

2018-2019 Program Guide for the Associate in Science Degree in Respiratory Care

Admission requirements are subject to change. Please check for any admission updates:
valenciacollege.edu/west/health/admissionupdates.cfm

Application Deadline: September 15, 2018 for Spring 2019

Students are admitted to Valencia's Respiratory Care Program by a selective admission process. The Health Sciences Admission Committee selects a limited number of students once per year to begin the program in the Spring term.

ADMISSION CHECKLIST

The admission requirements that **MUST** be satisfied **PRIOR** to submitting an application to the Respiratory Care Program are:

- _____ 1. Read about Respiratory Care admission and program requirements at valenciacollege.edu/health and the Valencia Catalog <http://valenciacollege.edu/catalog/>; read this program guide in its entirety and confirm you are capable of meeting the Core Performance Standards listed within this guide.
- _____ 2. Be a U.S. Citizen, a U.S. permanent resident or an International Student.
International Student: legal immigrant/visa status with employment authorization. See the U.S. Department of State directory of visa categories to verify visa employment options:
<https://travel.state.gov/content/visas/en/visit/visitor.html>
- _____ 3. Attend a Health Sciences Information Session (**strongly recommended**). Information Session dates are posted on the Health Sciences website: valenciacollege.edu/health.
- _____ 4. Submit a completed Valencia Application for Admission at <http://valenciacollege.edu/>, click on **Future Students, Admissions**, and pay the application fee; satisfy the requirements for Degree-Seeking Status, including submission of **all official transcripts**, and be in Active Student Status.
- _____ 5. Satisfy the Valencia entry testing requirements and satisfactorily complete any mandatory courses in Reading, Professions of Caring or New Student Experience, Mathematics, English and English for Academic Purposes in which you are placed (must be at college-level for Reading, Mathematics, and English). For more information about Mandatory Courses:
<http://catalog.valenciacollege.edu/entrytestingplacementmandatorycourses/mandatorycourses>
- _____ 6. Complete the Prerequisites for Admission with a minimum grade of "C":
The grade for each course must be posted to your Valencia transcript.
 - BSC 2093C Anatomy and Physiology I
 - MAC 1105 College Algebra
 - PHY 1007C PhysicsTo be competitive for admission, student should complete additional Science and General Education courses with high grades. See the point system that follows.
- _____ 7. Have a minimum **overall college GPA of 2.0** including all undergraduate transfer work. Must be in good academic standing.
NOTE: Transfer students with completed coursework at Valencia College also need to have a minimum institutional/Valencia GPA of 2.0 at the time of applying (in addition to the minimum overall college GPA of 2.0).

- _____ 8. After completing numbers 1 – 7 and prior to the program application deadline, submit a Valencia Respiratory Care Program application, pay the non-refundable Health Sciences program application fee, and submit any required documentation. The application can be found at valenciacollege.edu/health.

Estimated program costs can be found at: <http://valenciacollege.edu/west/health/AdmissionUpdates.cfm>

GUIDELINES for ALL HEALTH SCIENCE LIMITED ACCESS PROGRAMS (EXCEPT THE BACHELOR DEGREE PROGRAMS AND ADVANCED TECHNICAL CERTIFICATES)

Valencia's Health Science programs are offered through the School of Allied Health and the School of Nursing, which provide information about specific admission criteria for the programs. The Health Sciences Program Guides, of which this is one, are developed for a specific academic year (August to July) and, as a rule, changes to admission and program requirements becoming effective at the start of an academic year. **Valencia College, however, reserves the right to make changes in admission and program requirements as circumstances require.** If a mid-year change becomes necessary, it will be indicated in the information for the specific program at: <http://valenciacollege.edu/west/health/AdmissionUpdates.cfm>.

Students interested in a health sciences career are encouraged to explore the many challenging and rewarding opportunities available in health professions. The health sciences programs may have clinical experiences that expose the student to blood borne pathogens via contact with bodily fluids including, but not limited to blood and saliva. Students accepted into these programs will be expected to adhere to Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines for the use of Standard Precautions. The CDC defines standard precautions as "a set of precautions designed to prevent the transmission of HIV, Hepatitis B virus (HBV), [and] other blood borne pathogens when providing first aid or health care." Under standard precautions, blood and certain body fluids are considered potentially infectious for HIV, HBV, and other blood borne pathogens. Students will be expected to adhere to hand hygiene protocols and consistent use of personal protective equipment including masks, gloves and eyewear. In some of the health sciences programs, students may need to conduct peer-to-peer examinations in lab settings.

Valencia offers eight health sciences programs which lead to an A.S. degree. They are the Cardiovascular Technology, Dental Hygiene, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Emergency Medical Services Technology (including EMT and Paramedic technical certificates), Health Information Technology (including Medical Information Coder/Biller technical certificates), Nursing (R.N.), Radiography, and Respiratory Care. Admission to these programs is limited because of clinical facilities and staff. Once you complete your A.S. degree in Respiratory Care, you can continue at Valencia to earn your Bachelor's degree in Cardiopulmonary Sciences or a bachelor-level Advanced Technical Certificate (ATC) in Echocardiography or in Leadership in Healthcare. With additional education at the bachelor's level and professional experience, you will enhance your skills and have more career options available.

Students whose official records indicate they are seeking admission to a limited access Associate in Science (A.S.) health sciences program will have the health sciences program designated as their secondary major and the Associate in Arts (A.A.) Degree designated as their primary major in order to maximize their educational opportunities. If the student has already earned a Bachelor's or A.A. degree, the student will not have A.A. designated as a major.

Most programs have an application deadline, but some do not. If a program application deadline falls on Saturday, Sunday or a Valencia holiday, the deadline will become the following Valencia business day. Health Sciences program applications are available at valenciacollege.edu/west/health/AppDeadlines.cfm. Program applications received after the deadline date will not be considered for the identified term. Students who are not accepted will need to reapply for a future term.

Students must complete a Valencia Application for Admission and the application for the specific health sciences program. Admission to Valencia does not imply acceptance to the health sciences program.

Students may apply to more than one limited access Health Science program; however, enrollment is limited to only one Health Sciences program in a term. A new program application is required if reapplying for admission. Having previously earned a college degree does not grant an advantage in admission to a Health Sciences program that does not require a degree for admission nor does it exempt students from taking the ATI Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) if the ATI TEAS is required for admission to the program.

All communication from Valencia relative to program admission will be sent via your **Atlas e-mail address**. Written communication you initiate with Valencia staff should also be via your Atlas e-mail account and should include your full name and your Valencia ID number.

BACKGROUND CHECK, FINGERPRINTING, DRUG TESTING, IMMUNIZATIONS AND CPR CERTIFICATION

The Health Sciences programs include student clinical rotations in external affiliate health care facilities with which Valencia has agreements for student clinical assignments. The affiliates' policies require that students serving in a clinical rotation be cleared of offenses that would disqualify them from participating in student clinical assignments. Thus, all students **conditionally* accepted** to a Health Sciences program are required to submit to a criminal background check, fingerprinting and drug testing as well as provide documentation of specific immunizations and American Heart Association (AHA) and Basic Life Support (BLS) CPR certification **following acceptance to a program**. The timeframe for meeting these requirements will be provided in the Orientation information that will be sent to the student upon acceptance through ATLAS email.

NOTE: Non-Immigrant visa holders must complete their background check, fingerprinting, drug testing, immunizations and CPR certification at least six months in advance of the anticipated start term.

***If you have a positive background check, fingerprint or drug screening, you may be denied enrollment in a Health Sciences program due to the inability to participate in a student clinical assignment.** If you have concerns regarding known background issues, it is recommended that you email questions to hscompliance@valenciacollege.edu.

MANDATORY ORIENTATION

The mandatory program Orientation for accepted students usually is held four to six weeks prior to the program start date. Once accepted to a program, students will receive an email via ATLAS regarding the Orientation date, requirements and deadlines. The Orientation materials will give the student information regarding the processes for completing background checks, fingerprinting, drug screening, and other requirements through CastleBranch.com.

TRANSPORTATION TO CLINICAL SITES

If accepted to a program, students will be responsible for furnishing transportation to the community and/or hospital facilities used by Valencia for clinical practice.

Valencia is an Equal Opportunity Institution: <http://valenciacollege.edu/HR/EqualAccessEqualOpportunity.cfm>

RESPIRATORY CARE ADMISSION POINTS GUIDE

The Health Sciences Admission Committee uses the following point system as a guide in the selection of qualified students to be admitted to the **Respiratory Care** Program. Student selection is based on the total number of points earned below. In case of a tie, overall GPA will be considered.

NOTE: If a student was previously accepted into a Health Sciences Program at Valencia College and subsequently deemed ineligible for return to the program, the selection committee has the right to contact the applicant's previous program. This information will be included in the consideration for program admission.

PROGRAM COURSE REQUIREMENTS THAT AWARD ADMISSION POINTS

The first three courses are prerequisite courses that must be completed by the program application deadline.

*BSC 2093C	Human Anatomy & Physiology I (Prerequisite Course)	A= 10 pts, B= 8 pts, C= 6 pts
MAC 1105	College Algebra (Prerequisite Course)	A= 8 pts, B= 6 pts, C= 4 pts
PHY 1007C	Physics with Medical Applications (Prerequisite Course)	A= 8 pts, B= 6 pts, C= 4 pts
The following courses are required for the degree and will result in more points toward admission if completed with a minimum grade of C prior to the program application deadline.		
*BSC 2094C	Human Anatomy & Physiology II	A= 10 pts, B= 8 pts, C= 6 pts
MCB 2010C	Microbiology	A= 10 pts, B= 8 pts, C= 6 pts
ENC 1101	Freshman Composition I	A= 3 pts, B= 2 pts, C= 1 pt
Humanities	Any course that meets the General Education Humanities requirement: Core or Institutional	A= 3 pts, B= 2 pts, C= 1 pt
PSY 2012	General Psychology	A= 3 pts, B= 2 pts, C= 1 pt

*BSC2085C & BSC2086C when both completed at the same Florida state institution may substitute for BSC2093C & BSC2094C

Please check <http://valenciacollege.edu/west/health/admissionupdates.cfm> for the most updated information.

ADDITIONAL ADMISSION POINTS AWARDED (OPTIONAL)

HSC 1004 OR SLS1122	Professions of Caring OR New Student Experience	A= 5 pts, B=3 pts, C=1 pt A= 3 pts, B= 2 pts, C= 1 pt
HSC 1531	Medical Terminology completed with an A, B or C	A= 5 pts, B= 3 pts, C= 1 pt
PHI 2600	Ethics and Critical Thinking (can satisfy Humanities requirement)	A= 3 pts, B= 2 pts, C= 1 pt
Alternate	Previous year applicant selected as an Alternate	3 pts

RELATED EXPERIENCE ADMISSION POINTS AWARDED

Points may be earned for ONLY ONE of the following and documentation must be submitted.

Current certification or license	Radiologic Technologist (RT (R)), Registered Nurse (RN), Paramedic, Certified Respiratory Therapist (CRT), Registered Vascular Specialist (RVS), Registered Cardiac Electrophysiology Specialist (RCES); Cardiovascular Tech (RCVT); Register Cardiac Sonographer (RCS/RDCS)	10 pts
On-the-job Trained Respiratory Assistant	Minimum 1 year experience with letter from employer on letterhead	3 pts
Career Pathways or NAF (AOHS) Graduate	High school programs	2 pts

Total Points = _____ Total Possible Points: 81

RESPIRATORY CARE CORE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR ADMISSION AND PROGRESSION

Respiratory Care is a practice discipline with cognitive, sensory, affective, and psychomotor performance requirements. Based on these requirements, the following list of “Core Performance Standards” has been developed. Each standard has an example of an activity or activities, which a student will be required to perform while enrolled in the Respiratory Care Program. These standards are a part of each Respiratory Care course and of the professional role expectation of a Respiratory Therapist.

For the purpose of the Respiratory Care Program, a “qualified individual with a disability is one who, with or without reasonable accommodations or modifications, meets the essential eligibility requirements for participation in the program.” The School of Allied Health at Valencia makes no preadmission inquiries concerning an applicant’s disability status. Information related to an applicant’s disabilities is not a part of the information reviewed by the Admission Committee.

These Performance Standards should be used to assist students in determining whether accommodations or modifications are necessary for the student to meet program requirements. A student who identifies potential difficulties with meeting the Performance Standards should communicate his/her concerns to an advisor in the Office for Students with Disabilities. The student has the responsibility to identify and document the disability and to request reasonable and appropriate adjustments. Determination is made on an individual basis as to whether any accommodations or modifications can be reasonably made.

Issue	Standard	Some Examples of Necessary Activities (not all inclusive)
Critical Thinking	Critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment	Identify cause-effect relationships in clinical situations, develop respiratory care plans
Interpersonal	Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds	Establish rapport with patients/clients and colleagues
Communication	Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form	Explain treatment procedures, initiate health teaching, document and interpret respiratory care actions and patient/client responses
Mobility	Physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room and maneuver in small spaces	Moves around in patient's rooms, work spaces, and treatment areas, administer cardio-pulmonary procedures
Motor Skills	Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective respiratory care	Calibrate and use equipment; position patients/ clients
Hearing	Auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs	Hears monitor alarm, emergency signals, auscultatory sounds, cries for help
Visual	Visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in respiratory care	Observes patient/client responses
Tactile	Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment	Perform palpation, functions of physical examination and/or those related to therapeutic intervention, e.g., insertions of a catheter

VALENCIA COLLEGE SCHOOLS OF ALLIED HEALTH AND NURSING
Sample Form of the Health and Physical Core Performance Requirements

Asses Ability to Meet Program Requirements	Y E S	N O	If NO, Note Limitations	Asses Ability to Meet Program Requirements	Y E S	N O	If NO, Note Limitations
General Requirements (has the ability to...)				Require Lifting (ability to lift...)			
Sit				Up to 10 lbs.			
Stand				11 to 24 lbs.			
Walk				25 to 34 lbs.			
Bend				35 to 50 lbs.			
Kneel				Up to and over 100 for some Clinical Areas			
Crouch				Pushing/Pulling (ability to push and pull...)			
Twist				Up to 10 lbs.			
Maintain Balance				11 to 24 lbs.			
Reach				25 to 34 lbs.			
Climb Stairs				35 to 50 lbs.			
Sensory Requirements (has ability for...)				Up to and over 100 for some Clinical Areas			
Far Vision				Hand Manipulation (ability with...)			
Near Vision							
Color Vision				Simple Grasping			
Depth Perception				Firm Grasping			
Seeing Fine Details				Fine Manipulation			
Hearing Norm Speech				Use of Keyboards			
Hearing Overhead Pages							
Infectious Diseases				Mental & Emotional Requirements (ability to...)			
Chemical Agents				Cope with high level of stress			
Dust, Fumes, Gases				Make decisions under high pressure			
Extremes in Temperature or Humidity				Cope with anger/fear/hostility of others in a calm way			
Hazardous or Moving Equipment				Concentrate			
Loud Noises				Handle a high degree of flexibility			
				Handle multiple priorities in stressful situations			
				Demonstrate high degree of patience			
				Work in areas that are close and crowded			
				Verbally Communicate under stress			

RESPIRATORY CARE

Associate in Science Degree (CIP# 1351090800)

Limited-Access

Respiratory Therapists assist in diagnosing and treating patients with acute and chronic cardiopulmonary illnesses. The work of respiratory therapy extends Practitioners into intensive care with patients on mechanical ventilation. Practitioners assist physicians in treatment ranging from bedside surgical procedures to balloon pump management in the operating room. Therapists treat patients with pulmonary diseases ranging from premature infants with underdeveloped lungs to COPD patients with chronic lung disease. The primary employer for a credentialed Respiratory Therapist is the acute care hospital. This dynamic profession can lead therapists to different specializations such as pulmonary functions testing, pulmonary rehabilitation, polysomnography, medical sales, management, and education.

Graduates are eligible to obtain the national credential(s) through the National Board for Respiratory Care. Once you complete your A.S. degree in Respiratory Care, you can now continue on and get your Bachelor's degree from Valencia in Cardiopulmonary Sciences. With additional education at the Bachelor level and professional experience, you will enhance your skills and have more career options available.

This program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care.

Respiratory Care is a limited-access program. Admission to Valencia does not imply acceptance to the Respiratory Care Program; students must apply and be accepted into the program. General admission procedures for this program are found in the Admissions section of this catalog. The Division of Allied Health provides information about specific admission criteria.

Estimated program expenses are given in the Financial section of this catalog.

Admission requirements that must be satisfied prior to submitting an application to the A.S. Degree Program in Respiratory Care are:

- Review the general admission requirements for Health Sciences programs in the Admissions section of this catalog.
- Submit a completed Valencia Application for Admission; satisfy the requirements for degree-seeking status and be in active student status.
- Satisfy the college entry testing requirements and satisfactorily complete all mandatory courses in reading, Professions of Caring (HSC 1004) for students pending acceptance to a health sciences program, or New Student Experience (SLS 1122), mathematics, English, and English for Academic Purposes in which you are placed.
- Complete Respiratory Care Prerequisite for admission Courses with a minimum grade of C.
- Have a minimum overall college GPA of 2.0 (including transfer work). NOTE: Transfer students with completed coursework at Valencia College also need to have a minimum institutional/Valencia GPA of 2.0 as well at the time of applying.
- Submit the completed Valencia Respiratory Care Program application with the application fee.

A minimum grade of C must be achieved in all respiratory care and required courses to meet a prerequisite or graduation requirement.

Any student admitted to the Respiratory Care Program who fails or withdraws from any RET-prefix courses must petition the Health Sciences Admissions Committee for re-evaluation and readmission. Students will be allowed to petition one time. The petition process can be found in the Respiratory Care Student Handbook.

Students are strongly encouraged to consult their campus based Allied Health Program Advisor for assistance in determining the best education plan for their career goals.

Alternative Ways to Earn Credit

If you have earned your credential as a Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT), you may be eligible to receive credit toward this A.S. degree. For more information, visit: http://valenciacollege.edu/asdegrees/credit_alternative.cfm.

Start Right

Degree-seeking students enrolling at Valencia for the first time will have a limited range of courses from which to choose for their first 18 college-level credits. Within the first 18 college credit hours, you will be required to take ENC1101 (3 credits), and if applicable, Professions of Caring (HSC 1004) for students pending acceptance to a health sciences program, or New Student Experience (SLS 1122), and a mathematics course appropriate to your selected meta-major (3 credits). The remaining courses will be chosen from the General Education Core Courses in humanities (3 credits), science (3 credits), or social science (3 credits), and/or the introductory courses within the A.S. degree programs. For specific courses see the *Foundation Courses* on the "Program Requirements" tab.

For course sequencing recommendations, see your campus based Allied Health Program Advisor or access the Course Planning Guide on the Health Sciences webpage <http://valenciacollege.edu/west/health/admissionupdates.cfm#Respiratory>.

Potential Careers

- Respiratory Therapist
- Critical Care Staff Therapist
- Home Health Care Respiratory Therapist
- Respiratory Care Practitioner

Salary & Earnings Information

For salary and wage information, visit: www.floridawages.com (<http://www.floridawages.com>).

Contacts

Future Students

To learn more about this program, contact Enrollment Services at enrollment@valenciacollege.edu or 407-582-1507 or visit valenciacollege.edu/respiratory-care/ (<https://net1.valenciacollege.edu/future-students/degree-options/associates/respiratory-care/>).

Current Students

Active Valencia students who are *pending program acceptance* may meet with the pending Allied Health Program Advisor in the campus Student Services department. For Information Sessions, Admission Guides, Program Applications, and the most updated information, visit the website at: <http://valenciacollege.edu/west/health/Accepted,in->

program students will meet with their assigned Career Program Advisor after confirming acceptance.

Program Outcomes

- Demonstrate competence described by the scope of practice for Respiratory Care.
- Demonstrate effective communication skills within the healthcare setting.
- Demonstrate professional behaviors within the Respiratory Care program.
- Provide a safe environment within the Respiratory Care program.
- Execute safe clinical decision making in Respiratory Care.

Prerequisite for Admission		Credit Hours
BSC 2093C	HUMAN ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY I ^{++~}	4
MAC 1105	College Algebra ^{++~}	3
PHY 1007C	PHYSICS WITH MEDICAL APPLICATIONS ⁺⁺	4
Credit Hours		11
Year I		
Spring Term		
MCB 2010C	MICROBIOLOGY ^{++~}	4
ENC 1101	FRESHMAN COMPOSITION I ^{++~}	3
RET 1025	PRINCIPLES OF RESPIRATORY CARE ⁺⁺	3
RET 1485	CARDIOPULMONARY PHYSIOLOGY ⁺⁺	3
RET 2350	RESPIRATORY PHARMACOLOGY ⁺⁺	3
Credit Hours		16
Summer Term		
BSC 2094C	HUMAN ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY II ^{++~}	4
RET 1295	RESPIRATORY DISEASE MANAGEMENT ⁺⁺	3
RET 1450	BASIC PHYSIOLOGY MONITORING ⁺⁺	3
RET 1274L	RESPIRATORY CARE LAB I ⁺⁺	2
Credit Hours		12
Year II		
Fall Term		
RET 1874L	CLINICAL PRACTICE I ⁺⁺	4
RET 1264	PRINCIPLES OF MECHANICAL VENTILATION ⁺⁺	3
RET 2447	HEMODYNAMIC MONITORING ⁺⁺	3
RET 2283L	RESPIRATORY CARE LAB II ⁺⁺	2
Credit Hours		12
Spring Term		
RET 2244	ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT ⁺⁺	3
RET 2714	NEONATAL/PEDIATRIC RESPIRATORY CARE ⁺⁺	3
RET 1875L	CLINICAL PRACTICE II ⁺⁺	4
RET 2284L	RESPIRATORY CARE LAB III ⁺⁺	2
Credit Hours		12
Summer Term		
RET 2876L	CLINICAL PRACTICE III ⁺⁺	4
Humanities ^{++~}	See Gen. Ed. Core or Institutional Requirement (http://catalog.valenciacollege.edu/degrees/associateinscience/asgeneraleducationrequirements)	3
PSY 2012	General Psychology ^{++~}	3
RET 2920	RESPIRATORY CARE PRACTICUM ⁺⁺	3
Credit Hours		13
Total Credit Hours		76

+ This course must be completed with a grade of C or better.

* This course has a prerequisite; check description in Valencia catalog.

~ This is a general education course.

Notes:

All accepted applicants are required to submit applications through Valencia for a criminal background check and drug testing. Applicants for Valencia's Health Sciences programs must be free of offenses that would disqualify them from a student clinical experience in a healthcare setting and must have their civil rights intact. This policy is in response to requirements by clinical agencies and state/federal regulations.

Specialized program courses are offered on the West Campus and may not be offered every session.

Upon earning the A.S. degree in Respiratory Care, eligible applicants can continue at Valencia to complete the Bachelor's degree in Cardiopulmonary Sciences (<http://catalog.valenciacollege.edu/degrees/bachelorofscience/astobscardiopulmonarysciences>) or a bachelor-level Advanced Technical Certificate (ATC) in Echocardiography (<http://catalog.valenciacollege.edu/degrees/advancedtechnicalcertificates/echocardiography>) or in Leadership in Healthcare (<http://catalog.valenciacollege.edu/degrees/advancedtechnicalcertificates/leadershipinhealthcare>). Additional education at the bachelor's level and professional experience can enhance your skills and create more career opportunities.

Students who wish to continue their education should consult with their Program Advisor to determine the best education plan for their career goals.