



3300 College Drive, San Bruno, CA 94066

Accredited by the Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care



Respiratory Therapy Program

Fall Semester Entry

Applications accepted January 15 – May 1

'At 9:32 a.m., Becky Solis brought a newborn baby struggling to breathe back to life. At 12:09 p.m., she responded to a Code Blue and worked with the team to save a 48 year old man's life. At 2:48 p.m., Becky gave Mrs. Scott a treatment that helped her breathe much easier so she could sleep. Mrs. Scott was very thankful!What have you accomplished today?'

A respiratory therapist is a licensed health care professional who cares for patients with heart and lung problems, and provides oxygen therapy, pulmonary medications, diagnostic testing, life support and mechanical ventilation. Respiratory therapists care for a variety of patients, including newborn infants in respiratory distress, children with asthma or pneumonia, victims of trauma, and older patients with emphysema or heart failure.

There is a great demand for Respiratory Therapists. The Bureau of Labor and Statistics projects employment of respiratory therapists to increase faster than the average compared to all occupations through the year 2012 and salaries are competitive with other health care professions. Starting salaries in the Bay Area for Registered Respiratory Therapists in 2009 average \$70,000.

The Respiratory Therapy Program at Skyline College is an accredited 2 year program that provides instruction and clinical practice needed to be a successful Respiratory Care Practitioner. In those 2 years, a student receives instruction from dedicated instructors who have practical experience in the field. Over 800 hours of clinical exposure and practice are coordinated with sites in San Francisco and San Mateo Counties.

Requirements: all applicants must have completed the following prior to acceptance into the program:

1. Algebra - MATH 110 or 112 or equivalent
2. Chemistry for Health Sciences - CHEM 410 or equivalent
3. Human Anatomy (with lab) – Biology 250 or equivalent

Note: It is recommended these prerequisites have been completed within the last 5 years. High school coursework cannot be accepted to meet stated requirements.

Registration: *Skyline College and Respiratory Therapy Program application*

Cost: Approximately \$850 a semester which includes the cost of college tuition, textbooks, required lab and clinical materials, licensing and professional fees. Students with financial constraints should see the Skyline College Financial Aid Department regarding many types of assistance: scholarships - grants - forgivable loans.

For Further Information Contact:

Raymond Hernandez, Respiratory Therapy Director
hernandezr@smccd.edu

(650) 738 4457 or (650) 738-4221
www.skylinecollege.edu



The Respiratory Therapy Program at Skyline College is situated just a few miles south of San Francisco on 110 acre campus overlooking the Pacific Ocean. This accredited program serves the San Francisco and San Mateo County Communities.

Our program offers an advanced level education with an A.S. Degree in Respiratory Therapy which allows a graduate to become a licensed Certified Respiratory Therapist and attain a higher level of credentialing (Registered Respiratory Therapist) as well. Areas of study include human anatomy and physiology, chemistry, physics, microbiology, mathematics as well as technical courses dealing with procedures, equipment, and clinical tests.

One of the programs greatest strengths is its affiliation and support from those hospitals and organizations it serves. Students in the program receive the latest information, hands on training and individualized support from experienced faculty in the classroom and knowledgeable dedicated licensed practitioners. Over 800 hours of clinical practice will be completed by the student at these various hospitals and healthcare facilities:

San Francisco County

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

San Mateo County

Apria Home Health	Mills-Peninsula Hospital
San Mateo General Hospital	Seton Medical Center

The Respiratory Care Board of California asked newly licensed RCP's what they like about their career and what drew them to the Respiratory Care field. This is what they had to say:

"I enjoy respiratory therapy because it makes my life meaningful knowing that I am helping and in some cases saving lives."

"I really like working with the doctors; they rely on our expertise and assessment skills."

"One on one contact with patients is what I particularly enjoy. I spend time explaining treatments and monitoring their responses to therapy."

"I chose the Respiratory Care Program because I did not have to be placed on a waiting list which allowed me to get working sooner."

"I enjoy Respiratory Care because I'm relied upon as an expert in cases where breathing disorders are an issue."

For more information regarding the Respiratory Care Profession, please visit the following websites:

American Association for Respiratory Care
www.aarc.org

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

California Society for Respiratory Care
www.csrc.org

National Board for Respiratory Care
www.nbrc.org