Dallas college  School of Health Sciences

Respiratory Care



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**Respiratory Care**

**Revised for the 2026-2027 Academic Year**

# Program Summary and Accreditation

The Dallas College School of Health Sciences offers a 65-credit-hour curriculum leading to an Associate of Applied Sciences Degree in Respiratory Care at the El Centro campus. The program prepares students to become respiratory therapists and perform complex patient care procedures in acute and chronic care hospitals, diagnostic laboratories, and the outpatient setting. Successful completion of the program enables the graduate to apply for the Therapist Multiple Choice (TMC) and Clinical Simulation (CSE) examinations from the National Board of Respiratory Care (NBRC). Based on performance on the TMC, the graduate may be awarded a Certified Respiratory Therapist (CRT) credential. Passing the TMC at the Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) level allows the graduate to sit for the Clinical Simulations Exam (CSE); graduates passing the CSE are awarded the Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) credential. Passing the TMC at the CRT level will allow the graduate to become licensed as a Respiratory Care Practitioner (RCP), the license required to be employed in the state of Texas. The Respiratory Care AAS (Associate of Applied Science) Program, CoARC Program Reference 200103, 801 Main Street, Dallas, TX 75202, is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care ([www.coarc.com](http://www.coarc.com)).

After completion of the Respiratory Care Prerequisite Courses (23 credit hours), and achieving the minimum required scores on designated sections of the HESI A2 test, the student is then “Qualified” to apply for entrance into the Respiratory Program. The program begins in June of each year and encompasses 13 months of specific lectures, laboratory, and clinical coursework in respiratory care. Acceptance to the Respiratory Care program is via a **competitive point based selection described in this packet.** This information packet details the procedure for program application.

**This information packet contains specific application guidelines and requirements for application to the Summer 2026 (June) program. Submission of application materials verifies that an individual has 1) read the packet thoroughly, 2) obtained all necessary documents from designated website addresses, and 3) understands the policies and procedures for application and acceptance to the program.**

**Equal Educational Opportunity**

Educational opportunities are offered by Dallas College without regard to race, color,

religion, national origin, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

# A. Respiratory Care Application Checklist

This checklist is organized toward an applicant just beginning their college experience. Some items may not be applicable if you have previous college credits.

1. \_\_\_\_Download and read through the Respiratory Care [program information packet](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-health-packets-sessions.aspx).
2. \_\_\_\_If you have questions about the program, email [AskSOHS@dallascollege.edu](mailto:asksohs@dallascollege.edu?subject=Questions%20about%20a%20health%20program).
3. \_\_\_\_Obtain the [immunization and physical examination](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-immunization-requirements.aspx) requirements document. *Some immunizations require multiple doses on a specific timeline over several months. Therefore, potential applicants should review their immunizations at least six to seven months prior to the application deadline.* Schedule and take your Hepatitis B titer test early.
4. \_\_\_\_Complete an [application for college admission](https://www.applytexas.org/), if not already a Dallas College student.
5. \_\_\_\_Submit official transcripts from all [previously attended colleges/universities](#_Official_College_Transcripts) to [studenttranscripts@dallascollege.edu](mailto:studenttranscripts@dallascollege.edu) or to Dallas College, Attn: Admissions Processing, 3737 Motley Drive, Mesquite, TX 75150.
6. \_\_\_\_See a [Success Coach](https://www.dallascollege.edu/resources/success-coaching/pages/default.aspx) (advisor) as needed for TSI counseling, placement testing, etc., and complete any developmental courses as may be determined from the test scores.
7. \_\_\_\_If desired, request an [Educational Plan](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-health-resources.aspx) for evaluation of external credit course work.
8. \_\_\_\_Complete the Respiratory Care prerequisite courses with [Min GPA](#_D._Prerequisite_Courses):
   1. \_\_\_\_ENGL-1301
   2. \_\_\_\_BIOL-2401
   3. \_\_\_\_BIOL-2402
   4. \_\_\_\_MATH-1314
   5. \_\_\_\_PSYC-2301
   6. \_\_\_\_SPCH-1311
   7. \_\_\_\_Humanities/Fine Arts elective
9. \_\_\_\_Complete the appropriate [admissions exam](#_E._Program_Application).
10. \_\_\_\_ Obtain a Basic Life Support (BLS) certification at the health care provider level with the American Heart Association.
11. \_\_\_\_Create a [SurPath](https://dallascollege.surpath.com) account to upload immunization records, physical exam report, etc. prior to the application filing deadline.
12. \_\_\_\_Request access to the Secure Link to upload all application documents by emailing [HealthOccAdmissions@dallascollege.edu](mailto:HealthOccAdmissions@dallascollege.edu;jdavilaholland@dallascollege.edu?subject=Respiratory%20Care%20Application%20Materials).  The subject line of the email must be**Respiratory Care Application Materials**.
13. \_\_\_\_Upload required application materials to the Secure Link prior to [application deadline](#_J._Application_Filing):
14. \_\_\_\_\_Completed Respiratory Care Application and signed Statement of Students’

Responsibility forms.

1. \_\_\_\_\_HESI A2 score sheet indicating achievement of a minimum score of 70 or higher on

each of the five required sections and the Personality Profile and Learning Style

results.

1. \_\_\_\_\_Documentation of any direct patient care work experience, if applicable.
2. \_\_\_\_\_Documentation of any current professional healthcare credentials, if applicable.
3. \_\_\_\_\_Documentation of any science or health care related degree completion, if

applicable.

1. \_\_\_\_\_Documentation of any community service, if applicable.
2. \_\_\_\_\_Documentation of any academic/professional recognition, if applicable.
3. \_\_\_\_\_Copies of any request for course substitution forms (for evaluated transferred courses), if applicable.

# B. General Admission Requirements to the College

Applicants to the Respiratory Care program must meet all [college admission requirements](https://www.dallascollege.edu/admissions/pages/default.aspx) as outlined in the official college catalog.

Applicants must have earned either a high school diploma or General Education Diploma (GED) in addition to complying with Texas Success Initiative (TSI) requirements before they will be eligible to apply to the program. Students should consult Success Coach/advising office to determine their TSI status prior to application to a Health Sciences program.

## Official College Transcripts

Prior to application to the Respiratory Care program, potential applicants must have submitted ***official transcripts from ALL colleges and universities the applicant has attended whether the coursework is or is not relevant to the program application***. Transcripts from Dallas College (formerly Dallas County Community College District) campuses are not required.

The transcripts must be current with the **print date no earlier than three years** prior to the applicant’s anticipated admission to the program unless the student has not had a break in enrollment with Dallas College since the transcripts were originally submitted. If the official transcripts have not been submitted, the individual’s application will be voided.

Official transcripts must be sent electronically from the applicant’s previous colleges to [studenttranscripts@dallascollege.edu](mailto:studenttranscripts@dallascollege.edu). Transcripts sent by the applicant in pdf or other formats are not accepted. Transcripts may also be mailed from a college in a sealed envelope to Dallas College, Attn: Admissions Processing, 3737 Motley Drive, Mesquite, TX 75150.

## Initial Advisement

Students who are beginning college for the first time will follow the [Steps to Enrollment](https://www.dallascollege.edu/admissions/application/pages/default.aspx) which will guide them from applying to the college system to placement testing, selecting a degree plan, contacting a Success Coach (advisor), and enrolling in basic courses. <https://www.dallascollege.edu/admissions/pages/new-credit-students.aspx>

A student who has not completed college coursework should request a general Associate of Science Degree plan from [Success Coaching](https://www.dallascollege.edu/resources/success-coaching/pages/centers.aspx) as a starting point toward future application to a health sciences program. ***Note: Additional learning frameworks courses may be required for certain students.***

# C. Prerequisite Courses

Applicants must complete the entire 23 credit hour list of prerequisite courses below with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher to apply to the Respiratory Care program. The prerequisite GPA is considered in the point award ranking process.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Prerequisite Courses | Lec Hrs | Lab Hrs | Cr Hrs |
| BIOL-2401\* Anatomy/Physiology I | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| BIOL-2402 Anatomy/Physiology II | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| ENGL-1301 Composition I | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| MATH-1314\*\* College Algebra | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| SPCH-1311# Intro to Speech Communication | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| PSYC-2301 General Psychology | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| Humanities/Fine Arts Elective## | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| Total Program Prerequisites | 21 | 6 | 23 |

\* BIOL 1406 is the prerequisite course for BIOL 2401 and must be completed with a grade of “C” or higher within the last three years or present a satisfactory score on the CLEP Biology exam.

\*\* Higher level math courses such as Calculus can substitute if a student did not complete a college algebra course.

# SPCH 1315 – Public Speaking and SPCH 1321 – Business and Professional Communication will also be accepted for the SPCH 1311 prerequisite course.

## Humanities/Fine Arts elective -- **Suggested courses include: ARTS 1301, DANC 2303, DRAM 1310, HUMA 1315, MUSI 1306, PHIL 1301, PHIL 1304, selected ENGL literature courses at the 2000 level or higher, sophomore level foreign languages such as SPAN 2311.**

Note: all prerequisite courses MUST be completed with a grade of C or better.

# D. Previous Coursework Evaluation

Official transcripts are fully evaluated by the Dallas College Transcript Evaluation Center after a student has been enrolled for at least one regular semester. However, students can request an Educational Plan, an evaluation of their previous coursework toward a Health Sciences program. The [Educational Plan](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=U1R-1i9z3EqUpEiI8tl9XR-JTZXG4gtGtI5xwkPieuFUOFdER1BQS1k5TU02R09FQTU0WFVDTEJQWSQlQCN0PWcu) is a preliminary, unofficial degree plan for advisement purposes and only reflects specific courses toward a health sciences program. Educational Plans are optional and are not required for application to a health sciences program. They are usually completed within 4-8 weeks. An Educational Plan should be requested at least one semester prior to a program application filing deadline if possible.

The School of Health Sciences and the Allied Health Admissions Office reserve the right to accept or reject any coursework completed at other colleges presented for transfer evaluation toward Health Science programs.

## Credit by Examination, CLEP and Advanced Placement Credit

Credit through CLEP, High School Advanced Placement (AP) Exams and Credit by Examination may be awarded for a limited number of courses toward Health Sciences programs including MATH 1314, PSYC 2301, and PSYC 2314. CLEP credit is not awarded for ENGL 1301. Advanced Placement (“AP”) credit for ENGL 1301, PSYC 2301, and MATH 1314 is acceptable if the credit appears on a college transcript as ENGL 1301, PSYC 2301, and MATH 1314 equivalency. A letter grade is not awarded for “AP” credit.

**Note:** **An applicant may present credit by exam, CLEP, or “AP” credit for 2 of the prerequisite courses. Credit will be acknowledged but not calculated in the grade point average.**

## Coursework from Institutions Outside of the United States

Some credits may be restricted or disallowed from colleges or universities outside the United States.[International Coursework Evaluation](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-health-resources.aspx) is a multi-step process which may take several weeks. **The student must be enrolled in credit classes at a Dallas College campus before the evaluation process can be initiated.**

# E. Program Application Exam (HESI A2)

The Respiratory Care Program utilizes the HESI A2, a computerized test, as an application condition. The [HESI A2](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-hesi-a2-admissions.aspx) test is a timed test, usually completed in 3-4 hours. Applicants must earn a score of at least 70% on each of the 5 components **(Reading Comprehension, Grammar, Vocabulary/General Knowledge, Math, and Anatomy/Physiology).**

Please note the following important information regarding the HESI A2:

* Test scores are valid for **two years** from the date of testing to the application filing deadline date.
* Applicants may take the HESI A2 at any approved testing site. The cost is approximately $57.00 at the Downtown Health Sciences Center (formerly known as the Paramount Building) near the El Centro campus. Email [5tests@dallascollege.edu](mailto:5tests@dallascollege.edu) for instructions.
* HESI A2 testing is also available online for an additional cost. Please note: the Downtown Health Sciences Center does not offer online testing.
* **Applicants are responsible for securing their own testing appointment at the location of their choice.**  The procedure for making testing appointments and payment varies among testing sites. **Applicants are responsible for submitting their score sheet with their program application materials.**
* HESI A2 testing appointments at the El Centro campus fill quickly. Applicants are encouraged to schedule their HESI A2 several weeks prior to an application filing deadline. ***NOTE:* Score sheets may not be available for download from the Elsevier website for 2-3 days. Do not assume that you will have your score sheet to submit with application materials if you test on the application deadline date.**
* The **HESI A2 Study Guide** is available at various bookstores including the [Follett Bookstores](https://www.dallascollege.edu/resources/books/pages/bookstores.aspx) at Dallas College campuses. A **HESI A2 Prep** course is periodically offered by Continuing Education. Contact Continuing Education at [ContinuingEd@dallascollege.edu](mailto:continuinged@dcccd.edu) for dates and times of the prep course.
* **There is no limit on the number of times an applicant may take the HESI A2 test for application to the Respiratory Care program.** If the applicant desires to retake the HESI A2, the applicant must test on **all five sections** in one sitting. Only one score sheet with the required five sections can be submitted with scores of 70 or higher on each of the five required sections. Scores on individual test sections which are printed on separate score sheets cannot be combined. If more than one score sheet is submitted, the scores from the latest HESI testing attempt will be considered the official score. It is not necessary to repeat the Learning Styles and Personality Profile sections on retests. The printout of these sections can be submitted from any testing attempt.

See [HESI A2](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-hesi-a2-admissions.aspx) for more information on paying for and scheduling the HESI exam.

# F. Digital Records (SurPath)

Applicants to the Respiratory Care program are required to have a current physical examination, specific immunizations, a tuberculosis screening, and certification in BLS (Basic Life Support) CPR at the healthcare provider level from the American Heart Association.

The physical exam form and important information on immunizations are found at [School of Health Sciences Program Immunizations Requirements](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-immunization-requirements.aspx).

The School of Health Sciences utilizes SurPath, a medical record management company, to verify these requirements. Applicants submit this documentation directly to SurPath, which will verify whether the records are complete.

***Important Note: Some of the immunizations require multiple doses on a specific timeline over several months. Therefore, potential applicants to this program should begin their immunizations at least six to seven months prior to the application deadline.***

Although applicants to this program are not required to submit all the physical examination, immunizations, and BLS CPR certification documents to SurPath before the application filing deadline, ***they are strongly encouraged to do so.*** I**f an applicant is accepted to the program, the absolute deadline for submission of the physical examination form, TB screening, and complete immunizations to SurPath is July 15th during the first semester of the program.**  All immunizations must be completed by that deadline, no exceptions. Therefore, potential applicants to the program are strongly encouraged to begin obtaining that documentation before application to the program.

**Failure to submit this documentation and to comply with these requirements by July 15th will prevent the applicant from progressing to the fall semester and clinical rotations of the program.**

Applicants must be aware that the documentation required by SurPath must be kept current throughout the application process and (if accepted to a program) during their participation in the program. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that your health records are current. **NOTE: Additional proof of immunizations including titers may be required by hospital clinical sites.**

To set up your account, go to [Dallas College's SurPath page](https://dallascollege.surpath.com/) and complete the registration process. The SurPath charge will cover your immunization tracking and background check/drug screen procedure.

**SurPath Registration**

To set up your SurPath account, follow these directions:

1. Go to [dallascollege.surpath.com/Account/Login](https://dallascollege.surpath.com/Account/Login)

2. Click on the REGISTER button.

3. Follow the directions to enter your name, email, etc.

4. Choose the “Respiratory Care Therapist*”* program on the pull-down menu.

5. Choose the “EC-Respiratory Care 2026-2027 Cohort” cohort on the pull-down menu.

Contact SurPath at [clientservices@SurScan.com](mailto:clientservices@SurScan.com) or 972-633-1388 for assistance in setting up your account.

For inquiries regarding your immunization records after upload, contact [records@SurScan.com](mailto:records@SurScan.com) or 972-633-1388, extension 107.

If the applicant has personal healthcare coverage at the time of application, that documentation may also be submitted to SurPath. If accepted to the program, the applicant must submit proof of coverage to SurPath prior to attending clinical practicum. For more information, see item 7 of the [General Information](#_M._Program_General) in this packet.

# G. Respiratory Care Application Materials Submission

After completing the Respiratory Care Prerequisite Courses and the five designated sections of the HESI A2 test, the student is ready to submit their application materials. Incomplete application materials will be disqualified.

The application materials must be scanned as pdf documents and uploaded to the Secure Link by the application filing deadline. Request access to the Secure Link to upload all application documents by emailing [HealthOccAdmissions@dallascollege.edu](mailto:HealthOccAdmissions@dallascollege.edu,%20jdavilaholland@dallascollege.edu?subject=Respiratory%20Care%20Application%20Materials).  The subject line of the email must be **Respiratory Care Application Materials.**

Application materials must include the following to be considered complete and valid:

1. A completed Respiratory Care Program Application form and the signed Statement of Students’ Responsibility form.

2. The HESI A2 score sheet indicating achievement of a minimum score of 70 or higher on each of the five required sections.

3. If applicable:

1. Photocopy of a current professional healthcare credential such as a nursing license, ARRT registry, CST certification, CCIS registry, CMA certification, etc.

AND

1. Official transcript or other official document authenticating the completion of the qualifying degree or certificate.

4. If applicable, documentation of direct patient care work experience, for at least two years of experience within the past five years. A minimum of 20 hours/week on average must be met for point consideration. This experience must be thoroughly documented with a signed letter from one’s employer on the company letterhead. This documentation **MUST** include **a)** dates of employment, **b)** average hours worked per week, and **c)** job description / responsibilities.

5. Current professional credential documentation, if applicable.

6. Degree completion for any Bachelor’s degree or higher in a science or health care related field, if

applicable.

7. Documentation of community service, if applicable.

8. Documentation of any academic/professional recognition, for example, membership card for Phi Theta Kappa, if applicable

9. Copies of any request for course substitution forms (for evaluated transferred courses), if

applicable.

Submitting incomplete application materials will disqualify the application and the student will not be considered further in the application process. Students are advised to retain a photocopy of all materials submitted as their application and to SurPath.

# H. Application Filing Period

There is one official application filing period for the June 2026 class of the Respiratory Care program:

***JANUARY 1, 2026 – APRIL 3, 2026***

**Applicants are notified via email of selection status by April 16, 2026.**

**STUDENTS WHO ARE CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN PREREQUISITE COURSES ARE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY TO THE RESPIRATORY CARE PROGRAM.**

**Complete application materials must be uploaded to the secure link by the application filing deadline. Application materials are not accepted in person, by email or by conventional mail.**

**Note: Applicants anticipating acceptance to the program should be aware that a mandatory orientation/registration will be held in late May and should mark their calendars accordingly.**

# I. Selection Process

Once the “Qualified” applicants have been identified and have applied for admission to the Respiratory Care Program, all “Qualified” applicants will undergo ranking via the point system outlined below. This point system rewards students for academic achievement in the completion of prerequisite courses and related activities, all which serve to enhance their preparedness for the program. (290 point maximum):

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Ranking Criteria** | | **Ranking Point Potential** |
| Initial Ranking: (up to 230 points) | |  |
|  | Cumulative GPA on the Respiratory Care Prerequisite Courses | 30 |
|  | Cumulative GPA on the following prerequisite courses:  BIOL 2401  BIOL 2402  MATH 1314 | 50 |
|  | Completion of the following HPRS courses:  HPRS 1204  HPRS 2210  HPRS 2201  HPRS 2300 | 100 |
|  | HESI A2 Scores | 50 |
| Additional Ranking Point Opportunities: (up to 65  points) | |  |
|  | Completion of the following HPRS courses:  HPRS 1202  HPRS 2231 | 20 |
|  | Direct Patient Care Work Experience | 15 |
|  | Current Professional Credentials | 10 |
|  | Degree Completion (in a science or health care related field) | 5 |
|  | Documented Community Service: volunteering, shadowing | 5 |
|  | Extra-Curricular Activities: Phi Theta Kappa | 5 |
| **Total Available Ranking Points:** | | **290** |

**Cumulative GPA** **(Respiratory Care Program Prerequisite Courses): 30 point maximum**

Points are awarded for the GPA on the RC Program Prerequisite Courses according to the scale below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **GPA** | **Points** |
| 4.00  3.75 – 3.99  3.50 – 3.74  3.25 – 3.49  3.00 – 3.24 | **30**  **27**  **24**  **21**  **18** |
| 3.0 is the lowest GPA | |

**Cumulative GPA on the following courses – BIOL 2401, BIOL 2402, MATH 1314: 50 point maximum**

Points are awarded for the final grade achievement on these prerequisite courses according to the scale below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **GPA** | **Points** |
| 4.00  3.75 – 3.99  3.50 – 3.74  3.25 – 3.49  3.00 – 3.24  2.75 - 2.99  2.50 – 2.74  2.25 – 2.49  2.00 – 2.24 | **50**  **45**  **40**  **35**  **30**  **25**  **20**  **15**  **10** |
| 2.0 is the lowest GPA | |

**Health Professions Readiness Coursework (HPRS): 100 point maximum (25 point maximum per course)**

Points are awarded for the final grade achievement for each of the following HPRS courses according to the scale below: HPRS 1204, HPRS 2210, HPRS 2201, HPRS 2300

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Final Letter Grade** | **Points per  Course** |
| A B C  < C | **25**  **15**  **5**  **0** |

**HESI A2 Score Points: 50 point maximum**

Points are awarded for the section score achieved on each of the 5 required sections:  
Reading Comprehension, Grammar, Vocabulary / General Knowledge, Math, Anatomy and Physiology according to the scale below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Section  Score** | **Points per Section** |
| 95 - 100  90 - 94  80 - 89  70-79 | **10**  **8**  **6**  **4** |
| 70 is the minimum required score on each section | |

**Additional Point Ranking Opportunities: 50 point maximum**

Points may be awarded for any of the following:

1. **Health Professions Readiness Coursework (HPRS):** **20 point maximum (10 point maximum per course)**

Points are awarded for the final grade achievement for each of the following HPRS courses according to the scale below: HPRS 1202, 2231

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Final Letter Grade** | **Points per  Course** |
| A B C  < C | **10**  **7**  **3**  **0** |

1. **Direct Patient Care Work Experience (minimum of 2 years):** **15 point maximum**

Points may be awarded for two years of direct patient care experience within the past five years. A minimum of 20 hours/week on average must be met for point consideration. This experience must be thoroughly documented with a signed letter from one’s employer on the company letterhead. This documentation **MUST** include **a)** dates of employment, **b)** average hours worked per week, and **c)** job description / responsibilities.

Examples of work experience in a healthcare setting involving direct patient care will only be accepted from the following types of employers:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * Hospitals * Doctor’s Offices or Clinics | * Urgent Care Facilities * Blood Centers |

**Direct Patient Care:** Involves hands-on clinical activities aimed at diagnosing, treating, or managing a patient's health.

Examples that may be considered: Include performing and documenting vital signs, administering medications, performing procedures, providing therapy, verifying patient information, interviewing patient and recording medical history, confirming purpose of visit, preparing patients for examination, assisting patients during transfers from beds, wheelchairs, etc., assisting nursing staff in administering basic treatments, obtaining fluid samples or other specimens, performing phlebotomy procedures, etc.

3 points will be awarded for each approved year of direct patient care experience, maximum of 5 years.

1. **Current Professional Credentials: 10 points**

Points may be awarded for Documentation of a current professional credential in a healthcare profession as approved by the Respiratory Care Program Coordinator.

1. **Degree Completion: 5 points**Bachelor’s degree or higher in a science or health care related field, examples include biology, microbiology, kinesiology, etc.

**OR** Associate degree in the above mentioned criteria **3 points**

1. **Documented Community Service: 5 point maximum**

Volunteering / Lab Shadowing 1 per occurrence

(each occurrence must be at least 1 hour in duration)

1. **Academic/professional recognition:**Example: Phi Theta Kappa membership (submit certificate/card with application) **5 points**

Total Ranking Points for the above items are calculated for each student and a final ranked list of   
applicants is generated. If two or more applicants have the same Total Ranking Points, the following criteria will be used to break the tie:

First tie break: Cumulative GPA on the following courses – BIOL 2401, BIOL 2402, MATH 1314

Second tie break: Highest total points awarded for the final grade achievement for the following HPRS courses - HPRS 1204, HPRS 2210, HPRS 2201, HPRS 2300

Third tie break: Earlier application submission date may be used to break the tie.

This point system incentivizes students to take relevant courses but also encourages them to engage in extracurricular activities and gain experience, creating a well-rounded applicant profile.

# J. Notification of Acceptance

Using the point award process, a ranked list of applicants is generated. The program spaces are filled with qualified applicants according to their points on the ranked list. Individuals who receive an acceptance email are required to return a confirmation form within a specified timeframe to verify their space in the class. Failure to return the confirmation form by the specified date or failure to attend the scheduled preregistration/orientation seminar for the accepted class will result in forfeiture of their space in that class. Notification emails of acceptance, non-acceptance, or disqualification are sent on the same day.

Application materials are not “held over” to the next application filing period. Students who are not selected for admission to the program or students who decline their acceptance may reapply again during the next filing period to be considered for a future admission opportunity.

# K. Late Application Filing Period

If all individuals on the initial ranked list for the official application filing period are accepted and space remains in the Respiratory Care class, applications which are submitted during the late filing period will be ranked according the same point system described previously in this packet.

The late application filing period for the Summer 2026 Respiratory Care class is:

**April 6, 2026 through 12:00 noon on May 8, 2026.**

***NOTE: Applicants who are being offered a late space for the Summer 2026 class will be notified via email on May 15, 2026.***

***It should not be assumed that late applications will be necessary for every Respiratory Care incoming class.***

# L. Curriculum Overview – Respiratory Care

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Prerequisites | | | | |
| Course | **Title** | **Lecture Hours** | **Lab Hours** | **Credit Hours** |
| ENGL-1301 | Composition I | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| BIOL-2401 | Anatomy & Physiology I | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| BIOL-2401 | Anatomy & Physiology II | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| MATH-1314 | College Algebra | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| PSYC-2301 | General Psychology | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| SPCH-1311 | Intro to Speech Communications | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| Humanities/Fine Arts elective | | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| Subtotal | | 21 | 6 | 23 |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Semester 1 | | | | |
| Course | **Title** | **Lecture Hours** | **Lab Hours** | **Credit Hours** |
| RSPT-1201 | Introduction to Respiratory Care | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| RSPT-1410 | Respiratory Care Procedures I | 2 | 6 | 4 |
| Subtotal | | 4 | 6 | 6 |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Semester 2 | | | | |
| Course | **Title** | **Lecture Hours** | **Lab Hours** | **Credit Hours** |
| RSPT-1340 | Adv. Cardiopulmonary Anatomy/Physiology | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| RSPT-1113 | Basic Respiratory Care Pharmacology | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| RSPT-2217 | Respiratory Care Pharmacology | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| RSPT-1311 | Respiratory Care Procedures II | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| RSPT-2258 | Respiratory Care Patient Assessment | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| RSPT-2310 | Cardiopulmonary Disease | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| RSPT-1360 | Clinical-Respiratory Therapy/Therapist | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Subtotal | | 13 | 3 | 17 |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Semester 3 | | | | |
| Course | Title | Lecture Hours | Lab Hours | Credit Hours |
| RSPT-2453 | Neonatal/Pediatric Cardiopulmonary | 2 | 4 | 4 |
| RSPT-2314 | Mechanical Ventilation | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| RSPT-2325 | Cardiopulmonary Diagnostics | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| RSPT-2231 | Simulations in Respiratory Care | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| RSPT-2130 | Respiratory Care Examination Preparation | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| RSPT-2362 | Clinical-Respiratory Therapy/Therapist | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Subtotal | | 7 | 11 | 16 |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Semester 4 | | | | |
| Course | Title | Lecture Hours | Lab Hours | Credit Hours |
| RSPT-2263+ | Clinical-Respiratory Care Therapy/Therapist | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| RSPT-2166+ | Practicum-Respiratory Therapy/Therapist | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Subtotal | | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Program Total | | 45 | 26 | 65 |

**+ RSPT 2263 and RSPT 2166 are the Capstone experiences for the Associate Degree in Respiratory Care.**

# M. Respiratory Care General Information

1. The Respiratory Care program is approved to accept 20\* students for each June class.

\* The School of Health Sciences reserves the right to make changes in program enrollment capacity.

1. Once admitted to the Respiratory Care program, a student must complete each Respiratory Care course during the semester indicated in the program curriculum outline and each course must be passed with a grade of “C” or better for the student to continue in the program curriculum.
2. Respiratory Care courses are taught during daytime hours. Lecture classes may end as late as 6:30 p.m. Clinical training at a local hospital begins during Semester II (Fall) of the program and involves approximately 12 clock hours per week. Clinical training in Semester III (Spring) involves 16 hours per week. Clinical training in semester IV may include 12-hour shifts and may end as late as 7: 30 p.m. Due to patient care schedules, clinical days may begin as early as 5:30 a.m.

**Note:** Prior to attending clinical rotations, students are required to complete a fit-to-mask test with an N95 mask.

1. In considering respiratory care as a career, applicants should be aware that as a respiratory care practitioner, they will be required to:

* Lift and move patients; push, pull, and/or lift equipment; stand, stoop, or bend for long periods of time; walk or be on your feet for long periods of time.
* Move very quickly (in emergency situations).
* Perform multiple psychomotor skills, many involving fine motor skills.
* Take patient vital signs; for example, pulse, respiratory rate, blood pressure, etc.
* Use a stethoscope to listen to patients for breath sounds.
* Read manometers, scales, dials, meters, etc.
* Communicate effectively with patients and their families, physicians, nurses, and other health care providers.
* Develop and use multiple interpersonal relationship skills.
* Function effectively in high stress situations.
* Have legible handwriting.

1. Applicants who are accepted to the program must submit the official physical exam and required immunization documentation to SurPath no later than July 15th during their first semester of the program.

The physical examination must be on the **official Dallas College Health form** and must have been documented no earlier than 12 months prior to the April 3rd deadline. **NOTE: Additional proof of immunizations including titers may be required by hospital clinical sites.**

1. Applicants who are accepted to the program must be certified in BLS – Basic Life Support (formerly “Healthcare Provider”) cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) as designated by the American Heart Association and a photocopy of the front and back of the card must be submitted to SurPath with immunization records no later July 15th during their first semester of the program. The CPR certification must not expire during any semester when enrolled in the program. CPR classes are available through the Dallas College Continuing Education Division, the American Heart Association, various hospitals, independent instructors, etc. **Totally online CPR certification classes are not valid for application to health sciences programs.**
2. Personal healthcare insurance coverage is required for all health sciences students. **Proof of coverage must be submitted to SurPath with immunization records, no later than July 15th if the student is accepted to the program.** Students must secure their own coverage and the insurance policy must cover the student at any hospital facility. Information on college student policies and rates can be found at <https://healthcare.gov>.
3. Clinical opportunities may be limited for students without Social Security numbers. If accepted to the program, a student must contact their Designated School Officer (DSO) regarding eligibility to apply for a Social Security number before graduation from the program. **A Social Security number is required for graduates to take the NBRC exam and to be licensed to practice in the field of Respiratory Care by the Texas Medical Board.**
4. All students enrolled in Health Sciences programs are required by the Dallas/Fort Worth Hospital Council member facilities to undergo a Criminal Background Check and Drug Screen prior to beginning their clinical experience. Students are responsible for all charges incurred (approximately $112.00) for these screenings. **This procedure is conducted *after* a student has been accepted to their respective program.**

Results of these screenings are forwarded to the School of Health Sciences for review and verification that a student is eligible to attend clinical rotation. All background check and drug screening results become the property of the School of Health Sciences and will not be released to the student or any other third party.

A clinical affiliate/facility reserves the right to remove a student from the facility for suspicion of substance use or abuse including alcohol. The clinical affiliate/facility reserves the right to request that a student submit to a repeat drug screening at the student’s expense on the same day that the student is removed from the clinical facility. Failure to comply will result in the student’s immediate expulsion from the clinical facility. Furthermore, regardless of testing or testing results, a clinical affiliate/facility reserves the right to expel a student from their facility.

***Note: Should a student who has been accepted to a Health Sciences program be prohibited from attending a clinical rotation experience due to findings of a criminal background check and/or drug screening, the student may be dismissed from the Health Sciences program.***

Students are responsible for their own transportation arrangements to the college and to their assigned health care facilities for clinical experience. Clinical assignments occur at various Metroplex clinical affiliates. Examples are:

Baylor University Medical Center

Children’s Medical Center

Methodist Dallas Medical Center

William P. Clements, Jr. University Hospital

Parkland Health & Hospital System

1. Students who are enrolled in 6 credit hours or more during a fall or spring semester and 3 credit hours or more during a summer semester are entitled to a free DART Go-Pass for that semester. DART passes are available two weeks after the semester begins.
2. Individuals who were first-time college freshman students in Fall 2007 or after are subject to the guidelines of section 51.907 of the Texas Education Code which prohibits a student from dropping more than six (6) college level credit courses during their entire undergraduate career. See [Six Drop Rule](https://econnect.dcccd.edu/DroppingFacts.jsp) for more information.
3. Dallas College charges a higher tuition rate for courses in which a student registers for the third or more times. The [Third Attempt Policy](https://district.custhelp.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/1214/c/145,146/session/L3RpbWUvMTcxMzI4NzYwMi9zaWQvNkpBSk9YeXE%3D) includes courses taken at any of the Dallas College campuses since the Fall 2002 semester. Developmental courses are not considered in this policy.
4. A student may apply to more than one Dallas College Health Sciences program during a given filing period. However, if the student receives an acceptance letter to a specific program, confirms their intent to enter that program, and registers for program courses, their application to any other Health Sciences program that may share that filing period will be null and void.

Further, an individual accepted for admission and currently enrolled in a Dallas College Health Sciences program may not apply or be considered for admission selection for another Dallas College Health Sciences program unless their current program of study will complete before the second program curriculum begins.

1. Graduates are eligible to attempt the credentialing exams administered by the National Board for Respiratory Care. **A Social Security number is required for graduates to take the exam.** Graduates who achieve the designated cut score on the NBRC exam are eligible to apply to the Texas Medical Board to obtain a Respiratory Care Practitioner (RCP) license. The RCP license is required to practice respiratory care in the state of Texas. Included in the RCP application are the following questions:

“8. Have you ever been convicted, pled guilty or pled nolo contendere to any misdemeanor or felony? (Do not include juvenile or misdemeanor traffic violations.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Please Note: If YES, a copy of the charges and disposition papers MUST be attached. Driving while intoxicated (DWI) is NOT a minor traffic violation. Applicants must provide all information relating to criminal history. Discovery of criminal convictions not disclosed may result in denial of your license and disclosure of discovered information to other licensing boards.”

**Do Not Answer These Questions.** They are presented here to inform you of the legal credential application process regarding prior convictions.

1. Financial Aid: Students should apply for financial aid well in advance of program application.
2. Please visit the website below for a link to the CoARC Respiratory Care Programmatic Data and other links to professional organizations and other information regarding the respiratory care profession.

[CoARC Respiratory Care Programmatic Data](https://coarc.com/students/programmatic-outcomes-data/)

[National Board for Respiratory Care](https://www.nbrc.org/)

[Texas Medical Board - Respiratory Care](https://www.tmb.state.tx.us/page/licensing-respiratory-care-practitioner)

[American Association for Respiratory Care](https://www.aarc.org/)

## Respiratory Care Contact Information

Please contact the individuals below for assistance:

Jennifer Holland, B.A., RRT, Program Coordinator

Downtown Health Science Center

301 N. Market St., Dallas, TX 75202

Telephone: 972-860-5439

Email: [jdavilaholland@dallascollege.edu](mailto:jdavilaholland@dallascollege.edu)

or

[AskSoHS@dallascollege.edu](mailto:AskSoHS@dallascollege.edu)

# N. Estimated Expenses for the Respiratory Care Program

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Prerequisites | | | |
|  | Dallas County Resident | Out of County | Out of State |
| Tuition/Textbooks\* | $1,817 | $3,105 | $4,600 |
| HESI A2 Test Fee | 57 | 57 | 57 |
| Physical Exam and Immunizations+ | 225 | 225 | 225 |
| SurPath | 112 | 112 | 112 |
| CPR Certification | 65 | 65 | 65 |
| Subtotal | $2,276.00 | $3,564.00 | $5,059.00 |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Semester 1 | | | |
|  | Dallas County Resident | Out of County | Out of State |
| Tuition/Textbooks | $474 | $810 | $1,200 |
| Subtotal | $ 474.00 | $ 810.00 | $1,200.00 |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Semester 2 | | | |
|  | Dallas County Resident | Out of County | Out of State |
| Tuition/Textbooks | $1,343 | $2,295 | $3,400 |
| Fees | 40 | 40 | 40 |
| Uniforms (2) | 120 | 120 | 120 |
| Name Badge | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| Subtotal | $1,513.00 | $2,465.00 | $3,570.00 |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Semester 3 | | | |
|  | Dallas County Resident | Out of County | Out of State |
| Tuition/Textbooks | $1,264 | $2,260 | $3,200 |
| Therapist Multiple Choice (TMC) Exam | 50 | 50 | 50 |
| Clinical Simulation (CS) Exam | 70 | 70 | 70 |
| Subtotal | $1,384.00 | $2,380.00 | $3,320.00 |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Semester 4 | | | |
|  | Dallas County Resident | Out of County | Out of State |
| Tuition/Textbooks | $158 | $270 | $400 |
| Credential Exam Review | 375 | 375 | 375 |
| Credential Exam Practice Test | $80 | $80 | $80 |
| Subtotal | $613.00 | $ 725.00 | $ 855.00 |
| Program Total | $6,260.00 | $9,944.00 | $14,003.00 |

\* Tuition now includes textbook costs. These and other fees are subject to change. See official catalog for tuition table. A [Tuition Payment Plan](https://www.dcccd.edu/paying-for-college/payments/pages/payment-plans.aspx) option is available in fall and spring semesters.

+ Estimated cost of physical exam and immunizations.