RESPIRATORY THERAPY

Respiratory therapy became a profession in 1947 under the name inhalation therapy. Since that time, the technology and the theoretical base for the profession have grown tremendously, and respiratory therapists have become integral constituents of the health care team. Careers in respiratory therapy are challenging, interesting, and rewarding.

The clinical practice of respiratory therapy involves the application of skills and knowledge in the diagnosis and treatment of cardiopulmonary diseases. Since many types of illnesses precipitate heart and lung failure, respiratory therapists engage in the care of patients from all age groups who suffer from a broad spectrum of diseases. Employment opportunities in respiratory therapy are good with 4 of 5 jobs in hospital departments of respiratory care, anesthesiology, or pulmonary medicine. They also staff laboratories that engage in diagnosis of cardiopulmonary diseases, provide respiratory care for patients at home, and are involved in the transportation of patients who require respiratory care enroute.

Individuals practicing respiratory therapy should be mature, responsible persons with strong interpersonal skills and the desire to care for others. Interest and competence in the basic sciences are strong determinants in the academic success of a respiratory therapy student. Respiratory therapy involves the application of highly technological equipment to patient care situations.

The Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care, www.coarc.com, has Essentials (Standards) that include a minimum of an associate degree in Respiratory Therapy as the entry level. Respiratory therapists are required to complete either a two-year associate degree or a four-year baccalaureate degree. Baccalaureate programs are either four year programs or the final two years of "2 + 2" programs. In the latter type of program, prerequisite courses are completed at any accredited college or university. The professional courses leading to the Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Therapy (B.S.R.T.) are then pursued at the institution that confers the degree.

Upon graduating from an approved program, students must pass the certification examination administered by the National Board for Respiratory Care, Inc. to become certified. Program directors should be contacted for their current admission requirements.

The accrediting agency for Respiratory Therapy Programs is the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP), www.caahep.org, lists 29 accredited Respiratory Therapy Programs in Texas. Addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses, and type of degree are given on the following pages.
For further information on respiratory therapy programs in Texas contact:

Alvin Community College (AAS)
Respiratory Therapy Program
3110 Mustang Rd
Alvin, TX 77511
281-756-3658
dflaitlan@alvincollege.edu
www.alvincollege.edu

Angelina College (AAS)
Respiratory Therapy Program
3500 South 1st St
Lufkin, TX 75902
936-639-5419
mparks@angelina.cc.tx.us
www.angelina.edu

Del Mar College (AAS)
Respiratory Therapy Program
101 Baldwin
Corpus Christi, TX 78404
361-698-1108
jwatson@delmar.edu
www.delmar.edu

El Paso Community College (AAS)
Respiratory Therapy Program
P.O. Box 20500
El Paso, TX 79998
915-831-2000
vangiedf@epcc.edu
www.epcc.edu

Howard College (AAS)
Respiratory Therapy Program
3501 N US Highway 67
San Angelo, TX 76905
325-481-8300 x 239
mtrubenstein@howardcollege.edu
www.howardcollege.edu

Amarillo College (AAS)
Respiratory Therapy Program
P.O. Box 447
Amarillo, TX 79178
806-354-6058
young-wa@actx.edu
www.actx.edu

Collin County Comm. College District (AAS)
Respiratory Therapy Program
2200 W University Dr
McKinney, TX 75071
972-548-6870
dgibson@ceccd.edu
www.ceccd.edu

El Centro College (AAS)
Respiratory Therapy Program
801 Main St.
Dallas, TX 75202
214-860-2306
idiculca@ceccd.edu
www.elcentrocollege.edu

Houston Community College System (AAS, BS)
Respiratory Therapy Program
Coleman Health Sciences Bldg
Houston, TX 77030
713-718-7378
donna.westmoreland@hecs.edu
www.hecs.edu

Kingwood College - NHMCCD (AAS)
Respiratory Therapy Program
20000 Kingwood Dr
Kingwood, TX 77339
281-312-1608
kenny.mccowen@kc.nhmccd.edu
www.kcweb.nhmccd.edu
Lamar University Inst. of Technology (AAS)  
Respiratory Therapy Program  
P.O. Box 10061  
Beaumont, TX 77710  
409-880-8852  
gwen.walden@lit.edu  
www.lit.edu

McLennan Community College (AAS)  
Respiratory Therapy Program  
1400 College Dr  
Waco, TX 76708  
254-299-8369  
dgibson@mclennan.edu  
www.mclennan.edu

Midland College (AAS)  
Respiratory Therapy Program  
3600 N Garfield  
Midland, TX 79705  
915-685-4600  
rweidmann@midland.edu  
www.midland.edu

Midwestern State University (BS)  
Respiratory Therapy Program  
3410 Taft Blvd  
Wichita Falls, TX 76308  
940-397-4653  
anmedford@mwsu.edu  
www.mwsu.edu

San Jacinto College (AAS)  
Respiratory Therapy Program  
8060 Spencer Hwy  
Pasadena, TX 77501  
281-476-1864  
larry.vandiver@sjcd.edu  
www.sjcd.cc.tx.us

South Plains College (AAS)  
Respiratory Therapy Program  
819 Gilbert Dr  
Lubbock, TX 79416  
806-885-3048 x 4625  
tsgrist@southplainscollege.edu  
www.southplainscollege.edu

St. Philip’s College (AAS)  
Respiratory Therapy Program  
1801 Martin Luther King Blvd, Box 51  
San Antonio, TX 78203  
210-531-3473  
bfisher@aacc.edu  
www.aacc.edu/spc

Tarrant County College (AAS)  
Respiratory Therapy Program  
828 Harwood Rd  
Hurst, TX 76054  
817-515-6574  
john.hiser@tccd.edu  
www.tccd.edu

Temple College (AAS)  
Respiratory Therapy Program  
2600 South 1st St  
Temple, TX 76504  
254-298-8928  
bill.coriel@templejc.edu  
www.templejc.edu

Texas Southern University (AAS)  
Respiratory Therapy Program  
3100 Cleburne St  
Houston, TX 77004  
713-313-7961  
allen_re@tsu.edu  
www.tsu.edu
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<th>Institution</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Website</th>
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<tr>
<td>Texas State University (BS) (AAS) Respiratory Therapy Program</td>
<td>601 University Dr, San Marcos, TX 78666</td>
<td>512-245-8243</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sm10@txstate.edu">sm10@txstate.edu</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.txstate.edu">www.txstate.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (BS)</td>
<td>7703 Floyd Curl Dr-MSC 624, San Antonio, TX 78229</td>
<td>210-567-8856</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vines@uthscsa.edu">vines@uthscsa.edu</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.uthscsa.edu">www.uthscsa.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>The University of Texas Brownsville and Texas Southmost College (AAS) Respiratory Therapy Program</td>
<td>234 Billy Mitchell, Brownsville, TX 78521</td>
<td>956-544-5034</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mrajasuriar@utb.edu">mrajasuriar@utb.edu</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.utb.edu">www.utb.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>USAF School of Health Care Sciences (AAS)</td>
<td>383 TRS/UFC, Sheppard AFB, TX 76311</td>
<td>940-676-3812</td>
<td><a href="mailto:shane.pearson@sheppard.af.mil">shane.pearson@sheppard.af.mil</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.sheppard.af.mil">www.sheppard.af.mil</a></td>
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<td>Weathorford College (AAS) Respiratory Therapy Program</td>
<td>225 College Park Dr, Weathorford, TX 76086</td>
<td>817-598-6452</td>
<td><a href="mailto:edwardst@wc.edu">edwardst@wc.edu</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.wc.edu">www.wc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tyler Junior College (AAS) Respiratory Therapy Program</td>
<td>P.O. Box 9020, Tyler, TX 75711</td>
<td>903-510-2481</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mpar@tjc.edu">mpar@tjc.edu</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.tjc.edu">www.tjc.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>The University of Texas Medical Branch (BS) Respiratory Therapy Program</td>
<td>301 University Blvd, Galveston, TX 77555</td>
<td>409-772-5693</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jnilsest@utmb.edu">jnilsest@utmb.edu</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.utmb.edu">www.utmb.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US Army Med Dept Center &amp; School (AAS) Respiratory Therapy Program</td>
<td>Meldoe Bldg 1151, Ft Sam Houston, TX 78234</td>
<td>210-295-4411</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jon.chora@cenamedd.army.mil">jon.chora@cenamedd.army.mil</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.cs.amedd.army.mil">www.cs.amedd.army.mil</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victoria College (AAS) Respiratory Therapy Program</td>
<td>2200 E Red River, Victoria, TX 77901</td>
<td>361-572-6491</td>
<td><a href="mailto:chris.kallus@victoriacollege.edu">chris.kallus@victoriacollege.edu</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.victoriacollege.edu">www.victoriacollege.edu</a></td>
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Revised 02/08 by: E. Larry Nordyke University of St. Thomas