RESP: Respiratory Therapy, Associate in Applied Science: 2011 to Present

For students enrolled in:
RESP: Respiratory Therapy, Associate in Applied Science
2011 to Present

Program Description: The Respiratory Therapy curriculum prepares allied health specialists for the management, treatment, testing and care of patients with breathing abnormalities. The mission of the Delaware County Community College/Crozer-Chester Medical Center Advanced-Practitioner level Respiratory Therapy Program is to provide a curriculum where students can develop the competencies and skills essential to deliver safe, effective respiratory care in a variety of health care settings.

All Respiratory Therapy applicants are required to submit a “Criminal History Record Information Report” and be free of any conviction of elder or child abuse for 10 years prior to beginning the first clinical course. Admitted students must pass a drug test prior to beginning the program. This service will be provided at a special college planning for advisement and registration for clinical.

All Respiratory Therapy students will need to have on file in the Allied Health, Emergency Services and Nursing Department the results of a complete physical examination including: laboratory tests, a complete blood count, and a two-step Mantoux PPD. Additionally, these students must have medical health insurance and be in compliance with recommendations for the Hepatitis B vaccine. Certain manual dexterity and sensory skills are necessary for successful completion of the Respiratory Therapy program. Health problems that can interfere with the applicant's ability to demonstrate achievement of program competencies are considered individually.

Students must progress through the curriculum in sequence. Students must maintain a GPA of 2.0 to remain in the program. Credits for BIO 150 and BIO 151 must be current within five academic years of the date of beginning the program. Students must achieve a grade of "C" or better in BIO 150 or BIO 151, ENG 100 and CHE 110.

Admission to the program is dependent on:
- Satisfactory scores on the Health Occupations Basic Entrance Test (HOBET-V)
- Reading Comprehension - 54%
- Mathematics - 46%
- Science - 33%
- English Language & Usage -46%
- Prerequisite requirements with a GPA of 2.5
- English Composition 1 (ENG 100) with a grade of "C" or better
- General Chemistry (CHE 110) with a grade of "C" or better
- Math proficiency as demonstrated by one of the following: Completion of any algebra based math course: MAT 100 or above, (not including MAT 120 or MAT 121, MAT 125, MAT 126, MAT 210) with a grade of "C" or better. DCCC placement test score for Math Placement into MAT 135 or above. Successful completion of the College Algebra CLEP
exam (College Level Examination Program). Transfer of credit from another regionally accredited institution of a "C" or better in a math course equivalent to MAT 100 or above, (not including MAT 120 or MAT 121, MAT 125, MAT 126, MAT 210).

Students who fail or withdraw from a respiratory therapy course and wish to repeat said course must have a GPA of 2.5. Due to the sequential nature of the program, the student must petition for readmission to the program or a Respiratory Therapy course through the Respiratory Therapy department at Crozer-Chester Medical Center (not the College Admission Office). Readmission to the program is on a space available basis and only possible if the student can graduate within two years of his/her initial class graduation. If a student is granted reentry into the program at his/her exit point, an objective evaluation will be used to determine if the placement of the student within the curriculum is appropriate. If a student will be re-entering the program in the summer, or in the second year of the program, the student will be required to register for and audit the prior clinical course to refresh their clinical skills. Upon readmission to the program, the student must complete the program within two years following the graduation date of his/her initial class.

The Respiratory Therapy program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC), 1248 Harwood Rd., Bedford, Texas, 76021-4244, (817) 283-2835, www.CoARC.com. To view the accreditation data for the program outcomes, please follow this link directly to the Programmatic Outcomes Data page: http://www.coarc.com/47.html

The Pennsylvania State Board of Medicine reserves the right to deny a license to any candidate who has been convicted of a felony or any offense under The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act (35 P.S. 780-101 - 780-144) or of an offense under the statutes of another jurisdiction which, if committed in Pennsylvania, would be a felony under The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act, unless the at least 10 years have elapsed from the date of conviction and the applicant satisfactorily demonstrates that he/she has made significant progress in personal rehabilitation.

Students who have been convicted of a prohibitive offense contained in Act 13 and/or ACT 169 (detailed list available for review in the Admissions and Allied Health, Emergency Services and Nursing offices) may not be able to complete their studies because clinical experiences needed for the program success may be prohibited. If a student cannot complete their clinical studies, they will not be accepted into the Respiratory Therapy Program.

In addition to normal tuition and fees, respiratory therapy students are required to purchase uniforms, personal health insurance and other miscellaneous supplies necessary for the clinical experience.

Upon completion of the two-year program with a grade of "C" or better in all respiratory therapy courses the degree of associate in applied science is awarded. The graduate is immediately eligible for the Entry-Level Certification Examination and after passing the Entry-Level Certification Examination, is then eligible to take the Advanced Practitioner's Examination.

Upon successful completion of the Advanced Practitioner's Examination, the Registered Respiratory Therapist credential is awarded.
Program Outcomes
Upon successful completion of this program, students should be able to:

- Administer therapeutic medical gases.
- Administer cardiopulmonary resuscitation.
- Provide appropriate mechanical assistance to support respiration when necessary.
- Administer drugs that are given through inhalation procedures.
- Maintain all equipment used in respiratory support.
- Perform diagnostic pulmonary function testing and blood-gas analysis.
- Exercise judgment and accept responsibility in therapeutic procedures based on observation of patients and knowledge of anatomy, physiology, pharmacology and clinical medicine.

Semester by Semester Plan:

**Semester 1:**
- RTH 110
- BIO 150
- ENG 112

**Semester 2:**
- RTH 102
- RTH 103
- BIO 151
- PSY 140

**Semester 3:**
- RTH 104

**Semester 4:**
- RTH 105

**Semester 5:**
- RTH 200
- RTH 201
- RTH 204
- AHM 220

**Semester 6:**
- RTH 202
- RTH 203

**Semester 7:**
- RTH 205

Total Credits: 77-82