

What Can I Do With a Major in...

Respiratory Care?

Respiratory Care is a rapidly growing Allied Health Profession concerned with the diagnosis and treatment of patients with abnormalities associated with the process of breathing. There are two levels of practice within the profession: (1) the Entry Level – Certified Respiratory Therapist, and (2) the Advanced Level – Registered Respiratory Therapist.

Skills/Competencies Associated with Respiratory Care Majors:

- Ability to work well with people and data
- Strong leadership skills
- Trustworthy, integrity and businesslike
- Ability to evaluate and follow procedures
- Ability to inspire productivity and loyalty
- Adaptable and flexible
- Likes challenges, questioning and analyzing
- Problem solving and intellectual growth
- Proficiency in reading, for accurate details
- Operate scientific equipment
- Desire for preciseness
- Desire to help humankind
- Organize and maintain accurate records
- Make critical observations and decisions

Related Occupations:

Athletic Trainer	Occupational Therapist
Audiologist	Optometrist
Cardiovascular Technologist	Paramedic
Dental Hygienist	Perfusionist
Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	Pharmaceutical Sales
Electroneurodiagnostic Tech	Physical Therapist
Licensed Practical Nurse	Speech Language Pathologist
Medical Imaging Tech	Surgical Technologist
Nuclear Medicine Technologists	Teacher
Nurse Practitioner	

*This is only a partial list and not meant to limit you. Come to Career Services to explore your options further.

Strategies:

- Be sensitive to a patient's physical and psychological needs
- Improve ability to work in a team atmosphere
- Enhance proficiency with computers
- Develop Technical Standards (School of Allied Health's nonacademic criteria):
 1. Observation
 2. Communications
 3. Motor function
 4. Intellectual-conceptual, integrative, and quantitative abilities
 5. Behavioral and social attributes

Resources:

College Central Network
www.collegecentral.com/gmc

American Association for Respiratory Care
www.aarc.org

Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care
www.coarc.com

Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America
www.aafa.org

RT for Decision Makers in Respiratory Care
www.rtmagazine.com

ADVANCE for Respiratory Care Professionals
www.respiratory-care-sleepmedicine.advanceweb.com

Occupational Outlook Handbook
www.bls.gov/oco

National Board for Respiratory Care, Inc.
www.nbrc.org

American Lung Association
www.lungusa.org

Respiratory Care Journal
www.rcjournal.com

FOCUS
www.foocus.com

Pennsylvania Society for Respiratory Care
www.psrc.net

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