RESPIRATORY CARE PRACTITIONER
ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE
2012-2013 CATALOG

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES
IN
RESPIRATORY CARE PRACTITIONER

Respirator Therapist in:
• Trauma Units
• Neonatal Intensive Care
• Pediatric Intensive Care
• Adult Critical Care
• Pulmonary Function Testing
• Pulmonary Rehabilitation Programs
• Home Care
• Smoking Cessation Programs
• Sleep Study Laboratories
• Doctor Offices & Clinics
• Education
• Product Sales Representatives

Some career options listed above may require more than an associate degree. For more career options, visit the FCC Career Center located in the Student Services Building in the Counseling Center.

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It is the student’s responsibility to officially change their major, to request a Degree/Certificate Evaluation Progress Report, and to apply for Graduation Application for Degree/Certificate. These links/forms are located under “Academic Planning” section in WebAdvisor. You will need to know your catalog year and, for this major, you will need to use the following major code:

RESPIRATORY CARE PRACTITIONER (F.4610.AS)

This document is available online. Go to: www.fresnocitycollege.edu/counseling and select “Major Requirements”. Refer to the FCC current catalog and addendum for the most up-to-date information.

Respiratory Care Practitioners (RCPs) are a vital part of the medical community. Under the direction of a physician, RCP’s work to evaluate, treat, and care for patients of all ages with heart and lung disorders. The responsibilities and skill sets for RCP’s range from assisting in the treatment of a patient with asthma and/or chronic lung disease to initiating and managing life saving modalities. Graduates are prepared for employment providing direct patient care as part of the health care team. The program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (COARC).

THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE SUBMITTING A PROGRAM APPLICATION (ACADEMIC SUMMARY FORM):

There are no restrictions as to age, marital status, race, or sex.

1. Graduated from high school with a minimum GPA of C (2.0), or completed the General Educational Development (GED) test with an average standard score of 45.
2. The Application Course Prerequisites or their equivalents (see below) must each be completed with a “C” or better grade.
3. Have a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 or higher.

Program Applications (ASF) will be accepted during the following periods:
September – March for the new fall program
(Click with the Health Science Division Office & FCC website for specific dates and possible changes at www.fresnocitycollege.edu / Health Sciences Division / Health Careers Application Deadlines)

Application Course Prerequisites

| Course                                      | Units
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<tr>
<td>* BIOL 1, Principles of Biology OR BIOL 5, Human Biology OR college equivalent or higher</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Math 103, Intermediate Algebra OR higher math course</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* CHEM 3A, Intro General Chemistry OR college equivalent OR higher</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology 20, Human Anatomy AND Biology 22, Human Physiology (OR Biology 24, Human Anatomy and Physiology)</td>
<td>4 / 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biology 31, Microbiology</td>
<td>5</td>
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After completing all of the prerequisites above, complete and submit Program Application (ASF) for the RCP Program, together with all necessary official transcripts by the deadline.

RESPIRATORY CARE PRACTITIONER PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:
The courses below are additional major degree requirements and must be completed with a “C” or better grade. Students must earn a “C” or better grade in all courses required for the major and for licensure. It is strongly recommended these courses and any remaining degree and GE requirements be taken BEFORE beginning the program. Students find that because of the heavy work load, they do not have time for additional course work.

1. Non-Respiratory Care Practitioner Courses

| Course                                      | Units
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<tr>
<td>PHYSC 11, Introductory Physical Science OR AT 120, Industrial Science OR equivalent</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* PSY 2/2H, General Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* SOC 1A, Introduction to Sociology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* COMM 1 OR 2 (previously SPEECH)</td>
<td>3</td>
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2. Respiratory Care Practitioner (RCARE) Courses
All RCARE courses in the program are taken as a block; that is, all students take the same courses each term. The program requires four full-time semesters for completion. See the FCC catalog for a listing of RCARE courses.

* Courses will apply towards major requirement and GE requirement.
NOTES:

1. FCC currently uses a computerized statistical lottery selection process for admission into the Respiratory Care Practitioner Program. The lottery process is used in response to more eligible applicants than enrollment space. All Program Application (ASF) requirements, program requirements, and selection criteria are subject to change. It is the students’ responsibility to stay current with these criteria and requirements. Applicants will enter the lottery pool based on the current application requirements within the application period in which the student is applying for, not on the current catalog of initial or subsequent FCC registration. Program applications (ASF) will be available the first of September and must be turned in by the March deadline. Application Deadlines are available at www.fresnocitycollege.edu / Health Sciences Division / Health Careers Application Deadlines.

It is the applicants’ responsibility to turn in all necessary documents, all college transcripts, and the Program Application (ASF) as a packet to the Health Science Division Office by the deadline.

2. Applicants should have no physical or emotional impairment that would preclude the performance of all duties in the program.

3. A student who is accepted into a Health Sciences program will be required to have a background check. A negative result may result in a disqualification.

4. Successful completion of the program requires applicants to be in good physical and mental health. To finalize their admission qualifications before they may begin classes, admitted students must:
   a. Submit evidence of a physical exam and freedom of TB by a licensed physician.
   b. Complete designated immunizations and diagnostic tests.
   c. Attend a clinical orientation.

5. Academic and Professional Requirements: Safe, ethical and professional levels of practice and satisfactory academic progress are necessary for retention in the program. Students must earn a "C" or better grade in all courses required for the major and the degree in order to be eligible for licensure examination. If less than a "C" grade is earned, the course must be repeated in its entirety. A course may be repeated only once. If students demonstrate that they are unsuited for RCP or are not progressing satisfactorily, based on the professional judgment of the faculty, they will be dropped from the program.

State and/or national licensing boards protect the public by screening applicants for licensure in order to identify potentially unsafe practitioners. Applications may be denied to persons convicted of certain crimes that may relate to professional practice. In addition, Persons impaired by alcoholism, drug abuse and/or emotional illness are expected to voluntarily seek diagnosis and treatment for any suspected illness. Students with concerns in these areas should discuss them with the appropriate licensing body before entering FCC health programs. The Health Sciences Division Office can assist with the addresses and phone numbers of appropriate licensing offices.

6. Classes, clinical training, and related activities are conducted on the FCC campus and at off campus sites affiliated with the program. Students must provide their own transportation.

7. State License: The successful completion of the RCP Program requires the completion of the Associate in Science degree. Graduates are eligible to take the national licensing examinations. (In order for Fresno City College to evaluate your transcripts from other accredited schools for your degree, it is your responsibility to have them on file in the Admissions and Records Office.)

8. Applicants and RCP students must keep the RCP Office informed of any changes in name, address, and/or phone number. Failure to maintain accurate information may result in loss of application or admission status.

9. Estimated Expenses:

   PRIOR TO GRADUATION
   California State Resident registration/health fees for classes See current FCC catalog
   Admission Health Exam, Immunization & Tests $ 400
   Books, Lab Coat, Scrubs, Watch, Stethoscope 1000
   Background check 70
   Exit Exams 125
   NRP 100
   ACLS 200
   PALS 200

   AFTER GRADUATION
   California Licensure application fee 200
   California License (prorated based on date of birth) 250
   Certificated Respiratory Therapist Examination (CRT) 200
   Registered Respiratory Therapist Examination (Written) 200
   Registered Respiratory Therapist Examination (Clinical Sims) 200

   Estimated total: $3145. (FCC registration and health fees are NOT included)

10. For more information, attend a Health Career Orientation or talk to a counselor in the Counseling Center; review EUREKA, the Dictionary of Occupational Titles (076.361-014) or Occupational Outlook Handbook in the Career Center; or talk to Diana Day, Program Director, (559) 244-2631 or the Health Science Division Office (559) 244-2604.

The material in this publication has been prepared as carefully as possible. Fresno City College does not assume responsibility for inaccuracies or changes in the information contained herein after the date of publication.

Counselor:          Date: (559) 442-4600

FCC/RESPIRATORY CARE PRACTITIONER (05/21/12) JG/RS/klr