

Cooperative Program

Respiratory Care (Bachelor of Science degree)

The Respiratory Care Program is offered through a partnership between UACCB, the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) College of Health Professions and the UAMS - North Central Area Health Education Center. Following satisfactory completion of all respective degree requirements, graduates receive the Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Cardio-Respiratory Care from UAMS.

Respiratory care is concerned with the assessment, diagnosis and management of patients with cardiopulmonary deficiencies or abnormalities. The respiratory therapist works in hospitals, clinics, home care agencies, sleep labs, rehabilitation centers and other health care settings under the direction of a physician. Respiratory therapists use sophisticated equipment in the assessment and treatment of patients with such lung disorders as asthma, emphysema, pneumonia, bronchitis, cancer and trauma. The respiratory therapist also provides patient and community education and develops patient care plans. Respiratory therapists earn a professional "Registered Respiratory Therapist" (RRT) credential. RRTs apply scientific knowledge and theory to practical clinical problems of respiratory care and are qualified to assume primary responsibility for all respiratory care modalities. Under the supervision of a physician, the RRT is able to exercise considerable independent clinical judgment in the respiratory care of patients.

The entire curriculum required for the BS degree program is available on the UACCB campus. Students may complete all or part of the required general education and prerequisite courses at UACCB or at another regionally-accredited college or university. Students are required to make a separate application to UAMS for admission to the professional curriculum. Students accepted into the professional program in Respiratory Care become UAMS students, follow the UAMS calendar, pay tuition and fees based on the UAMS scale, and therefore, receive all professional course credit from UAMS. Upon admission to the professional program, students complete the professional course work (classes and laboratories) on the UACCB campus using distance education technology, primarily interactive videoconferencing supplemented by Blackboard via the Internet. Clinical education experiences are provided at locations at regional health care facilities (Batesville, Jonesboro, Searcy), although some travel is required to Little Rock or other locations for some clinical rotations during the program. The UAMS professional curriculum can be completed in 20 months (two-year track) as a full time student or 32 months (three-year track) as a part time student. The B.S. degree education program in cardio-respiratory care at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care, 1248 Harwood Road, Bedford, Texas, 76201. Telephone: (817) 283-2835, website: www.coarc.com. Programs outcome data can be viewed at <http://www.coarc.com/47.html>.

Prospective students are encouraged to schedule an advising appointment with a UAMS faculty member on the UACCB campus early in their general education course work and prior to making application to UAMS. More specific and detailed information about the program, pre-requisite courses, admissions and applications can be found at <http://healthprofessions.uams.edu/programs/respiratorycareandsurgicaltechnology/respiratorycare/>

Prerequisite Course Requirements – 55 SC

Science – 20 SC	
Human Anatomy & Physiology I and II	8 SC
Microbiology	4 SC
Chemistry	4 SC
Physics	4 SC
Math – 6 SC	
College Algebra	3 SC
Statistics	3 SC
Communications – 3 SC	
Speech	3 SC
Liberal Arts – 9 SC	
English Composition	6 SC
American History or U.S. Government	3 SC
Fine Arts – 3 SC	
Fine Arts	3 SC
Humanities – 3 SC	
Humanities, Philosophy, Literature	3 SC
Social Sciences – 6 SC	
Introduction to Psychology	3 SC
Introduction to Sociology	3 SC
Medical Terminology – 3 SC	
Medical Terminology	3 SC
Electives – 2 SC	
	TOTAL = 55 SC

Recommended Elective Courses: Additional science / math courses, Human Growth & Development, Psychology or Sociology courses, Business / Economics courses, Pharmacology.

* Students who complete the pre-requisites at UACCB may use the courses to complete the AS general education degree requirements. Interested student should consult their advisor for specific information about the AS General Education degree.