

# RESPIRATORY CARE ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE

## ADMISSIONS GUIDE



### ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Respiratory Therapists are vital members of medical teams and serve as life-support specialists for a broad range of patients - from infants to the elderly. Our program has an excellent reputation in the community and produces highly qualified graduates and transfers to our [B.S. Cardiopulmonary Science](#).

### ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST

(Meeting minimum requirements does not guarantee admission)

Term	Applications Accepted	Application Review	Student Notified by Email: xxxxxx#@live.spcollege.edu
Fall: August	March 1 – May 15	May 16 – June 30	July 1

- New** students must complete the St. Petersburg College Admission Application and pay the non-refundable fee. **Returning** students must complete the online Readmission steps in MySPC if you have not enrolled in the previous six semesters. [Admissions and Readmissions](#)

#### **A secondary Health Program Application is required for limited access Health Programs (link below)**

- Submit official, unopened (sealed) high school or GED transcripts indicating completion of a standard high school diploma or equivalency. We do not accept unofficial copies or official copies that have been opened. Applicants who have earned an Associate in Arts, Associate in Science, Associate in Applied Science, Baccalaureate, or higher degree from a regionally accredited institution are waived from this requirement. **Transcripts must be received and evaluated by St. Petersburg College prior to the application deadline to ensure consideration.** [Submitting Official Transcripts](#)
- Submit official, unopened (sealed) transcripts from all regionally accredited college(s) and/or universities currently or previously attended. We do not accept unofficial copies or official copies that have been opened. **Transcripts must be received and evaluated by St. Petersburg College prior to the application deadline to ensure consideration.** [Submitting Official Transcripts](#)
- Students must demonstrate they are at college level in Writing, Reading, and Math either through appropriate test scores or through appropriate course completion.
- Students must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.00 on a 4.00 scale in all postsecondary coursework. Your Academic Standing may have an impact on your admission, enrollment, and financial aid eligibility. See the SPC Academic Standing Policy for details. [Academic Standing Policy](#)
- Completion of the following pre-entry courses with a grade of "C" or better:
  - **BSC 2085 and BSC 2085L Human Anatomy & Physiology 1 and Lab**
  - **BSC 2086 and BSC 2086L Human Anatomy & Physiology 2 and Lab**
  - **Computer/Information Literacy**
- Complete a minimum of 12 credit hours in the General Education and Support courses from the A.S. Respiratory Care program with a "C" or better.
- Students must have a minimum 2.5 GPA in all pre-entry, general education, and support coursework from the Respiratory Care A.S. program requirements.

*St. Petersburg College is committed to equal access/equal opportunity in its programs, activities, and employment.  
For additional information visit [www.spcollege.edu/eaeo](http://www.spcollege.edu/eaeo)*

- I have reviewed the Technical Standards (Essential Functions) of my selected health program. I agree that I can meet the Technical Standards with or without accommodation(s). If you feel that you cannot meet these requirements due to a disability, please contact the Health Education Center Accessibility Services office to set up a confidential consultation at (727) 341-3432 or visit [www.spcollege.edu/accessibility](http://www.spcollege.edu/accessibility).
- VECHS/FDLE Authorization forms: Applicants admitted will be required to print, hand sign, scan (either by scanner or mobile PDF app), and upload properly prepared signature pages in the Notice of Intent (NOI) Survey. If admitted, further details on completing the background, drug testing and fingerprint screening process will be sent in the offer of admission email.
- Submit a Health Programs Application: [Health Program Application](#)
- All applicants will be invited to an informal, one-on-one informational session with the department. This session will discuss program and career information only and will have no bearing on your application.

**Admission notifications** will be sent through SPC student email (xxxxxx#@live.spcollege.edu) If you are not sure how to access your SPC student email, please visit [How do I Access My SPC Email](#)

### Program Information and Schedule

- SPC's Respiratory Care program has been producing highly qualified RRTs since 1971.
- The Health Education Center offers an on-site simulation hospital for students to practice skills.
- One cohort is available each year: Fall
- Completion of the program allows a student to apply to SPC's B.S. Cardiopulmonary Science.
- Clinical facilities may prohibit students who do not have an assigned social security number from participating in clinical experiences which are a mandatory component of the curriculum.  
If other placement options are not available, the student would need to withdraw from that semester and would not be able to progress in the program. These factors must be taken into consideration prior to pursuing admission to the program.
- Year One Fall and Spring:  
Mondays 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Clinicals every other Tuesday or Thursday 6:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
Lab on Thursdays (weeks 1 – 4)
- Year One Summer:  
Mondays 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
Clinicals 6:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. up to two days per week, depending on clinical location
- Year Two Fall and Spring:  
Wednesdays 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Clinicals every Tuesday 6:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Year Two Summer:  
Mondays 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Clinicals 6:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. up to two days per week, depending on clinical location

### Selection Criteria, Selection Process and Admissions

- **All application requirements must be satisfied by the closing of the application window.**
- Up to 36 students are admitted depending on availability of clinical sites. Typically, 60-70 students apply.
- The average GPA for acceptance varies for each applicant pool but typically falls above 3.0.
- When the number of eligible applicants exceeds program availability, selective criteria are used to determine which applicants are admitted. In the case of a tie, a lottery will be used.  
This criterion is based on a point system using the pre-entry GPA and completion of pre-entry, general education, and support coursework. Students will be considered using a point system based on health program GPA, and the number of general education and support coursework credits completed.
- **31 points** may be awarded based on the number of health program pre-entry, general education and support coursework credits completed.
- **40 points** may be awarded based on the health program GPA earned from pre-entry, general education, and support coursework, excluding Computer/Information Literacy.

**If you are admitted**, you will need to complete the following pre-enrollment requirements to maintain eligible status.

- Complete the Notice of Intent survey by the date indicated in the admission email.
- Successfully pass a background check and drug screening by the date indicated in the admission email.
- Complete the Health Education Program orientation on the date indicated in the admission email.
- Complete the Health Examination Form and any required immunizations. Form and due date will be provided at orientation.

**If you are not admitted**, please discuss admissions requirements with an Academic Advisor and consider reapplying during a future application cycle.

**Estimated Cost**

<b>Tuition*<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Drug and Background Check</b>	<b>Immunizations**</b>	<b>Uniforms, Special Equipment, Lab Fees &amp; Other Costs</b>	<b>Textbooks</b>	<b>State Exam &amp; License Fees</b>	<b>Total</b>
\$5,140.50	\$136.00	\$900.00	\$500.00	\$1,100.00	\$495.00	\$8,271.00

\* Tuition is estimated using the Florida residency rate of \$111.75/credit hour. Non-resident rate is \$386.90/credit hour.

<sup>1</sup> Tuition is for core coursework only. General Education and Support courses are not included.

\*\* These are high estimates; actual costs will vary depending on health insurance coverage.

**Accessibility Services**

St. Petersburg College is committed to providing quality education and services to all students by ensuring that admission, academic programs, support services, student activities, and campus facilities are accessible to and usable by qualified students with disabilities. Each specific health program has its own technical standards which all students must meet with or without accommodation(s). To help students achieve success, Accessibility Services works with students, faculty, and staff to coordinate the provision of reasonable accommodations. To put your accommodations in place, please contact the Health Education Center Accessibility Services at (727) 341-3432 or visit <http://www.spcollege.edu/accessibility>

## A.S. Respiratory Care

<b>PRE-ENTRY COURSES (9 credits)</b> A grade of "C" or higher is required. (May <b>not</b> be satisfied by an Associate in Arts or higher degree)	<b>CREDIT POINTS</b>
<b>BSC 2085 HUMAN ANATOMY &amp; PHYSIOLOGY 1</b>	3
<b>BSC 2085L HUMAN ANATOMY &amp; PHYSIOLOGY 1 LAB</b>	1
<b>BSC 2086 HUMAN ANATOMY &amp; PHYSIOLOGY 2</b>	3
<b>BSC 2086L HUMAN ANATOMY &amp; PHYSIOLOGY 2 LAB</b>	1
<b>COMPUTER/INFORMATION LITERACY COMPETENCY</b> Competency may be demonstrated by completing the <a href="#">Computer Information and Literacy Exam</a> OR by successful completion of one of the approved Computer/Information Literacy Competency courses. No minimum credits required. Not included in Health Program GPA calculation.	1
<b>SUPPORT COURSES (4 credits)</b> A grade of "C" or higher is required. (May <b>not</b> be satisfied by an Associate in Arts or higher degree)	
<b>MCB 2010 MICROBIOLOGY</b>	3
<b>MCB 2010L MICROBIOLOGY LAB</b>	1
<b>GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES (18 credits)</b> A grade of "C" or higher is required. (May be satisfied by an Associate in Arts or higher degree)	
<b>COMMUNICATIONS: Composition 1</b> 3 credits from the approved General Education COMPOSITION coursework ENC 1101 – Composition 1 or ENC 1101H (Honors)	3
<b>HUMANITIES AND FINE ARTS</b> 3 credits from the approved General Education HUMANITIES AND FINE ARTS – CORE <i>Recommended: a CORE Humanities and Fine Arts that meets the Enhanced World View*</i>	3
<b>MATHEMATICS</b> 3 credits from the approved General Education MATHEMATICS – CORE	3
<b>SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES</b> 6 credits from the approved General Education SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES – CORE <i>Recommended: a CORE Social and Behavioral Science that meets the Civic Literacy requirement**</i>	6
<b>ETHICS</b> 3 credits from the approved General Education ETHICS coursework	3
<b>GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS</b>	
* <b>ENHANCED WORLD VIEW:</b> (May be satisfied by an Associate in Arts or higher degree) Complete at least one 3-credit course intended to enhance the student's world view considering an increasingly globalized economy. This course may also be used to satisfy Humanities and Fine Arts.	
** <b>CIVIC LITERACY REQUIREMENT:</b> <a href="#">A.S. Respiratory Care Program of Study</a> A.S. General Education Requirements – Civic Literacy Students entering an A.S. Degree program in the 2022-2023 academic school year, or thereafter, must demonstrate competency through successful completion of the Civic Literacy requirement. This may include a course and exam, or an alternative accelerated mechanism. This course may be used to satisfy Social & Behavioral Sciences.	
<b>At least 12 of the 31 General Education and Support Course credits must be completed to be eligible to apply for admissions to the program.</b>	
<b>GENERAL EDUCATION AND SUPPORT COURSE CREDIT HOUR TOTALS</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Health Program GPA Calculator</b> <a href="#">Click Here</a> Admission GPA calculated from 30 credits listed above; exclude computer <b>GPA multiplied by 10 = GPA points for example, 4.0 X 10 = 40 GPA points</b>	
<b>Maximum Points = 31 credit points + 40 GPA points = 71 TOTAL POINTS</b>	

*To view approved General Education courses, please refer to [A.S. General Education Requirements](#)*

Transfer courses for which there is no direct SPC equivalent will be posted as elective credit and designated with a '999' course number. If you believe a course posted as an elective should satisfy a degree requirement, you may submit a request for **Alternate Satisfaction**.

To initiate the alternate satisfaction request/review process, please complete the **Alternative Satisfaction Survey**.  
<https://web.spcollege.edu/survey/21215>