



RESPIRATORY CARE PROGRAM INFORMATION SHEET

The goal of the Napa Valley College Respiratory Therapy Program is to prepare graduates with demonstrated competence in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and affective (behavior) learning domains of respiratory care practice as performed by registered respiratory therapists (RRTs).

The Respiratory Care Program will begin a new class each Fall (August). Please check the webpage for the Application Period dates. The number of applicants accepted will vary by start depending on available clinical sites.

BEFORE APPLYING: In order to be accepted into the Respiratory Care Program, there are several steps you must complete before you turn in your application. Make sure you fully understand what is expected to be done and allow adequate time for requirements, such as official transcript requests and foreign transcript evaluations. The student should make an appointment with a counselor to review program requirements and create an educational plan.

- Attend a mandatory Respiratory Care Information Meeting.
 - The Respiratory Care Information Meeting is designed to provide information you need about the admission process and the program. The meeting lasts approximately 60 minutes with a Q&A period. Individual assistance is provided as needed after the group session. The Respiratory Care application form will be distributed. No registration is required for this meeting. This meeting is for information sharing only; you do not apply for the program at this time. (Application forms are only available to those who have attended a mandatory information meeting.)
- Complete a Napa Valley College Application, do this online at www.napavalley.edu
- Meet with a counselor to develop your education plan.
- Complete the following Prerequisite courses with a “C” or better.
 - MATH 106 – College Algebra or Equivalent (4 Units), OR Math 232 – Statistics or Equivalent (3 Units), OR other TRANSFERABLE Math.
 - BIOL 218 - Human Anatomy (5 Units) Or Equivalent
 - **Please Note: BIOL 105-Human Biology is a prerequisite for BIOL 218**
 - BIOL 219 - Human Physiology (5 Units) Or Equivalent
 - **Please Note: BIOL 105-Human Biology AND CHEM 110-Intro to Chemistry are prerequisites for BIOL 219**
 - BIOL 220 - General Microbiology (5 Units) Or Equivalent
 - **Please Note: BIOL 219-Human Physiology is a prerequisite for BIOL 220**
 - CHEM 110 - Intro to Chemistry (4 Units) Or Equivalent
 - **PRIORITY IS GIVEN TO STUDENTS WHO HAVE COMPLETED PHYSICS.**
- Napa Valley College will accept 4 unit/lab core biology courses for transfer
- If your College transcripts are from outside the U.S. they must be evaluated by an International Evaluation service prior to submission of your application.
- Hep B Surface Antibody, MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella), and Varicella Titers (Blood Test). Please email to Cindy Miller before application at cmiller@napavalley.edu, and mail in with your application.
- When you have met all requirements, you may then submit your application (with any official sealed transcripts not already at the school), by **MAIL ONLY**, to Margarita Ceja, A&R Office, 2277 Napa-Vallejo Highway, Napa, CA 94558. We are only accepting mail-in applications at this time. Please mail applications during the **published application period**. Applications will not be accepted if not mailed within the published application dates. These dates will be provided at the Information Meeting and on the application, as well as on the RC webpage.
- All Respiratory Care program applicants and current students must maintain an active NVC email address during their time in the program and check it regularly.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

You will hear in May if you are accepted for the fall class. Invitations to accept will be sent via email and require a response by the deadline indicated on the email. Accepting the invitation includes agreeing to attend a Mandatory Orientation in July. The date for the orientation will also be provided on the invitation email.

While waiting to start the Program, you should start working on completing your General Education requirements, **the required Psychology course (PSYC 125)**, and some of the highly recommended courses listed below:

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED COURSES/ADVISORY

- CISA 130 - Computer Literacy
- ENGL 125 - Critical Thinking
- HEOC 171 - Medical Terminology
- HEOC 101 - Pharmacology
- MATH 232 - Statistics (Required by CSUs)
- PHYS 110 or 120- Physics
- SPAN 120 - First Semester Spanish
- SPCOM 124- Career Communication

ESTIMATED COSTS

In addition to usual college tuition and fees, Respiratory Care students will have added expenses for uniforms, books, lab equipment, orientations, standardized examinations and licensing expenses. Estimated cost is on the Respiratory Therapy webpage under the "Prospective Students" link on the left.

CPR CERTIFICATION

American Heart Association Basic Life Support for Health Care Providers is the only type accepted in our program and is required by our clinical affiliating agencies at the time of admission.

HEALTH & SAFETY REQUIREMENTS:

Please visit [Health & Safety Requirements \(napavalley.edu\)](http://napavalley.edu/Health_Safety_Requirements) for Health & Safety requirements and guidelines.

BACKGROUND CHECKS/DRUG SCREENS

The Respiratory Care Board of California may deny licensure to any person who has been convicted of a crime. If you have had such a conviction, you should review the Denial/Discipline information at www.rcb.ca.gov. The program requires background checks for all students because hospitals require background checks and drug screens. Students will need to pay online for background checks and drug screenings. If they do not clear, the student may not be able to meet clinical requirements and will be dropped from the program. See student handbook for additional information.

APPROXIMATE WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Because of the many hours required for clinical practice (about 12-16 hours per week) and the rigor of the theory classes, students must expect a very demanding schedule. To find a sample schedule per semester, go to the Respiratory Care section of the Napa Valley College website and review the information in the Prospective Students link on the left.

SOME CLINICAL FACILITIES AFFILIATED WITH NVC

- Queen of the Valley Medical Center
- Sonoma Valley Hospital
- St. Helena Hospital
- Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital
- Kaiser Hospital – Vallejo, Vacaville, San Rafael, Santa Rosa, and Walnut Creek
- Sutter Hospital – Fairfield or Santa Rosa
- North Bay Medical Center – Fairfield
- VacaValley Hospital
- Children's Hospital – Oakland
- UCSF Medical Center
- Alta Bates Medical Center
- John Muir Medical Center – Concord or Walnut Creek

HOW LONG IS THE WAITING LIST?

There is no wait list. Students will need to reapply each year until they are accepted. Repeat applicants are given priority.

WHAT CAN I DO TO MAKE THE BEST USE OF MY TIME WHILE I WAIT TO ENTER THE RESPIRATORY CARE PROGRAM?

The students who are most likely to succeed in the Respiratory Care program are those who use the time before they enter to build the academic foundation needed for the rigorous program. An NVC counselor can help you select courses to build this foundation.

IS THERE AN ADVANTAGE TO WORKING IN A HEALTH-CARE SETTING BEFORE I START THE PROGRAM?

Yes, if you are employed in the health-care field before you begin the program you will probably feel more comfortable in the lab & clinical settings, become more familiar with medical terminology, and develop the communication skills needed to be an effective respiratory therapist. Some health facilities provide scholarship assistance to their employees who are pursuing a career in respiratory therapy. **Please be aware that, per CoARC, students may not receive payment as a clinical student while in the respiratory care program.**

WHAT IS A FOREIGN TRANSCRIPT EVALUATION?

If your High School or College transcripts are from **other countries** they **must be evaluated** by an International Evaluation Service prior to submission of your application, or you must provide Napa Valley College with a certificate from the International Evaluator. Forms are available in Admissions & Records.

Napa Valley College career technical education programs are open and available to all students regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. Admission requirements for Napa Valley College career technical education programs are described in the current Napa Valley College catalog. The Napa Valley College Title IX officer is Charo Albarran, Associate Vice President, Human Resources & Training Development- Phone: 707-256-7105. For information regarding the requirements of Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act or to file a complaint, contact Special Services, 707-253-3080 (voice), 707-253-3085 (TDD).