Program Overview
The demand for health care jobs is continuing to grow, including jobs in respiratory care. Respiratory therapists work closely with physicians and nurses to diagnose lung and breathing disorders, and evaluate and treat patients to help them recover lung function. If you have a caring and compassionate attitude, enjoy math and science and working with technology, and possess good interpersonal skills, a career in respiratory care is for you.

At NECC, the Associate Degree in Respiratory Care will prepare you for practice at the therapist level. Graduates are prepared for the National Board of Respiratory Care credentialing exams, (CRT and RRT), and for state licensure as a respiratory therapist.

Career Opportunities
Graduates will be able to pursue many career paths, and could work in many different settings including hospitals, physician’s offices, nursing care facilities, and home health care agencies. Job prospects are very good and are expected to continue to grow.
Courses

Required Courses

Year 1, First Semester
- BIO121 Anatomy & Physiology I
- CHEM Physiologic Chemistry
- RSC100 Cardiopulmonary Physiology
- RSC101 Fundamentals of Respiratory Care I
- RSC111 Respiratory Modalities I
- RSC191 Respiratory Clinical I

Year 1, Second Semester
- BIO122 Anatomy & Physiology II
- RSC103 Respiratory Pharmacology
- RSC102 Fundamentals of Respiratory Care II
- RSC112 Respiratory Modalities II
- RSC192 Respiratory Clinical II
- RSC104 Introduction to Respiratory Disease

Year 1, Summer Semester
- RSC200 Diagnostics in Respiratory Medicine
- RSC290 Clinical Diagnostics
- ENG101 English Composition I
- BIO220 Microbiology

Year 2, First Semester
- ENG102 English Composition II
- RSC203 Neonatal & Pediatric Respiratory Care
- RSC201 Respiratory Critical Care I
- RSC211 Respiratory Modalities III
- RSC292 Respiratory Clinical III

Year 2, Second Semester
- RSC202 Respiratory Critical Care II
- RSC212 Respiratory Modalities IV
- RSC293 Respiratory Clinical IV
- Humanities/Social Science Elective

Getting Started

Ready to get started? It’s easy! Northern Essex has an open admissions policy, which means that if you have a high school diploma or GED/HiSet or other state-approved equivalency credential, you are eligible to enroll at NECC. Just fill out an application, attend an orientation/assessment session, and then register for classes.

Program Requirements

Admission Requirements:
The Respiratory Care Program has additional admission requirements. See the Admissions Criteria Packet under Courses and Requirements at www.necc.mass.edu/programs for complete information.

CORI/CHRI/SORI: Students interested in participating in this academic program may be required to undergo a Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) check, a Criminal Records Central Repository (CHRI) check and/or a Sex Offender Record Information (SORI) check. For more information, visit www.necc.mass.edu/corisori.

Northern Essex Community College is committed to the success of every student. Students with legal issues in their background will meet with a committee as part of the CORI/CHRI/SORI process and will receive guidance and counseling throughout the review of their records. NECC personnel make every effort to help students prepare for careers in their chosen field. Students are encouraged to seek assistance and support.

Drug screening: Students enrolled in this academic program may be required to pass a drug screening analysis.

Starting in fall 2014, any new student enrolled in an Associate Degree program must take at least one course designated as intensive in each of NECC’s six core academic skills in order to graduate. See www.necc.mass.edu/core-skills.

For more information visit www.necc.mass.edu/programs, or contact Enrollment Services at 978-556-3700