

Respiratory Care Program Most Frequently Asked Questions

How long does it take to complete the program?

Once a student is accepted, the program is two years in length: Fall, Spring, Summer, Fall, Spring [77 credits + RDG 120 + CHM 110].

What degree is awarded?

A.A.S., Associate in Applied Science.

Can courses be taken in the evening?

Respiratory Care Technology (RCT) courses are only offered once a year and only during the day. Each course is only offered in the semester listed on the course sequence sheet. Core and support courses are offered all year long, day and evening. These courses are bolded on the course sequence sheet. Many are offered using a distance learning format [telecourse or on-line].

What options do I have to pursue a higher degree?

There is a collegewide Connected Degree agreement which exists specifically for an Associate Degree in Respiratory Care between Delaware Technical & Community College and Widener University leading toward a Baccalaureate Degree in Allied Health.

Where are courses taught?

All support courses, as well as basic science and math courses, are offered at the Wilmington Campus of Delaware Technical & Community College. All Respiratory Care Technology courses (RCT) involve lecture, lecture and lab, or clinical. All RCT courses with lecture or lecture and lab are taught at the Riverside Campus of Christiana Care Health System. Clinical courses are offered at various locations including Christiana Hospital, Wilmington Hospital, St. Francis Hospital, Riverside Long Term Care Facility, and A. I. DuPont Hospital for Children.

How do clinical courses differ from other courses?

Students are assigned to rotate at one or more clinical facilities. The student will participate in patient care under the supervision of a licensed Respiratory Therapist. The student must abide by all policies and procedures of the clinical facility. A criminal background check and drug screen are required. Students must be punctual when arriving at the clinical facility and are expected to be ready at the beginning of the shift. Most shifts begin as early as 6:30 AM.

A student in this program is required to comply with the Allied Health/Science Department Policy Manual, the CCHS/DTCC – Wilmington Campus Respiratory Care Program Manual, and all the policies and procedures that pertain to any technology program. Examples include but are not limited to:

- Transportation to/from clinical sites
- Completing immunization/medical forms
- Required background checks
- Required drug testing