



WEST KENTUCKY COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE



Respiratory Care Technology Program

www.westkentucky.kctcs.edu

PADUCAH • KENTUCKY

A dynamic educational institution, West Kentucky Community and Technical College provides *accessible, innovative and comprehensive learning opportunities* within an environment of excellence and commitment to student success in the global community.



4810 Alben Barkley Drive
P.O. Box 7380
Paducah, KY 42002-7380

RESPIRATORY CARE -

Saving lives, one breath at a time!

The Respiratory Therapist is a vital member of the health care team. While working closely with the physician and other members of the team, the Respiratory Therapist provides the patient with effective treatment of respiratory and cardiac disorders. In addition, the respiratory therapist uses life support equipment and provides emergency and trauma intervention.



The **Respiratory Care Program** is a two-year program. Successful completion of Anatomy and Physiology as well as an approved mathematics course is recommended prior to enrollment in the first semester of the program.

The curriculum consists of specialized courses in cardiac and respiratory care in addition to concentrated study in the basic sciences, mathematics, and general education courses leading to an Associate in Applied Science Degree.

Upon completion of the program, the graduate may sit for the National Board for Respiratory Care Entry-Level Exam.

Respiratory Therapists work in hospitals, nursing homes, and for durable medical equipment companies. They may also be employed by pharmaceutical and equipment companies as sales representatives.

The Respiratory Care Program is accredited by the Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC).

For additional information concerning careers in Respiratory care, contact the American Association for Respiratory Care at www.aarc.org or the National Board for Respiratory Care at www.nbrc.org.



Financial Aid

West Kentucky Community and Technical College participates in a full range of federal and state financial aid programs that include grants, loans and work-study.

For information on any of these programs, contact the College's Financial Aid Office by phoning (270) 534-3248.

The College also awards academic scholarships to first-time freshmen and continuing students. Scholarship information may be obtained in the Anderson Technical Building or by phoning (270) 554-9200.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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For more information about WKCTC and the Respiratory Care program, visit our website at: allied.westkentucky.kctcs.edu

Frequently Asked Questions...

Q. *How do I apply?*

A. The first step is to complete an application to the college. The application may be obtained online at www.westkentucky.kctcs.edu. Applications are also available on campus in the Admissions Department located in the Anderson Building.

Q. *What do Respiratory Therapists earn?*

A. Respiratory Therapists earned a median income of \$38,000 in 2000.

Q. *Are there job opportunities?*

A. Health care and health care needs are changing every day, faster than ever before. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the respiratory care field is expected to grow faster than average over the next seven years and beyond, due to an aging population, nationwide air quality issues and advances in medical care. Because they work with some of the most sophisticated equipment in the medical profession, respiratory therapists are in high demand. Therapists are a special blend of "patient-centric" caregivers and technically sharp analytical thinkers. Respiratory Therapy is a lucrative career for disciplined, care-focused individuals.

Q. *Am I required to obtain an Associate Degree?*

A. Yes. In January, 2000, the NBRC standards for credentialing exam eligibility mandates that the graduate hold an Associate Degree.

Where will YOU go to College?