



Application Process

The application period is open **January 15 - May 1** for fall admission.

Approximately 25 students are admitted to the program each year. Selection is based on criteria approved by the Skyline College Administration and consistent with state regulations (see application instructions). Full-time registration is required, and all courses must be taken in sequence. Credit may be given for previous coursework.

Minimum Entrance Requirements

The following must be completed with a "C" or better, or in process of completion.

- Algebra - Math 110 or 112 or equivalent eligibility
- Chemistry (with lab) – CHEM 192, 410 or equivalent
- Human Anatomy (with lab) – BIO 250 or equivalent
- Medical Terminology – HSCI 484 or BUS 485 or equivalent
- Skyline College ENGL 846 or equivalent eligibility

The Field

A Respiratory Care Practitioner (formerly known as Respiratory Therapists) is a licensed healthcare professional who cares for patients with heart and lung problems; this can include providing oxygen therapy, pulmonary medications, diagnostic testing, life support and mechanical ventilation. Practitioners care for a variety of patients, from newborn infants in respiratory distress or children with asthma or pneumonia to victims of trauma or older patients with emphysema or heart failure.

To succeed in Respiratory Care, individuals must employ strong problem-solving skills when evaluating patients' symptoms and should be detail oriented to ensure patients receive the appropriate treatments. Interpersonal skills, compassion and patience are also needed to succeed in the field.

Accreditation

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

The Respiratory Care Associate Degree at Skyline College

The Respiratory Care Program at Skyline College is an accredited two-year program that provides the instruction and clinical practice needed to be a successful Respiratory Care Provider. Students will learn from dedicated instructors who have practical experience in the field and gain valuable hands-on experience through over 800 hours of clinical exposure and practice coordinated with sites in San Francisco and San Mateo Counties.

The program offers an Associate of Science Degree in Respiratory Care which allows a graduate to become a licensed Certified Respiratory Therapist and also affords the opportunity to attain a higher level of credentialing as a Registered Respiratory Therapist.

Career Outlook

Most respiratory care practitioners participate in three phases of patient care: diagnosis, treatment and patient management. While many respiratory therapists work in hospitals, some work in nursing care facilities or travel to patients' homes.

Demand for respiratory care practitioners is high, and employment is expected to grow 19% over the next decade according to the U.S. Department of Labor thanks in part to a growing aging population. In California, respiratory care practitioners make an average of \$75,870 per year and in the San Francisco Bay Area specifically, therapists can make an average of \$90,230 per year according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Respiratory Care Program

Associate Degree



Clinical Affiliates

The Skyline College program partners with various hospitals and healthcare facilities including:

San Francisco County:

California Pacific Medical Center
Kaiser Permanente- San Francisco
Saint Francis Hospital
San Francisco General Hospital
St. Luke's Hospital
University of California- San Francisco
Veteran Affairs Hospital- San Francisco

San Mateo County:

California Home Medical Equipment
Mills-Peninsula Hospital
San Mateo General Hospital
Stanford Health Care

About Skyline College

Skyline College is committed to developing culturally rich and globally informed educational opportunities for an annual population of 10,000 and is recognized nationally for efforts to prepare a highly skilled workforce.

Students can choose from approximately 100 degree and certificate programs to achieve their educational goals in an affordable and supportive environment.

Our College mission to empower and transform a global community of learners informs our campus-wide "Call to Consciousness" that highlights the value of examining everything we do through the lens of social justice, both as educators and as students.



For more information regarding the Respiratory Care Profession, visit:

American Association of Respiratory Care
www.aarc.org

California Society for Respiratory Care
www.csrc.org

Respiratory Care Board of California
www.rcb.ca.gov

National Board of Respiratory Care
www.nbrc.org

skylinecollege.edu/respiratorycare