



School of Allied Health Professions
Department of Cardiopulmonary Science

Frequently Asked Questions: Respiratory Therapy Program

1. Is the program accredited?

Yes, our program is accredited by the Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC, 10-yr accreditation thru 2021).

2. How long has the program been in existence?

The first class was enrolled in 1978.

3. Where do your graduates work after graduation?

Over 300 LSUHSC Cardiopulmonary Science Respiratory Therapy graduates can be found throughout the U.S. and abroad in areas of healthcare leadership, management, education, research, clinical practice, medical equipment development, sales, and sleep diagnostics. Some have gone on to become physicians, perfusionists, or physician assistants.

4. What are your CRT and RRT National Board Exam pass rates?

Outstanding! 2017 program outcomes;

- **100% CRT credentialing success of graduates**
- **100% RRT credentialing success of graduates**

Previous 3-yr (2014-2016) program outcomes;

- **96.2% CRT credentialing success of graduates**
- **88.5% RRT credentialing success of graduates**

Our Program received CoARC's Distinguished Registered Respiratory Therapist Credentialing Success Award

Link to outcomes:

<http://alliedhealth.lsuhs.edu/cp/docs/RTProgramOutcomes.pdf?version1.2017>

5. What is the on-time graduation rate?

2017 (100%)

2014-2016 (100%)

6. Do graduates find jobs after graduation?

2017 (100% employment)

2014-2016 (92.3% within 1-yr of graduation)

100% overall employer satisfaction

7. Where do students attend clinicals?

Sixteen clinical sites throughout the surrounding metropolitan area offer students a diverse clinical experience, whereby students gain clinical skills in managing challenging patient populations in numerous clinical settings.

A list of clinical sites is found here;

<http://alliedhealth.lsuhs.edu/cp/clinicalaffiliates.aspx>

8. When do students begin clinical rotations?

Clinics begin mid-way through the first fall semester and continue each semester thereafter.

9. How many students (respiratory track) do you enroll each year?

The respiratory therapy program accepts up to 15 students each year.

10. What are some of the unique aspects of the program?

- Students dissect cadavers in anatomy course
- Sleep disorders curriculum
- High-fidelity patient simulation training that engages students in active, competency-based, hands-on learning
- Interprofessional education with the Schools of Nursing, Occupational Therapy, and Medicine
- Advanced management of difficult airways, including fiberoptic intubations and cricothyroidotomy with jet ventilation
- Advanced cardiac life support (ACLS) and pediatric advanced life support (PALS) courses
- Senior students are teaching assistants to junior students who are attending their 1st critical care clinic rotations.
- Senior students spend time with the medical director of the program and other pulmonary critical care medicine pulmonologists during their outpatient clinical practices.
- Senior students participate in a management rotation with respiratory care managers/directors of local area hospitals.
- Dedicated, caring faculty with over 100 years of combined clinical and teaching experience in respiratory therapy
- Students receive free web-based student membership in the American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC).

11. How much does it cost to attend?

A link to the LSUHSC Allied Health Professions Undergraduate (Full-Time) Tuition and Fees is found here;

<http://www.lsuhs.edu/tuition/alliedhealth.aspx>