Program Overview

The department offers two associate degree respiratory therapy programs, one in Newark and the other in Stratford. Please refer to the Respiratory South Program for further information on the list of programs. Each program has multiple community college partners. Graduates of the Newark program receive an Associate in Science (AS) and graduates of the Stratford program receive an Associate in Applied Science (AAS). Graduates from both programs are eligible to apply for a license to practice respiratory therapy in New Jersey and take credentialing examinations given by the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC). On the Newark Campus, a baccalaureate degree program is offered in Allied Health Technologies (BSAHT) in conjunction with seven four-year colleges and universities. On both campuses a second baccalaureate degree in Allied Health Technologies is available to qualified students.

Program description

The Rutgers, School of Health-Related Professions (SHRP) North Jersey Respiratory Care Program is a joint venture with an array of partners including six community colleges; Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, Raritan Valley, Warren, Ocean and Union, as well as seven four-year colleges and universities; Bloomfield College, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Felician College, Georgian Court University, New Jersey City University, Ramapo College, and Rutgers University-Newark. The general education and science requirements for the program are completed at one of these partner institutions. The respiratory courses are offered in Newark at Rutgers-SHRP. Graduates of the Program receive a joint AS degree in Respiratory Therapy or a joint B.S. Bachelor’s degree in Allied Health Technologies in Respiratory Care from Rutgers-SHRP and the enrolling college or university. A second baccalaureate degree in Allied Health Technologies from Rutgers-SHRP is also available to qualified students. Graduates are also eligible for both the entry-level credentialing and Advanced Therapist examinations, offered by the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC).
For the joint venture with six community colleges, students earn an AS degree in Respiratory Therapy after completing one full-time year in general education and science courses and another full-time year of respiratory therapy courses. Course work can also be done on a part-time basis. Graduates are eligible to take credentialing exams in respiratory therapy and to apply for a license in the state in which they practice.

The respiratory therapy portion of the curriculum is quite rigorous. Success in this program is achieved through intensive studying, a high level of motivation and minimal external distractions.

**Description Of The Profession**
Respiratory care therapists are health care specialists who participate in the diagnosis, treatment, management, education, and preventive care of patients with disorders of the cardiopulmonary system. Some of their primary responsibilities include oxygen therapy, humidification and aerosol therapy, drug administration, bronchial hygiene, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, maintenance of artificial airways, and ventilator-patient management. Their care extends to patients in hospitals on medical and surgical units, emergency rooms, neonatal, adult and cardiac intensive care units, and outpatient departments. Respiratory care may also be provided in patient’s homes, in rehabilitative centers, in nursing homes, as well as other health care facilities such as long-term acute care units (LTACs).

The respiratory therapist applies scientific knowledge and theory to practical problems of the cardiopulmonary system and is qualified to assume primary responsibility for all respiratory care modalities, including the supervision and management of respiratory therapy departments.

The qualified respiratory therapist can readily find employment in a variety of clinical settings. In addition, opportunities for advancement in areas such as supervision, education, and equipment and pharmaceutical sales and marketing are available to the experienced, credentialed therapist. All therapists are required to be licensed in New Jersey and/or other states where they practice respiratory care. One of the requirements of state licensure is to be a graduate of an accredited school of respiratory care, as with the Rutgers-SHRP programs.

**Full-time and Part-time status**
Students can complete this Program in two years on a full-time basis or over a longer time-frame on a part-time basis. See the program curriculum for more details. Students with substantial personal obligations are strongly encouraged to select the part-time option.
Department Faculty
Please see the department faculty under Primary Care department/Newark campus.

Primary Campus Location
The program is based in the Newark campus with assigned clinical sites.

Curriculum
See database for program requirements and course descriptions and select your program.

Mission/Goals/Objectives
The Program mission is to prepare students as competent, safe, advanced-level Respiratory Therapists in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and affective (behavior) learning domains as defined and described by the National Board of Respiratory Care, (NBRC) the American Association of Respiratory Care, (AARC) and the Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC).

Major Clinical Affiliates
- University Hospital, Newark, NJ
- Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, New Brunswick, NJ
- Saint Barnabas Medical Center, Livingston, NJ
- Newark Beth Israel Medical Center, Newark, NJ
- Saint Peters Medical Center, New Brunswick, NJ

Accreditation Status
The Rutgers-SHRP Respiratory Care Program-North is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (www.coarc.com)

CoARC
1248 Hardwood Road
Bedford, Texas 76021-4244
(817) 283-2835

Date of accreditation: March 2010

Admissions requirements
Admissions requirements for the Associate in Science option
Students desiring admissions to the Program’s AS option apply to their county community college directly. Applicants must hold a high school diploma or GED certificate and meet all admission requirements of the community college to which they apply. In addition, applicants must have completed high school courses in algebra, biology, and chemistry. Because enrollment capacity in the Program is limited, admission to the professional course sequence is competitive. Admission criteria include a minimum GPA of 2.75.

For further information and an application for admission, please contact the community college of your choice:

**Essex County College**
303 University Avenue
Newark, NJ 07103
Phone: (973) 877-3246
Robbyn Graham

**Hudson County Community College**
25 Journal Square
Jersey City, NJ 07306
Phone: (201) 360-4267
Suzanne Sansevere

**Middlesex County College**
260 Woodbridge Ave.
Edison, NJ 08818
Phone: (732) 906-2502
Dr. Marilyn Laskowski

**Raritan Valley Community College**
P.O. Box 3300
Somerville, NJ 08876
Phone: (908) 526-1200, ext 8578
Kathleen Michell

**Union County College**
C/O Rutgers-SHRP
1776 Raritan Road
Scotch Plains, NJ 07076
Phone: (908) 709-7127
Updated 06/13

Nina Hernandez

Warren County Community College
475 Route 57 West
Washington, NJ 07882
Phone: (908) 835-2307

Shannon Horwath

Ocean County Community College
College Drive
PO Box 2001
Phone: (732) 255-0304
Toms River, NJ 08754

G.P.A. minimum requirement/credentialing requirement
To be eligible for the professional course sequence at Rutgers, a student must complete at least 34 credits of pre-requisite course work at their community college, including English and Mathematics requirements, and all science courses. In addition, the student must maintain a “C” or better average (G.P.A. of at least a 2.75) prior to admission. Due to the highly competitive nature of the admission process, most successful candidates have a GPA of approximately 3.0 or better in pre-requisite courses. Eligible candidates are selected by each participating college from those meeting these minimum standards.

For more information
For more information contact the Office of Enrollment Services at (973) 972-5336 or via e-mail. Additional programmatic information is available online.

For more specific information contact the program at:
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
RBHS - School of Health Related Professions
Respiratory Care Program
Narciso Rodriguez, Program Director
65 Bergen Street, Rm 160
Newark, NJ 07107

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Fax: (973) 771-5271