

**CONSIDERING A CAREER IN RESPIRATORY?**

**VOLUNTEER at a LOCAL HOSPITAL TO OBSERVE A RESPIRATORY THERAPIST**

**WHAT DOES A RESPIRATORY THERAPIST DO?**

***Assess breathing issues, Assist in Cardiac resuscitation and Respiratory Arrest***

 ***Clear the airways and Give breathing treatments to asthmatics and COPD patients***

 ***Assist breathing with Bipaps and Ventilators, Attend high-risk infant deliveries, wean post-surgical patients from Ventilators (after heart/lung transplant, valve replacement, or bypass surgery)***

***Pulmonary function testing and rehabilitation, Sleep Testing, Airway clearance and lung strengthening tests, obtain bloodwork and assist in respiratory procedures such as chest tube placement, bronchoscopies and arterial line insertions***

* ***College level-assist as an Equipment Tech within the Respiratory department***
* ***While in Respiratory Program—after the first clinical semester: Respiratory care Assistant (can work under a student limited license)***
* ***Associate’s Degree—Begin working as a CRT within the first year and obtain RRT licensure within one year to transition to a Registered Respiratory Therapist***

**Additional Career Advancement Opportunities**

* ***Bachelor’s Degree-required to move into leadership roles such as Supervisor (usually requires multiple years of service within the department after acquiring RRT)***
* ***Master’s Degree –Teach respiratory classes, Assist in Education or become a Manager/Director of a Respiratory Program or Hospital (additional 2 years on top of the Bachelor’s degree)***
* ***APRT-Advance Practice Respiratory Therapist (equivalent of APRN for Nursing) additional 2 years.***

**Below is a list of Tristate area Universities that offer a Respiratory program in the Northern KY Area**

NKU – Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Care

* Specific admission requirements
* Selective admission process
* 4-year plan with opportunity to advance to Master’s

Visit NKU.EDU: College of Health and Human Services for additional information.

Cincinnati State – Associates of Applied Science in Respiratory Care

* Specific admission requirements
* Selective admission process
* 2-year plan

Visit Cinncinnatistate.edu for additional information

University of Cincinnati Clermont – Associates of Applied Science in Respiratory Care

* Specific admission requirements
* Selective admission process
* Offers transition process to obtain Bachelor’s of Science in Respiratory Care

Visit Ucclermont.edu for additional information

Morehead State University – Associates of Applied Science in Respiratory care

* Specific admission requirements
* Selective admission process
* 2-year plan

Visit moreheadstate.edu for additional information

Bellarmine University – Bachelor of Health Science in Respiratory Therapy

* Specific admission requirements
* Selective admission process
* 4-year plan with opportunities to advance to a Master’s

Visit belleramine.edu for additional information