RESPIRATORY CARE

Program Description
Respiratory care practitioners are allied health specialists who play a crucial role within the health care team. Working closely with physicians and other health care professionals, they care for patients with respiratory and cardiovascular conditions. Under the supervision of a physician, they are involved with the assessment, treatment, diagnostic testing, rehabilitation, and prevention of conditions that affect the respiratory and cardiovascular systems. Employment opportunities are found in hospitals, clinics, home health care agencies, product support and sales, education, rehabilitation and continuing care, and health/disease prevention programs.

Award Options
Associate of Applied Science Degree
NOTE: Degree is awarded by Northeast Iowa Community College

Job Outlook
Very Good: According to the 2010 Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of respiratory therapists is expected to grow 28 percent through 2020, which is much faster than the average for all occupations.

Earnings – Workforce Development Data for Northeast Iowa
Entry-level wage $14.22 (2009 Survey)
Entry-Level Salary

Sample Job Titles
- Cardio Pulmonary Technician
- Certified Respiratory Therapist
- Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT)
- Respiratory Care Practitioner
- Respiratory Therapist

For details, please visit this link http://www.bls.gov/oco/

Significant Points
Experience/Skills/Personality Traits
Respiratory care workers must have the capacity to accept great responsibility for patients, stay calm in emergency situations, and have a genuine desire to care for others. They work with ventilators and other sophisticated machinery, so it helps to be hands-on and have mechanical aptitude. Math skills are also necessary to compute medication dosages and calculate test results. Communication skills and the ability to follow orders are also vital.

Physical Demands
Daily activities require bending, stooping, squatting, reaching, pushing, and pulling in all directions. You will be asked to lift and carry objects weighing up to a minimum of 50 pounds and also shared weight. Clinical tasks require use of hands for repetitive action such as simple and firm grasping and fine manipulation, and walking, including stair stepping. Respiratory care practitioners may also be in contact with communicable diseases and chemical/biohazardous materials and odors.

Partnership between EICC and NICC
A Respiratory Therapy program is available to our students through a cooperative partnership between Eastern Iowa Community Colleges (Clinton, Muscatine and Scott Community Colleges) and Northeast Iowa Community College (NICC). The program is accredited by the Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC).
### RESPIRATORY CARE

#### AAS Degree

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Courses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TERM 1</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIO:168</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>Human Anatomy &amp; Physiology w/Lab I*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCP:270</td>
<td>6.00</td>
<td>Respiratory Therapy Techniques I**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCP:320</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td>Respiratory Therapy Science I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>13.50</td>
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</tbody>
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| **TERM 2** |         |                                               |
| MAT:       | 3.00   | Higher level math course*                     |
| PSY:111   | 3.00   | Introduction to Psychology*                   |
| RCP:460   | 3.50   | Respiratory Science II                        |
| RCP:540   | 8.00   | Respiratory Therapy Techniques II             |
| **Total** | 16.00  |                                               |

| **TERM 3** |         |                                               |
| BIO:173   | 4.00   | Human Anatomy & Physiology w/Lab II*          |
| CSC:110   | 3.00   | Introduction to Computers*                    |
| RCP:350   | 3.00   | Pulmonary Pathology ***                       |
| RCP:490   | 6.00   | Respiratory Therapy Science III***            |
| **Total** | 16.00  |                                               |

| **TERM 4** |         |                                               |
| BIO:186   | 4.00   | Microbiology*                                 |
| ENG:105   | 3.00   | Composition I*                               |
| RCP:600   | 3.00   | Neonatal/Pediatric Respiratory Therapy       |
| RCP:820   | 7.50   | Respiratory Therapy Techniques IV             |
| **Total** | 17.50  |                                               |

| **TERM 5** |         |                                               |
| HSC:136   | 1.50   | Advanced Life Support (ACLS/PALS)            |
| RCP:830   | 10.00  | Respiratory Therapy V                        |
| RCP:840   | 5.50   | Innovations in Respiratory Care              |
| **Total** | 17.00  |                                               |

**AAS Total**: 81.50

* Courses that may be completed at Clinton, Muscatine and Scott Community College.

** Must have CPR Certification – Health Care Provider or Professional Rescuer Level.

*** Courses are offered online only. All other respiratory care courses are offered in the classroom setting at the NICC campus located in Peosta, Iowa.

**AWARD**

After completing the program, students earn an AAS degree and are eligible for credentialing exams offered by the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC).
**COSTS OF PROGRAM**

In addition to tuition and books, the educational costs of the respiratory therapy program include:

- Background Check $15.00 per last name
- Physical Exam/Immunizations Varies based on student’s health insurance coverage and immunizations needed
- Drug Testing $75.00
- Apparel, Clinical Supplies $230.00
- Computerized Testing Package $300.00
- Clinical Transportation (Gas and Lodging) Varies

The application process and admission requirements for the Respiratory Care program can be found at [www.nicc.edu/respiratorycare/](http://www.nicc.edu/respiratorycare/).

**CLINICALS**

Current physical, immunization records, and American Heart Health Care Provider CPR or the American Red Cross CPR for the Professional Rescuer certification must be complete before attending the clinical portion of the respiratory care courses. A criminal record/child abuse registry check is also required and a positive report may prevent you from attendance in clinical and completion of the program. The clinical site may also require documentation of health insurance coverage and drug screening.

Students complete their clinical experiences in Dubuque, Iowa City, and Manchester, Iowa; and in Madison, Wisconsin.

Graduates of the Respiratory Care AAS are eligible for credentialing exams offered by the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC).

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**Clinton Community College**

1000 Lincoln Boulevard, Clinton, IA 52732
563-244-7001
1-800-638-0559
[www.facebook.com/clintoncommunitycollegeia](http://www.facebook.com/clintoncommunitycollegeia)

**Admissions Officer**
Heather Evans
hlevans@eicc.edu
563-244-7007
FAX 563-244-7107

**Muscatine Community College**

152 Colorado Street, Muscatine, IA 52761
563-288-6001
1-800-351-4669
[www.facebook.com/muscatinecommunitycollege](http://www.facebook.com/muscatinecommunitycollege)

**Admissions Officer**
Kari Hanson
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563-288-6007

**Scott Community College**

500 Belmont Road, Bettendorf, IA 52722
563-441-4001
1-800-895-0811
[www.facebook.com/scottcommunitycollege](http://www.facebook.com/scottcommunitycollege)

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If you have questions or complaints related to compliance with this policy, please contact Debora J. Sullivan, Equal Employment Opportunity Officer/Equity Coordinator, Eastern Iowa Community College District, 101 West Third Street, Davenport, Iowa 52801, 563-366-3487; dsullivan@eicc.edu or the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Citigroup Center, 500 West Madison Street, Suite 175, Chicago, Illinois 60661-7204, phone number 312-730-1560, fax 312-730-1576, OCR.Chicago@ed.gov.