



## Respiratory Care Technology Program Admission Information Packet

Revised 8/12/19

### Dear Respiratory Care Technology – Health Sciences A.S. Applicant

Thanks for expressing interest in the program. This packet contains information, which you may find useful while preparing for entrance into the program. Please read all information carefully. Students interested in any of Vol State's Health Sciences programs must declare Health Sciences as their major and follow the A.S. in Health Sciences curriculum. You must contact an advisor in your preferred area of emphasis to identify appropriate general education and elective courses for admission into your selected program.

For more information about specific Respiratory Care program deadlines and requirements, please refer to this information packet. To be considered for the Respiratory Care program, applicants must participate in a formal interview with members of the Health Sciences Division. "Program Acceptance Priority Given to In-state Residents" may apply. **Prior to being interviewed, the following pre-requirements (steps #1 – #6) must be completed:**

#### 1. College Admission –

Complete the College Admission Application requirements with Volunteer State Community College's Office of Admissions. The website is <https://www.volstate.edu/admissions/apply>. Students must satisfactorily meet all of the admission requirements of the college.

#### 2. Transcripts –

Applicants must forward all official high school transcripts, GED scores and previous college transcripts to the Office of Records and Registration. To be fully admitted to a degree-seeking program, transfer students must provide official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended where an academic record exists. Once received, all official transcripts are reviewed by the Transcript Analyst in the Office of Records and Registration. The student will be notified via email by the Transcript Analyst regarding transfer coursework that was accepted. All general education courses must be transferred or course substitution forms must be completed.

If the prior post-secondary institution is not regionally accredited, the courses will not be automatically accepted at Vol State. The student must contact the Completion Advisor the Health Sciences Division, Meredith Young by email at [Meredith.Young@volstate.edu](mailto:Meredith.Young@volstate.edu) or by phone number 615-230-4866 to be guided through the process of obtaining the required documentation which may include a course-by-course "Substitution Form" signed by each dean or program chair responsible for courses in which the student seeks credit. Completed forms will be forwarded to the Office of Records and Registration and entered in the system. Please allow 2-3 weeks for this process.

#### 3. Testing –

If you are a new student without ACT scores and are:

- a. Under 21 years old, submit ACT scores that are less than 3 years old;
- b. Over 21 years old, take the COMPASS Placement Test.

An advisor will determine testing needs and refer the student accordingly.

**The A.A.S. Respiratory Care Technology program is fully accredited by:  
Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC)  
(817) 283-2835, [www.coarc.com](http://www.coarc.com)  
P.O. Box 54876, Hurst, TX 76054-4876**

#### 4. Registration –

If *Learning Support* courses are not required, the student should register for courses that satisfy the General Education core as indicated (see college catalog, this Information Packet or RESP website <https://www.volstate.edu/academics/health-sciences/respiratorycare/courses>). Only upon being formally admitted into the program, will students be able to register for Respiratory Care courses.

#### 5. Program Application –

Apply online at <https://www.volstate.edu/academics/health-sciences/respiratorycare/application> or complete the attached application for the Respiratory Care Technology program and submit it to Respiratory Care faculty by **October 1<sup>st</sup>** of each year. The application form is the last page of this packet. The application indicates your interest in our program and will allow you to be contacted for the formal interview process. Interviews are held in November on the main campus.

#### 6. Proof of Pre-Acceptance Immunizations and Vaccinations –

Students interested in the RPC program must provide documentation of the following PRIOR to the interview date:

- One diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis (Tdap) vaccination that has been obtained within the last ten years.
- Influenza vaccination obtained between August through October of the interview year.
- Documentation of blood test (serology, titers) showing immunity to MMR, varicella, or the Hepatitis B virus **OR**
  - Two doses of the Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) vaccine with each given at least 28 days apart.
  - Two doses of the varicella vaccine with each given at least 28 days apart.
  - Three doses of the Hepatitis B vaccine.

### *About the Respiratory Care Technology Program*

**Program Mission Statement:** The Respiratory Care Technology program provides a transferable degree created within a diverse educational environment which promotes the practice of critical thinking and problem solving, the development of clinical competence, and the advancement of the respiratory care profession through life-long learning.

To qualify for an interview for the program, the recommended general education courses must be completed or in the process of being completed by December of the interview year. Once officially admitted into the Respiratory Care Technology program, the student's major will be changed from A.S. in Health Sciences to A.A.S in Respiratory Care Technology. The full-time program of study consists of four semesters which begin in January and end in May of the following.

Didactic and laboratory courses are held at the Gallatin campus during the daytime. No night courses are offered for the Respiratory Care degree core classes. Clinical education is obtained at medical facilities throughout Middle Tennessee up to 100 miles of the Gallatin campus. Each student is responsible for transportation to school and to clinical sites.

### *Technical Standards for Respiratory Care*

**In order to be considered a candidate for the Respiratory Care program and profession, students must be able to reasonably perform the following skills as indicated in the following Technical**

**Standards. These skills are related to the affective, cognitive and psychomotor domains as indicated by the Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care:**

**Affective: The affective domain includes communication, attitude and behavior.**

Students must be able to effectively communicate with all stakeholders in the classroom and clinical setting. They must possess the skills necessary to effectively communicate and follow directions in English, both verbally and written, using appropriate grammar, spelling and vocabulary in an unassisted manner. They must display empathy, maturity and emotional stability. They must demonstrate ethical and professional behavior as expressed by the AARC’s Statement of Ethics and Professional Conduct which can be found in this manual.

**Cognitive: The cognitive domain includes the knowledge base required to perform proper patient assessment, collect and interpret data, as well as the ability to use critical thinking and problem solving skills when formulating care plans, delivering therapy and managing life support.**

Students must possess the visual skills (with or without correction) and auditory skills (with or without correction) needed to perform proper patient assessment. They must be able to read medical documentation and small print on labels to accurately administer medications. Students must be able to hear conversations and monitoring equipment, perform auscultation, palpation, and percussion. They must be able to use a telephone, distinguish background noises and use a computer. They must demonstrate skills necessary to collect, interpret, and analyze patient data and make appropriate recommendations.

**Psychomotor: The psychomotor domain includes performance of patient care, to include, but not limited to; patient assessment, performance of respiratory modalities and diagnostic procedures.**

Students must possess the physical and manual dexterity required to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) for long periods of time on adults, pediatrics and neonates, compress a resuscitation bag for extended periods, perform chest percussion, stand for long hours, assess and assist with transferring immobile patients in and out of chairs or beds, lift and/or move a minimum of 50 pounds and be able to walk quickly or run to emergencies in the hospital, often requiring the use of stairs. Students must be able to physically withstand 12-hour clinical rotations.

*Recommended Schedule for General Education Courses*

	Course	Description	Credit Hours
<b>Fall 1</b>	BIOL 2010	Human Anatomy and Physiology I	4
	MATH 1530 or higher	Introductory Statistics or higher	3
	ENGL 1010	English Composition I	3
	Social/Behavioral Sciences	(Choose any except GEOG) PSYC 1030 or SOCI 1010 or SOCI 1020 recommended	3
	Computer Applications	Pick one of the two options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take and pass the course INFS 1010 - Computer Applications (3 credit hours)</li> <li style="text-align: center;"><i>or</i></li> <li>• Take the Computer Competency Exam (CCE)</li> </ul>	3
		<b>Total</b>	<b>13 or 16</b>

## Program Selection Criteria

The program has limited enrollment. A cohort of twenty students are admitted into the Respiratory Care Technology program each year. A General Education core GPA of 2.5 or higher is required for application to the program. Students are strongly encouraged to earn grades of “B” or higher. The program uses competitive, point-based, selection criteria to select each cohort of students. Applicants are tentatively accepted for admission based on GPA in General Education courses, knowledge of the profession, and interview skills, and completion of all pre-acceptance requirements. Applicants are notified of acceptance or non-acceptance in the program during the latter part of December.

- **40% of the interview score is based on General Education grades:**

By end of fall semester, applicants should complete the general education core consisting of:

- Natural Science                      BIOL 2010
- Mathematics                         MATH 1530 or higher
- English                                 ENGL 1010
- Social/Behavioral Science        PSYC 1030, SOCI 1010, or SOCI 1020 recommended
- Computer Applications             Take the CCE or pass INFS 1010

*Additional consideration is given to those will have completed Anatomy and Physiology II (BIOL 2020) and Medical Terminology (AHC 115) by the end of the fall semester of the interview year.*

- **40% of the interview score is based on knowledge of the Respiratory Care profession**

The knowledge the interviewee expresses verbally and written is assessed. To increase knowledge of the Respiratory Care profession, please visit the following websites:

- American Association for Respiratory Care        [www.aarc.org](http://www.aarc.org)
- American Respiratory Care Foundation            [www.arcfoundation.org](http://www.arcfoundation.org)
- Commission on Accreditation for Resp. Care    [www.coarc.com](http://www.coarc.com)
- National Board for Respiratory Care            [www.nbrc.org](http://www.nbrc.org)
- Tennessee Society for Respiratory Care        [www.tntsrc.org](http://www.tntsrc.org)
- U.S. Dept. of Labor’s Website                    [www.onetonline.org](http://www.onetonline.org)
- Videos about respiratory care                   [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) (respiratory therapy)
- VSCC RESP Program Page                        [www.volstate.edu/respiratorycare/](http://www.volstate.edu/respiratorycare/)

- **20% of the interview score is based on Demeanor and Communication:**

Professional attire, appearance and demeanor is expected with attention to wearing clean and neat clothes. Applicants are expected to behave appropriately and clearly answer questions in a knowledgeable, polite and attentive manner. The unprofessional interviewee may earn a lower score. Tentative admission into the program pending the following:

- Background check results
- Urine drug screen results
- Completion of pre-clinical medical requirements

Graduates earn an Associate’s of Applied Science degree in Respiratory Care Technology at the Advanced Practitioner level, also known as Registry level. This gives graduates the opportunity to earn the Registered Respiratory Therapist credential (RRT) which is an advanced-level credential for employment purposes.

The credential of “RRT” is earned after successfully completing both Therapist Multiple Choice examination to obtain the Certified Respiratory Therapist (CRT) credential and the Clinical Simulation Examination to obtain the RRT credential. The CRT and RRT are credentials offered by the National

Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC) through passage of the national credentialing examinations. The RRT is the highest credential. Information regarding credentialing exams can be found at [www.nbrc.org](http://www.nbrc.org).

Graduates are eligible to begin working in the field after obtaining a state licensure from the Board for Respiratory Care through the state of Tennessee. Licensure information can be found at <https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/health-professional-boards/rc-board.html>. The Respiratory Care Technology program typically experiences 100% employment after graduation, and the first-time pass rate on the credentialing exams are higher than national average. The salary for a first year graduate varies. Typically, first year RRT graduates average a base pay of approximately \$22+ per hour. With the addition of shift differential, graduates may earn more. The median annual salary for a Respiratory Therapist is approximately \$60,280 according to the U.S. Department of Labor at <https://www.onetonline.org>. The percent of projected growth in the job market is much faster than average at 15% or higher for years 2016 – 2026.

### ***Certified-to-Registered Respiratory Therapist Bridge Option***

**Prerequisites for the CRT to RRT bridge program for students who already possess the “CRT” credential and wish to earn the AAS-Respiratory Care Technology degree in order to sit for the “RRT” exams:**

A minimum of 48 hours successfully completed in Respiratory Care from an accredited college or credentialed by the NBRC as a Certified Respiratory Therapist (CRT) is preferred. Additional consideration for acceptance will be provided to those who are currently working in the field of Respiratory Care.

CRT-to-RRT bridge applicants are responsible for contacting the NBRC at [www.NBRC.org](http://www.NBRC.org) to ensure eligibility requirements are met. Once eligibility requirements have been determined, the CRT therapist should then submit the Respiratory Care Technology Application (the last page) and contact the Program Director, Kim Christmon, for academic advising: [kim.christmon@volstate.edu](mailto:kim.christmon@volstate.edu) or 615-230-3329, Toll Free-1-888-335-8722 extension 3329. Mandatory class attendance is on Thursdays during the spring semester from 8 am to 4:30 pm in addition to clinical requirements.

### ***Additional Policies***

**No student will be permitted to participate in the program of study until a Background Check, Hepatitis B vaccination series, and Drug Screen results have been reviewed and accepted by the program.**

#### **Background Check Policy**

Students seeking admission into any Health Sciences program requiring participation in clinical training in area hospitals and related clinics/agencies, including Respiratory Care degree or CRT-to-RRT bridge programs, must provide evidence of a passing score on a background check prior to official admission into the respective program. Either the failure to provide the required background check results by the due date established or the receipt of anything other than a passing score on the background check will make a student ineligible for admission into the respective program. The cost for background check verification will be approximately \$46.50. Please contact program’s director of clinical education.

### Drug Screen Policy

In order to comply with the clinical education policies, all students participating in clinical rotations must undergo a drug screen. The cost of this drug screen shall be absorbed by the student. Any student wishing to participate in clinical rotations will be required to undergo a urine drug screen as required by the clinical affiliate within the thirty (30) days preceding commencement of the clinical rotation. The drug screen due date will be provided to the students by the director of clinical education during the latter part of the fall semester.

### Hepatitis B Vaccination Series

Students seeking admission into any Health Sciences program requiring participation in clinical training in area hospitals and related clinics/agencies, including the Respiratory Care degree or CRT to RRT bridge programs, must provide evidence of completing the Hepatitis B series of injections or proof of Hepatitis B immunity. This documentation is required for acceptance into the program. Failure to provide the required Hepatitis B documentation or failure to receive the full series of vaccination injections will cause the student to forfeit her/his seat in the program.

<i>Sequence of Respiratory Care Program Courses</i>			
	<b>Course</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>
<b>Spring 1</b>	BIOL 2020	Human Anatomy and Physiology II	4
	RESP 1410	Fundamentals of Respiratory Care I	4
	RESP 1430	Arterial Blood Gas Analysis and Diagnostic Procedures	4
	RESP 2440	Mechanical Ventilation	4
			<b>Total Hours</b>
	<b>Course</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>
<b>Summer 1</b>	RESP 1399	Clinical Internship I	3
	RESP 1420	Fundamentals of Respiratory Care II	4
	RESP 2445	Advanced Concepts in Mechanical Ventilation	4
			<b>Total Hours</b>
	<b>Course</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>
<b>Fall 1</b>	RESP 2290	Special Topics in Respiratory Care	2
	RESP 2300	Neonatal Respiratory Care	3
	RESP 2446	Comprehensive Review I	4
	RESP 2499	Clinical Internship II	4
			<b>Total Hours</b>
	<b>Course</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>
<b>Spring 2</b>	RESP 2305	Advanced Modalities in Respiratory Care	3
	RESP 2456	Comprehensive Review II	4
	RESP 2480	Special Projects	
			<b>Total Hours</b>
		<b>*Total Major Core Hours</b>	<b>58</b>

### *Typical Schedule*

- Semester I: Didactic classes are on Mondays and Wednesdays from 8 am to 10:50 am. Labs are on Mondays and Wednesdays from 12 pm to 4 pm.
- Semester II: Didactic classes are on Monday and Wednesday from 8 am to 10:50 am, Labs are on Mondays and Wednesdays from 12 pm to 4 pm. Twenty to Twenty-four hours of clinical rotations are on Tuesday, Thursday, or Fridays with 8-hour and/or 12-hour assignments.
- Semester III: Didactic classes are on Monday and Wednesday from 8 am to 10:50 am, Labs are on Mondays and Wednesdays from 12 pm to 4 pm. Twenty to Twenty-four hours of clinical rotations are on Tuesday, Thursday, or Fridays with either 8-hour or 12-hour assignments.
- Semester IV: Didactic classes are on Thursday from 8 am to 4:30 pm. Twenty to Twenty-four hours of clinical rotations are on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Fridays with either 8-hour or 12-hour assignments.

<i>Average Program Costs</i>		
Fees	Full-time Status (Based on 12 credit hours)	Part-time Status
<b>Tuition</b>	\$0	\$0
<b>Maintenance Fees</b>	\$2016	\$168/credit hour
<b>Technology Fee</b>	\$116	\$10/credit hour
<b>Student Government Fee</b>	\$5	\$5
<b>Student Access Fee</b>	\$11	\$11
<b>Student Activity Fee</b>	\$7	\$7
<b>Sustainable Campus Fee</b>	\$1	\$1
<b>International Education Fee</b>	\$10	\$10
<b>Health Science Course Fee</b>	\$300	\$25/credit hour
<b>Liability Insurance Fee</b>	\$10/year	\$10/year
<b>Total Fees</b>	<b>\$2476</b>	<b>Variable</b>
* Fees are per semester for In-State Residency		
* Total fees per semester are relative to # of registered credit hours ( <a href="https://www.volstate.edu/tuition-fees">https://www.volstate.edu/tuition-fees</a> )		

- **Textbooks**

Spring semester 1	\$250
Fall semester 1	\$0
Summer semester 1	\$220
Spring semester 2	\$70
- **Clinical Expenses**

Pre-admission requirements	
○ Background Check (quantity appx. 2)	\$50 each
○ Hepatitis B Vaccinations (three doses)	\$125
○ Antibody titers (optional)	\$80
○ Varicella Vaccinations (two doses)	\$50
○ Measles Vaccination (MMR, two doses)	\$50
○ Tetanus Vaccination	\$20
○ Influenza Vaccination	\$20
○ Drug Screening (may be requested as needed)	Site specific
○ Medical Health Insurance	*Check with Your Provider

Two-Step TB Skin Test	\$40
VA Fingerprinting	Site Specific
PALS Course	\$170
ACLS Course	\$170
Basic Life Support Course	\$60
Lab Coat	\$30
Scrub Suits (per pair)	\$40
Stethoscope	\$12
All White Tennis Shoes	\$100
Pulse oximeter	\$35
VSCC Patch	\$15
• <b>Seminar Expenses (not including travel)</b>	
○ AARC membership (program admission required)	\$25
○ TSRC State Seminar	\$90
○ Vanderbilt Seminar	\$25
○ Summer Seminar	\$25
• <b>Post-Graduation Fees</b>	
○ Student Background Check	\$38
○ State Licensure	\$150
○ NBRC Entry Level Exam	\$190
○ Advanced Practitioner Exam	\$200

**Note: All fees are estimated, the responsibility of the student, and subject to change.**

### *Frequently Asked Questions*

**What is respiratory care?**

Respiratory care is a health care profession that deals with the prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation of lung disorders. Respiratory therapists work under the direction of physicians to care for patients who have trouble breathing—for example, from a chronic respiratory disease, such as asthma or emphysema. Their patients range from premature infants with undeveloped lungs to elderly patients who have diseased lungs. They also provide emergency care to patients suffering from heart attacks, drowning, or shock. For additional information go to <http://www.aarc.org/careers/what-is-an-rt/>.

**Do I have to interview for the program?**

Yes. Highly qualified candidates will be offered the opportunity to interview with the Respiratory Care Therapist selection committee. Invited students will be notified of their opportunities after the application deadline.

**Is job shadowing a respiratory therapist required for admission into the program?**

Shadowing is perhaps the best way for an applicant to personally experience and reflect upon the career of a Respiratory Therapist however, it is not required for admission into the program. Visit professional websites to obtain additional information about the field of respiratory care.

**Do I have to complete all general education courses before being accepted into the program?**

All must be completed with the exception of BIOL 2020, Human Anatomy and Physiology II, which can be completed during the program.

**Can I apply for the program if I am currently taking prerequisites?**

Yes. You can apply, but you will need to complete the courses with the required grades before you can be considered for acceptance.

**How do I demonstrate computer competency?**

All degree-seeking students must demonstrate a required level of computer competency before they graduate, and it is *strongly* suggested that such proficiency be demonstrated within the first 15 credit hours of coursework. This can be done in 2 ways:

1. By taking and passing the course INFS 1010 - Computer Applications.
2. INFS 1010 is not required for your degree, by taking the Computer Competency Exam (CCE).

Volunteer State Community College requires that all degree-seeking students are computer literate. A certain level of computer competency is necessary for success both at Volunteer State and beyond. Contact the Testing Center for information about the CCE at 615-230-3484 or find more details at <http://www.volstate.edu/computerliteracy/>

**Is there an application fee for the program?**

No, there is not an application fee.

**Can I attend the program part-time?**

No. This is a full-time program of study.

**Is the program offered online?**

No, the program is not offered online. There are some online components throughout the program therefore internet access is required.

**If I am past the traditional college age, am I too old to enter respiratory care?**

No, you are not too old. Non-traditional students have been very successful in the respiratory care program and profession.

**Do I need to pass a background check in order to be officially admitted into the program?**

Yes. In an effort to comply with the recommendations of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, the majority of the major healthcare facilities and agencies utilized by the College for clinical training require that each student undergo and pass a student background check prior to official enrollment into the program. Each student, at his/her expense, is responsible for acquiring the student background check report and authorizing the submission of results to the college. No student will be allowed to enroll in the program until the results have been received, reviewed and accepted by the College. Failure to submit to and pass the required student background check will prevent the student from being accepted into the program. Information regarding outside agencies that provide background check services as well as the due date of the check will be provided to each student at his/her official Respiratory Care Program interview.

**Does the program accept transfer credit for general education courses?**

Transcripts from other institutions will be evaluated by a Transcript Analyst after they have been forwarded to the Records and Registration Office. The program will accept transfer credit that has been approved by the analyst. For more information go to <https://www.volstate.edu/records/transfer>.

**Do applicants with a 2.5 grade point average easily get accepted into the program?**

It is rare for a student with the minimum grade point average to get accepted since the program is competitive.

**How do I know which courses I need to take for the program?**

The courses are listed in this information packet and on the college's website at <https://www.volstate.edu/academics/health-sciences/respiratorycare>. You can also sign in to DegreeWorks at <https://degreeworks.volstate.edu/Dashboard/login.html> to view the courses you need for the program.

**Will I need a license to work in Tennessee?**

Yes, the state of Tennessee requires all respiratory therapists to obtain a license from the Board of Respiratory Care in order to work. After completion of the program, graduates are eligible for licensing in all states that require a license.

**What is the difference between the CRT and RRT credentials?**

The Certified Respiratory Therapist (CRT) is the entry level credential for the field of respiratory care. Everyone entering the field must at minimum be a certified respiratory therapist. The CRT credential is obtained by passing the TMC (Therapist Multiple Choice) examination following graduation from program. To obtain the Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) credential, students must pass the TMC at the high cut threshold which allows them to sit for the second exam, clinical simulations. Passing the clinical simulation exam (CSE) will secure the RRT credential. Both credentials are awarded by the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC).

**How long will it take to complete the program?**

It will take five total semesters including the general education courses. The general education courses can be completed in one semester. The length of the program is four semesters.

**Can I work while in the program?**

The program is very rigorous and requires a full-time commitment. Most students who work full-time while in the program are not successful. Some students are able to decrease their work hours in order to concentrate on the program. Potential students must take into consideration the time needed to study and complete assignments when considering work schedules. Students must earn at least a final grade of "C" or better to continue in the program.

**With an A.A.S. degree, will I be able to transfer to a four-year school to obtain a Bachelor's degree?**

Yes, information will be provided to you for programs at local universities.

**Must I pass a board exam upon completion of this program?**

Yes, you are required to take and pass the national entry-level examination upon graduation from the program to obtain the CRT credential. You also must within 3 years take the national Registry Examination subsequent to passing the entry-level examination. All examinations are computer-based.

**Can I apply for financial aid?**

Yes, you can apply for financial aid at <https://www.volstate.edu/financialaid/apply>.

**Where can I get information about scholarships?**

Go to <https://www.volstate.edu/financialaid/scholarships> for information about scholarships.

**Are there volunteer opportunities for students in the program?**

Yes, students are required to perform community service throughout the program. Details will be provided after acceptance into the program.

**Do I get to pick the hospital in which I obtain clinical training?**

The director of clinical education assigns the students to hospital rotations. Clinical sites are based on the educational needs of the student, the census of the facility, and student preference. Clinical sites requested by students are not guaranteed. Attendance of rotations at several hospitals is required in order to acquire a complete and well-rounded clinical education. Different points in the program require different types of experiences, so the number and types of clinical rotations available will vary as well. There will also be rotations in respiratory care subspecialties, such as pulmonary function testing, pulmonary rehabilitation, and many more.

**What type of patients will I help?**

You may provide therapy to neonatal, pediatric, adolescent, and adult patients.

**How will I get back and forth to clinical sites?**

It is the student's responsibility to secure and bear the expense of reliable transportation to and from all clinical sites.

**Who will I be assigned to at the clinical sites?**

Students are scheduled to be with the director of clinical education, clinical preceptors employed by the college, and respiratory therapists at various locations depending on the educational needs of the students.

**What are the typical working hours for this profession?**

Most hospitals in Middle Tennessee require 12-hour work shifts. Respiratory therapists may work on day or night-shift. Weekend and holiday staffing is required based on the policy of the facility. Keep in mind that hospitals never close, therefore, staffing is needed 24 hours a day seven days a week. Some hospital have per diem positions where employees work as needed instead of full-time. For those employed in clinics, rehabilitation units, or home care settings, regular day hours are 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM or 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

**Can I participate in clinical rotations at night or on the weekends?**

All rotations are during day shift. There is a possibility for an occasional weekend clinical rotation at the discretion of the director of clinical education.

**If I am accepted into the program, what is my next step?**

Acceptance notifications are typically sent out at the end of December. Read the acceptance letter and all additional information very carefully as instructions on 'next steps' will be included.

## Respiratory Care Technology Program Application

**\*Please print clearly and include all requested information prior to submitting form.**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ VSCC Student ID# \_\_\_\_\_

VSCC Student Email \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTH DATE \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Preferred EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

CELL # \_\_\_\_\_ HOME PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_ WORK # \_\_\_\_\_

<i>Name of Previously Attended College(s)</i>	<i>Year(s) of Attendance</i>

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Signature MUST be included upon submission*

**A.A.S. RESPIRATORY CARE TECHNOLOGY  
ANTICIPATED AREA OF STUDY (check one):**

\_\_\_\_\_ **New program applicant**

\_\_\_\_\_ **I am already a Certified Respiratory Therapist and wish to advance to RRT**

PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED PROGRAM APPLICATION TO

**Volunteer State Community College**  
**Health Sciences Division, Wallace North 102**  
**Attn: Program Director - Kim Christmon**  
**1480 Nashville, Pike, Gallatin, Tennessee 37066-3188**  
*Or fax to 615-230-3224*  
*Or scan and email to kim.christmon@volstate.edu*

**Volunteer State Community College, a Tennessee Board of Regents Institution, is an equal opportunity institution and ensures equal opportunity for all persons without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability status, age, sexual orientation or status as a qualified veteran with a disability or a veteran of the Vietnam era.**