WHAT ARE THE OPPORTUNITIES?
A registered respiratory therapist (RRT) assists in the assessment, diagnosis, monitoring, treatment, and rehabilitation of individuals with cardiopulmonary diseases. To do this, they perform diagnostic studies, such as obtaining arterial blood gas samples, performing pulmonary functions or conducting sleep studies. They then apply the information to establish therapeutic treatment plans and goals for the patient. Therapy can involve oxygen therapy, aerosol therapy and airway and ventilator management.

The primary work environment is in the acute care setting: trauma centers, regional medical centers or critical access hospitals. RRTs can also work in doctors’ offices, clinics and home care. Patients range in age from the very young with underdeveloped lungs to the elderly who are suffering from chronic heart or lung diseases. With additional education, a respiratory therapist can work in pulmonary function labs, sleep studies, education, anesthesiology or research.

WHAT SKILLS ARE REQUIRED?
Respiratory therapists should be well-organized, detail oriented, patient, compassionate and have the ability to move around a clinic setting, while working with a variety of patients. They need strong interpersonal skills in order to communicate effectively with a variety of people within the healthcare community.

WHAT CAN I EARN IN THIS FIELD?
Recently, the Kansas Wage Survey reported that Respiratory Therapists earned an average hourly wage of over $23. Job growth is projected to be faster than average. Potential earnings depend on the type of facility, location and qualifications.

WHAT MAKES THIS PROGRAM UNIQUE?
An advisory committee of prospective employers meets regularly to provide direction for this program, ensuring that students receive the education needed to prepare for entry into the workforce.

WHAT KIND OF TRAINING AND EDUCATION IS AVAILABLE?
The Associate in Applied Science in Respiratory Therapist prepares students to take the Certified Respiratory Therapist (CRT) and Registered Respiratory Therapy (RRT) exams. The CRT credential is a prerequisite for admission to the Registry Examination.

The goal of the Respiratory Therapist Program is to prepare graduates with the demonstrated aptitude to become effective respiratory therapists, using a variety of skills for the planning, implementation, treatment and evaluation of patients suffering from cardiopulmonary diseases as they relate to the adult, pediatric and neonatal patient.

For more information about a career in respiratory therapy visit:
Commission of Accreditation for Respiratory Therapy: www.coarc.com
National Board for Respiratory Care: www.nbrc.org
American Association of Respiratory Care: www.aarc.org

Additionally, more information on this career can be found in the Occupational Outlook Handbook (www.bls.gov/oco) and the Kansas Department of Labor (www.dol.ks.gov).
RESPIRATORY THERAPIST
ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREE

Prerequisites | Hours
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ED105 | Success Seminar/College Orientation 1
BI100 | Basic Concepts for Allied Health 1
BI103 | Anatomy & Physiology 6
MA105 | Intermediate Algebra 3
HR105 | Medical Terminology 3

**First Semester**
AL153 | Pharmacology 3
EN100/101 | English Composition I 3
RT200 | Introduction to Respiratory Therapy 3
RT201 | Cardiopulmonary Anatomy & Physiology 3
RT204 | Respiratory Care Science 3

**Second Semester**
RT210 | Therapeutic Modalities I 4
RT202 | Cardiopulmonary Pathology 3
RT203 | Cardiopulmonary Assessment 3
RT221 | Clinical Training I 2

**Third Semester**
RT211 | Therapeutic Modalities II 4
RT205 | Neonatal & Pediatric Respiratory Care 2
PS100 | General Psychology 3
RT222 | Clinical Training II 4

**Fourth Semester**
SH101 | Speech/Communication 3
RT212 | Therapeutic Modalities III 4
RT223 | Clinical Training III 4
RT225 | Respiratory Therapy Seminar 2

**Summer Semester**
RT224 | Clinical Training IV 6

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**HOW DO I APPLY?**
1. Submit an HCC Application of Admission, high school/GED and college transcripts.
2. Submit a RT program application between August 1-January 15 of the following year. A $35.00 non-refundable fee must accompany the application. To obtain an application packet, call 620-665-4956.
4. Complete program pre-requisites of MA105 Intermediate Algebra, HR105 Medical Terminology and BI103 Human Anatomy and Physiology, with a grade of C or higher. GPA for all general education course work within the RT curriculum must be completed at a GPA of 2.33 or higher.
5. Each phase of the admission process is evaluated with a point system. A sample of the scoring sheet is available upon request. Applicants are rank ordered based upon the total points received. The top twelve (12) students are accepted into the program provided that all other admission conditions have been met.
6. All applicants must be CPR certified at the healthcare provider level prior to entering the program.
7. Upon acceptance to the program, a comprehensive physical and background check will be required, along with current vaccinations. The cost for this will be handled by the student.
8. For further information, contact the Allied Health Advisor (620-728-8100 or 800-289-3501 ext. 8100) or visit www.hutchcc.edu.
10. An HCC Scholarship Application is available at www.hutchcc.edu or by calling 620-665-3568.