



RESPIRATORY THERAPY PROGRAM Application Guidelines

Thank you for your interest in applying to the Respiratory Therapy Program. We hope that these application guidelines provide you with the general information about our upcoming application process. Thank you for your patience as we adjust our programs and processes to consider the impact of the COVID 19 pandemic. We continue to serve our health care community and look forward to serving you. For questions or concerns please email us at RespiratoryCare@tacomacc.edu.

Tacoma Community College's Respiratory Therapy program (#200306) Associate of Applied Science degree is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care; www.coarc.com.

Program Application/Admission Information

It is anticipated the application will be available online through the [Respiratory Therapy admission web page](#) beginning in mid-April. All complete online applications received by the **deadline of July 1st at 5 p.m.** will be considered for acceptance. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that their online application is complete in all respects.

The application process will include uploading required documentation, if applicable. Upon submission, a confirmation e-mail will be sent to the e-mail address used in the application. If a confirmation email is not received, please contact us at RespiratoryCare@tacomacc.edu as soon as possible.

Admission policies are subject to change. Applications will be accepted under the terms in place at the time an application is received. It is the responsibility of the applicant to keep up to date on any changes that may affect their qualifications for acceptance.

Admission into the Respiratory Therapy program is a competitive process and there are typically more applicants to the program than there are available positions. Therefore, if a student takes all of the pre-requisite classes and meets the other requirements for a completed application, it does not guarantee admission into the program. There is no waitlist system for this program. Tacoma Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, marital status, or disability.

Notifications to applicants may take several weeks to allow for official transcript evaluation. Applicants will be notified of their admission into the Respiratory Therapy program via email and will be asked to confirm their acceptance of admission.

Program Course Pre-requisites & Preparation

Preparing our future health care workers is an exciting opportunity for TCC. We work in partnership with local health care organizations to make sure we are preparing YOU for careers in our community. We are looking for evidence of the ability to succeed in an intense and rigorous educational journey. Tacoma Community College continues to focus on educating experienced health personnel from diverse backgrounds.

Applicants must be at least 18 years of age at the beginning of the program in Fall quarter, and possess the physical and emotional ability to complete the program.

Pre-requisite courses to program application include:

1. **Math 95 or higher** – Intermediate Algebra or higher (5 credits)
**Math 95 will be allowed for Fall 2022 applicants only. For students applying to the program after Fall quarter 2022, the math pre-requisite will change to Math 146 (Introduction to Statistics) or higher.*
2. **BIOL& 241 and 242** – Anatomy and Physiology I and II (10 credits)
3. **PSYC& 100 or 200** – General Psychology or Lifespan Psychology (5 credits)
4. **HIT 130** – Medical Terminology (3-5 credits) – or equivalent medical terminology course.

Pre-requisites for these courses may exist. It is recommended all prospective students meet with an [Allied Health Advisor](#) early to assist with educational planning. Prior to application, students must have completed the five (5) specific pre-requisite courses with a minimum grade of “C” (2.0) or better in each course, and an overall GPA of 2.5. **It is strongly recommended that Math and Science courses are taken within 5-7 years prior to program admission.**

Although letter grades for coursework and labs are preferred, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic’s impact on current and planned prerequisite courses, TCC will accept pass/no pass grading (pass only; no pass will not meet prerequisite) for courses/labs taken.. A Pass/No Pass grade will be counted as a “C” grade, or 2.0.

Any classes transferred in must be from a regionally accredited college or university acceptable to Tacoma Community College (e.g. a school accredited by one of the regional accreditation organizations). Unofficial transcripts must be uploaded during the online application process. Any applications missing transcripts will be considered incomplete. Applicants may be required to submit official transcripts for review upon request.

Program Course Co-requisites

1. **ENGL 101** – English Composition (5 credits)
2. **Communications Studies** – Choose one of the following: CMST& 101 – Introduction to Communication, CMST& 210 – Interpersonal Communication, CMST& 220 – Public Speaking, CMST& 110 – Multicultural Communication (5 credits)
3. **Basic Computer Course**- Choose one of the following: CU 102, 103, 104, or 105 – Word I, Excel I, Power Point (1-5 credit requirement)

The co-requisite courses are not required for admission and may be taken while enrolled in the Respiratory Therapy program. Students may earn an additional consideration toward their application for completed co-requisites. **It is important to note that although these courses are not required for admission to the program, these courses MUST be completed to receive your degree and become eligible to take national board examination.** It is highly recommended that the additional co-requisite courses be taken prior to entry in the program.

Optional

Additional College-level math/science (optional): Prospective applicants may earn extra consideration for additional college level science (e.g. Chemistry, Biology, Kinesiology, etc.), math (e.g. Pre-Calculus, Statistics), or Physics passed with a B or better.

Health Care Related Experience (optional): Clinical and health-related work is a valuable experience that prepares applicants with an understanding and appreciation for a career in health care. Effective health care delivery relies on efficient and competent teamwork to help patients in their treatment and recovery. While this experience is not required, it is helpful in ensuring applicants are knowledgeable and prepared to enter a health care profession.

Healthcare Experience Overview:

- A completed [Healthcare Related Experience](#) form must be included for consideration with the application, whether or not the applicant has prior experience.
- Forms will NOT be evaluated prior to the July 1 application deadline.

Respiratory Therapy Applicant Checklist

The application will open for students beginning in mid-April.

- Review and ensure understanding of the [Gateway to Health Careers](#).
- Complete five specific pre-requisite courses with a “C” or better in each course, with a minimum cumulative 2.5 GPA in the pre-requisite courses.
- Upload **unofficial** college transcripts (including all pre-requisite, co-requisite, and optional coursework for consideration) to the online application.
- Upload [Healthcare Related Experience](#) documentation to the online application. See link to form on previous page.
- Apply by the online application DEADLINE of 5 p.m. on July 1st.**
- If transferring pre-requisites from another educational institution, you may be required to submit official transcripts for review upon request. Admission to the program will be contingent upon review of official transcripts and acceptance of credit by the Enrollment Services department. Please send transcripts to:

***Tacoma Community College
Bldg. 7, Records Department
Attention: Transcript Evaluator
6501 South 19th Street
Tacoma, WA 98466***