applicants who were not accepted for the cycle in which they originally applied are asked to pay the \$50 non-refundable Health Science application fee and submit any/all supporting documents as listed on the Admissions Checklist of the Application Packet requirements (if applicable).

Applicants who meet the requirements on the rubric will be ranked in the following order for admission:

1. In-district residency status
2. Grade in Math
3. Grade in Science
4. Cumulative GPA of general education courses
5. Out of district, working full time in district
6. Out of district

RESPIRATORY CARE ADMISSION RUBRIC, FALL 2021

Area	Assessment	Threshold
Specific Required Tests	<p>Placement test prior after October, 2019: Reading COMPASS Placement Test Writing COMPASS Placement Test</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Or</p> <p>ESL students: You must have completed all four of the ESL ACCUPLACER series which include Reading Skills, Sentence Meaning, Language Use, and Listening and score 102 or higher.</p> <hr/> <p>Placement test taken after October, 2019: ACCUPLACER Reading Comprehension Placement Test ACCUPLACER Writing Sentence Skills Placement Test</p> <p>ESL students: You must complete all of the Kite series and must reflect a Category 1. Tests include: Reading and score 500 or > Writing and score 500 or > Listening and score 535 or > Speaking and score 500 or > Grammar and score 535 or ></p> <p><i>(No equivalency exams accepted. No exceptions)</i></p>	<p>Must score in Category One in both tests</p> <p>Must score in Category One in ESL Reading and Writing and complete ESL ACCUPLACER Listening and score 102 or higher</p> <p>Must score Category 1 in both tests.</p> <p>ESL students must the following in each of the 5 sections: Reading and score 500 or > Writing and score 500 or > Listening and score 535 or > Speaking and score 500 or > Grammar and score 535 or ></p>
Required Courses	<p>Courses are required in the following areas based on the general education requirements for an AAS degree:</p> <p>Math (1102 or higher ≥ 3 credit hrs.)</p> <p>Science (≥ 4 credit hrs. with lab, except BIO 1110)</p>	<p>Grade: B or higher taken after 6/16/2014 (or ALEKS Placement test score ≥ 30 in last year if 3.0 credit hour college level Math course taken before 6/16/14.)</p> <p>Grade: B or higher</p>
GPA of General Education Courses	<p>Based on AAS degree requirements from a COD degree audit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of the required courses listed above, plus • English • Speech • Humanities/Fine Arts • Social and Behavioral Sciences • Global Multicultural / Contemporary Life Skills 	<p>Cumulative GPA of completed general education courses must be <u>2.75 or higher</u>.</p>
Residency Verification	<p>Completed form is required for each Health Care Program application</p>	<p>Submitted to Office of Student Registration Services, SSC 2221 by admission deadline</p>
Advising Session	<p>Must attend a group or individual advising session with one of the program faculty. Documentation by signature on registration list or completion of Health Sciences Inquiry Card mandatory</p>	<p>Collected at sessions and submitted to Nursing & Health Sciences Division.</p>