

# CURRICULUM STANDARD

Effective Term  
Fall 2000  
[2000 \*03]

Curriculum Program Title

**Respiratory Therapy**

Code

**A45720**

Concentration

**(not applicable)**

## ***Curriculum Description***

The Respiratory Therapy curriculum prepares individuals to function as respiratory therapists. In these roles, individuals perform diagnostic testing, treatments, and management of patients with heart and lung diseases.

Students will master skills in patient assessment and treatment of cardiopulmonary diseases. These skills include life support, monitoring, drug administration, and treatment of patients of all ages in a variety of settings.

Graduates of accredited programs may be eligible to take entry-level examinations from the National Board of Respiratory Care. Therapy graduates may also take the Advanced Practitioner examination. Graduates may be employed in hospitals, clinics, nursing homes, education, industry, and home care.

## ***Curriculum Requirements\****

***[for associate degree, diploma, and certificate programs in accordance with 23 NCAC 02E.0204 (3)]***

- I. General Education.** Degree programs must contain a minimum of 15 semester hours including at least one course from each of the following areas: humanities/fine arts, social/behavioral sciences, and natural sciences/mathematics. Degree programs must contain a minimum of 6 semester hours of communications. Diploma programs must contain a minimum of 6 semester hours of general education; 3 semester hours must be in communications. General education is optional in certificate programs.
- II. Major Hours.** AAS, diploma, and certificate programs must include courses which offer specific job knowledge and skills. Work experience, including cooperative education, practicums, and internships, may be included in associate in applied science degrees up to a maximum of 8 semester hours of credit; in diploma programs up to a maximum of 4 semester hours of credit; and in certificate programs up to a maximum of 2 semester hours of credit. *(See second page for additional information.)*
- III. Other Required Hours.** A college may include courses to meet graduation or local employer requirements in a certificate, diploma, or associate in applied science program. These curriculum courses shall be selected from the Combined Course Library and must be approved by the System Office prior to implementation. Restricted, unique, or free elective courses may not be included as other required hours.

	<b>AAS</b>	<b>Diploma</b>	<b>Certificate</b>
Minimum General Education Hours	15	6	0
Minimum Major Hours	49	30	12
Other Required Hours	0-7	0-4	0-1
<b>Total Semester Hours Credit (SHC)</b>	<b>64-76</b>	<b>36-48</b>	<b>12-18</b>

*\*Within the degree program, the institution shall include opportunities for the achievement of competence in reading, writing, oral communication, fundamental mathematical skills, and basic use of computers.*

## *Major Hours*

*[ref. 23 NCAC 02E.0204 (3)]*

- A. Core.** The subject/course core is comprised of subject areas and/or specific courses which are required for each curriculum program. A diploma program offered under an approved AAS program standard or a certificate which is the highest credential level awarded under an approved AAS program standard must include a minimum of 12 semester hours credit derived from the subject/course core of the AAS program.
- B. Concentration** *(if applicable)*. A concentration of study must include a minimum of 12 semester hours credit for required subjects and/or courses. The majority of the course credit hours are unique to the concentration. The required subjects and/or courses that make up the concentration of study are in addition to the required subject/course core.
- C. Other Major Hours.** Other major hours must be selected from prefixes listed on the curriculum standard. A maximum of 9 semester hours of credit may be selected from any prefix listed, with the exception of prefixes listed in the core or concentration. Work experience, including cooperative education, practicums, and internships, may be included in associate in applied science degrees up to a maximum of 8 semester hours of credit; in diploma programs up to a maximum of 4 semester hours of credit; and in certificate programs up to a maximum of 2 semester hours of credit.

### **Respiratory Therapy A45720**

	<b>AAS</b>	<b>Diploma</b>	<b>Certificate</b>
<b><i>Minimum Major Hours Required</i></b>	<b>49 SHC</b>	<b>30 SHC</b>	<b>12 SHC</b>
<b>A. CORE</b> <i>Courses required for the diploma are designated with *</i>  <b>Required Courses:</b> * RCP 110 Introduction to Respiratory Care 4 SHC * RCP 111 Therapeutics and Diagnostics 5 SHC RCP 210 Critical Care Concepts 4 SHC RCP 211 Advanced Monitoring/Procedures 4 SHC  <b>Required Subject Areas:</b> <b>Clinical Education. Select 18 SHC for AAS, 9 SHC for diploma:</b> RCP 132 RCP Clinical Practice I 2 SHC RCP 133 RCP Clinical Practice I 3 SHC RCP 134 RCP Clinical Practice I 4 SHC RCP 135 RCP Clinical Practice I 5 SHC RCP 136 RCP Clinical Practice I 6 SHC RCP 138 RCP Clinical Practice I 8 SHC RCP 139 RCP Clinical Practice I 9 SHC RCP 142 RCP Clinical Practice II 2 SHC RCP 143 RCP Clinical Practice II 3 SHC RCP 144 RCP Clinical Practice II 4 SHC RCP 145 RCP Clinical Practice II 5 SHC RCP 146 RCP Clinical Practice II 6 SHC RCP 148 RCP Clinical Practice II 8 SHC RCP 149 RCP Clinical Practice II 9 SHC RCP 152 RCP Clinical Practice III 2 SHC RCP 153 RCP Clinical Practice III 3 SHC RCP 154 RCP Clinical Practice III 4 SHC RCP 155 RCP Clinical Practice III 5 SHC RCP 156 RCP Clinical Practice III 6 SHC RCP 158 RCP Clinical Practice III 8 SHC RCP 159 RCP Clinical Practice III 9 SHC RCP 169 RCP Clinical Applications I 11 SHC RCP 232 RCP Clinical Practice IV 2 SHC RCP 233 RCP Clinical Practice IV 3 SHC  <i>Continued on next page</i>	<b>35 SHC</b>	<b>18 SHC</b>	

### Respiratory Therapy A45720 (continued)

RCP 234	RCP Clinical Practice IV	4 SHC			
RCP 235	RCP Clinical Practice IV	5 SHC			
RCP 236	RCP Clinical Practice IV	6 SHC			
RCP 237	RCP Clinical Practice IV	7 SHC			
RCP 238	RCP Clinical Practice IV	8 SHC			
RCP 239	RCP Clinical Practice IV	9 SHC			
RCP 242	RCP Clinical Practice V	2 SHC			
RCP 243	RCP Clinical Practice V	3 SHC			
RCP 244	RCP Clinical Practice V	4 SHC			
RCP 245	RCP Clinical Practice V	5 SHC			
RCP 246	RCP Clinical Practice V	6 SHC			
RCP 247	RCP Clinical Practice V	7 SHC			
RCP 248	RCP Clinical Practice V	8 SHC			
RCP 249	RCP Clinical Practice V	9 SHC			
RCP 252	RCP Clinical Practice VI	2 SHC			
RCP 253	RCP Clinical Practice VI	3 SHC			
RCP 254	RCP Clinical Practice VI	4 SHC			
RCP 255	RCP Clinical Practice VI	5 SHC			
RCP 256	RCP Clinical Practice VI	6 SHC			
RCP 257	RCP Clinical Practice VI	7 SHC			
RCP 258	RCP Clinical Practice VI	8 SHC			
RCP 259	RCP Clinical Practice VI	9 SHC			
RCP 269	RCP Clinical Applications II	11 SHC			
<b>B.</b>	<b>CONCENTRATION</b> ( <i>Not applicable</i> )				
<b>C.</b>	<b>OTHER MAJOR HOURS</b> <i>To be selected from the following prefixes:</i>  ASL, BIO, CIS, CSC, HSC, MED, PHM, and RCP  <i>Foreign language courses (including ASL) that are not designated as approved other major hours may be included in all programs up to a maximum of 3 semester hours of credit.</i>				