



**NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM**

*Dr. James C. Williams*

*President*

November 21, 2016

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Presidents  
Chief Academic Officers

FROM: Wesley E. Beddard, Associate Vice President  
Programs

SUBJECT: State Board Action on November 18, 2016  
Revised Curriculum Standard

On November 18, 2016, the State Board of Community Colleges approved the requested revision to the following curriculum standard:

Respiratory Therapy (A45720)

Please be aware that you must implement the revised curriculum standard no later than one year after the effective term. You must update your college's electronic program of study and receive approval from the System Office prior to implementation of the revised program.

An outline of the specific curriculum standard revision is attached for your convenience. You may view all curriculum standards and courses by visiting the Academic Programs website at:

<http://www.nccommunitycolleges.edu/academic-programs>

If you have any questions concerning the State Board action item listed above, please contact Ms. Jennifer Frazelle at 919.807.7120 or [frazellej@nccommunitycolleges.edu](mailto:frazellej@nccommunitycolleges.edu).

WB/JF/gr

Attachments

c: Dr. Lisa M. Chapman  
Ms. Elizabeth Self  
Ms. Jennifer Frazelle  
Program Coordinators

CC16-046

Email

**Outline of Curriculum Standard Revision  
State Board of Community Colleges  
November 18, 2016**

**Respiratory Therapy (A45720)**

**Revisions:**

- Revised the curriculum description
- Removed the following courses from the Clinical Experience pick list:
  - RCP 136 RCP Clinical Practice I
  - RCP 138 RCP Clinical Practice I
  - RCP 148 RCP Clinical Practice II
  - RCP 156 RCP Clinical Practice III
  - RCP 232 RCP Clinical Practice IV
  - RCP 233 RCP Clinical Practice IV
  - RCP 239 RCP Clinical Practice IV
  - RCP 242 RCP Clinical Practice V
  - RCP 243 RCP Clinical Practice V
  - RCP 244 RCP Clinical Practice V
  - RCP 249 RCP Clinical Practice V
  - RCP 252 RCP Clinical Practice VI
  - RCP 253 RCP Clinical Practice VI
  - RCP 254 RCP Clinical Practice VI
  - RCP 255 RCP Clinical Practice VI
  - RCP 256 RCP Clinical Practice VI
  - RCP 257 RCP Clinical Practice VI
  - RCP 258 RCP Clinical Practice VI
  - RCP 259 RCP Clinical Practice VI

# CURRICULUM STANDARD

Effective Term Fall 2017 [2017*03]
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Curriculum Program Title

**Respiratory Therapy**

Program Code

**A45720**

Concentration

**(not applicable)**

CIP Code

**51.0908**

## ***Curriculum Description***

The Respiratory Therapy curriculum prepares individuals to function as respiratory therapists through demonstrated competence in the cognitive, psychomotor, and affective learning domains of respiratory care practice. Graduates perform diagnostic and therapeutic procedures with exposure to current and emerging practice settings.

The curriculum prepares graduates to operate within inter-professional teams and effectively communicate with clients/patients of various ages, ethnicities, and cultures. Application of problem solving strategies, applying ethical decision making, and understanding professional responsibilities are emphasized.

Graduates are eligible to complete the credentialing process through the National Board for Respiratory Care, which will qualify them for a license to practice in a variety of healthcare settings with responsibilities for assessment, treatment, management and education of patients with cardiopulmonary diseases.

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

***[for associate degree, diploma, and certificate programs in accordance with 1D SBCCC 400.97 (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-based learning 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. 1D SBCCC 400.97 (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-based learning 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

	AAS	Diploma	Certificate
<b>Minimum Major Hours Required</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>35 SHC</b>	<b>18 SHC</b>	
<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 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 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 158 RCP Clinical Practice III 8 SHC			
RCP 159 RCP Clinical Practice III 9 SHC			
RCP 169 RCP Clinical Applications I 11 SHC			
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			
<i>Continued on next page</i>			

**Respiratory Therapy A45720 (continued)**

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 269	RCP Clinical Applications II	11 SHC			
<b>B. CONCENTRATION (<i>Not applicable</i>)</b>					
<b>C. OTHER MAJOR HOURS</b>					
<p><i>To be selected from the following prefixes:</i></p> <p>ASL, BIO, CIS, CSC, HSC, MED, PHM, and RCP</p> <p><i>Up to two semester hour credits may be selected from ACA.</i></p> <p><i>Up to three semester hour credits may be selected from the following prefixes: ARA, ASL, CHI, FRE, GER, ITA, JPN, LAT, POR, RUS and SPA.</i></p>					