Lakeland Community College

Applied Studies Division

Respiratory Therapy

- Associate of Applied Science Degree in Respiratory Therapy

Opportunity starts HERE
lakelandcc.edu
Respiratory Therapy

Respiratory therapy involves preventive, diagnostic, rehabilitative and intensive-care therapy for patients with current or potential cardiopulmonary problems. Respiratory therapists work in a variety of clinical settings treating patients with heart and lung diseases. Therapists work as members of the health care team assessing patient status, administering respiratory medications, drawing and analyzing blood samples, and working with various types of life support equipment.

Career Opportunities

Respiratory care is a rapidly growing licensed healthcare field. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS.gov), employment of respiratory therapists is expected to increase at a rate of 23 percent through 2026. Advances in the treatment of premature infants, victims of heart attacks, accidents and chronic lung diseases such as asthma will increase the demand for the services of respiratory care practitioners.

Lakeland graduates are in high demand and many hold supervisory and management positions in area facilities. Graduates work in hospitals, nursing homes, subacute and rehabilitative facilities, home care, pediatrics, physician offices and medical supply companies.

Some of Lakeland’s respiratory therapy program graduates have pursued the following career paths: cardiac and pulmonary stress testing in outpatient laboratories and in-hospital laboratories; intensive care, neonatal/pediatric, medical/surgical, respiratory care in area hospitals; subacute care facilities and long-term care facilities; medical school; nurse anesthetist; transport/emergency care team members; medical law; supervisory/management/administration; sales/marketing; clinical education; polysomnography (sleep study technician); pulmonary rehabilitation; home care; vascular lab technology; organ transplant team members; pharmaceuticals; nurse practitioner; and physician assistant.

Lakeland’s Program

Lakeland’s respiratory therapy program leads to an Associate of Applied Science degree. Students work with registered respiratory therapists in some of the area’s top health care facilities where they use state-of-the-art equipment for cardiopulmonary diagnostics and life support. Students also spend time with home care therapists, in rehabilitation and in sleep laboratories to treat patients with chronic lung diseases.

The program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care. Successful completion of the program qualifies the graduate for national board exams.

The Lakeland Advantage

- Lakeland’s program prepares students at the therapist level, the highest level of training available.
- Successful completion of the program qualifies graduates to sit for board examinations leading to national registry and eligibility for state licensure.
- Students may participate in the Student Respiratory Therapy Association.

For more information

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Students must meet specific admission requirements for this program. Listed below are requirements for admission to the Respiratory Therapy Program:

**OPTION 1: High School Option**
This option is for current high school seniors or high school graduates who apply to the program within two years of high school graduation.

- Complete college application(s).
- Composite score of 21 or higher on the American College Test (ACT) or combined score of 1400 on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT).
- Place into MATH 1330 Statistics for the Health Sciences or higher or pass MATH 0850 Beginning Algebra.
- Complete high school algebra, chemistry, and biology with a "C" grade or higher.
- An overall high school GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale or equivalent.
- Meet with a counselor to review program prerequisites and requirements.

Upon successful completion of the above criteria, the applicant will be admitted into the program. Students must complete HLTH 1215 (Medical Terminology for Health Professionals) with a "C" grade or higher prior to enrolling in their first health technology course.

**OPTION 2: College Option**
This option is for students who do not qualify for admission under Option 1.

- Complete college application(s).
- Submit high school transcript as well as any college transcript(s).
- Successful passing score on the required program pre-admission test.
- Meet with a counselor to review program prerequisites and requirements.

Students must have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher in program applicable courses. The following courses, or equivalent courses from other regionally accredited colleges, must be completed with a combined minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher and a "C" grade or higher.

- HLTH 1215 Medical Terminology for Health Professionals
- BIOL 2210 Anatomy & Physiology I

**NOTE:** Students must take one of these courses to take BIOL 2210 with a "C" or higher:
1. High school biology within last five years and high school chemistry.
2. High school biology within last five years and CHEM 1100 Elementary Chemistry.

Students are required to take the Math Placement Test and be placed into MATH 1330 or complete MATH 0850 with a "C" grade or higher.

**OPTION 3: Advanced Education Option**
Students pursuing this option must have an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Nursing or Allied Health, Bachelor of Science Degree in a natural science, or an Associate of Science Degree to be waived from the preadmission testing. All other Option 2 requirements apply.

**Note:** Students planning to transfer to a four-year college are encouraged to take ENGL 1120 English Composition II and COMM 1100 Interpersonal Communication in addition to program requirements.
To further your education, Lakeland’s Holden University Center offers a variety of bachelor's degree programs from a number of four-year colleges and universities offering you the opportunity to stay here and go far! Visit lakelandcc.edu/uc to explore your options.

Quality Education
Lakeland prepares you for a high-demand career or for transfer to a four-year college or university. Professors at Lakeland are experts in their fields with real-world experience. Small class sizes allow for personalized attention.

Affordable Tuition
Save thousands on your college education. Lakeland's tuition is about one-third the cost of most four-year schools. Financial assistance is available, including federal and state grants, scholarships, loans, and work study employment.

Convenience
Lakeland offers convenient day, evening and weekend class times, and a growing number of online courses. The main campus in Kirtland is only 20 miles northeast of Cleveland. Classes are also offered in Madison.

Focus on Students
Lakeland offers a variety of student services to help you succeed, such as counseling, tutoring, wireless computer labs, career services, free parking, and affordable child care.

Accreditation
Lakeland Community College is accredited through the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) and participates in the Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP). The Higher Learning Commission, 230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500, Chicago, IL 60604-1413, phone: 800.621.7440, hlcommission.org.