



BALL STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Health
Department of Nutrition
and Health Science

PROFESSIONAL DESCRIPTION

Respiratory therapists are highly skilled professionals qualified by education to help evaluate, treat, rehabilitate and educate to prevent and manage cardiopulmonary diseases. Procedures performed by therapists include drug therapy, bronchopulmonary clearance techniques and administration of medical gases. Therapists also provide ventilator support, pulmonary rehabilitation and CPR. They are skilled in airway maintenance, procurement and analysis of arterial blood gas samples and in the performance of pulmonary function tests. Respiratory therapists work primarily in hospitals caring for patients in nurseries, medical and surgical units, adult and pediatric intensive care units and emergency rooms. Employment opportunities are also available in nursing care facilities, rehabilitation hospitals, home care, physicians' offices, clinics, companies that manufacture and distribute medical supplies and equipment and in education and management.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

This baccalaureate degree program prepares students for careers in respiratory therapy. The Ball State University Respiratory Therapy Program is offered in cooperation with IU Health Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis. The program is divided into two phases. The first, or prerequisite, phase and University Core Curriculum (UCC) takes place on the Ball State campus and includes course work in the sciences and the University Core Curriculum. The second, or professional, phase takes place in Indianapolis where medical, technical and clinical courses are taught at IU Health Methodist Hospital and other clinical settings.

Upon graduation, students receive the Bachelor of Science Degree in Respiratory Therapy. Program graduates are eligible to apply for the national certification exam administered by the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC). Individuals who pass the exam are known as registered respiratory therapists, RRT. The program prepares graduates to meet the requirements for licensure in Indiana. The university and program have not determined if graduates will need to meet additional requirements for licensure in other states. Individuals who have been convicted of a crime should contact the program director prior to the professional phase application to determine if they are likely to become licensed upon completion of the program; however, the final decision lies with each individual state licensing board.

If you are interested in this program, please download and read *Prospective Student Information (PDF)* available on the website at www.bsu.edu/respiratorytherapy.

RESPIRATORY THERAPY ONLINE

- American Association for Respiratory Care: www.aarc.org
- Bureau of Labor Statistics: www.bls.gov
- Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care: www.coarc.com
- Indiana Society for Respiratory Care: www.in-isrc.org
- National Board for Respiratory Care: www.nbrc.org

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

RESPIRATORY THERAPY

APPLICATION

Go online to www.bsu.edu/respiratorytherapy to obtain the most current respiratory therapy program application and instructions. Only the most current application will be accepted. Complete the application, follow the instructions and attach the required documentation. All information must be received in the Department of Nutrition and Health Science office (HB 530) no later than 5:00 p.m. local time (EST) on the first business day of February. Incomplete and late application packets may not be considered.

SELECTION

Qualified applicants will be ranked based on their cumulative GPA. All undergraduate college credit attempted will be included in the computation of the GPA, including all attempted transfer hours. Preference in admission will be given to applicants who are residents of the State of Indiana. The number of non-resident applicants accepted into the program will be limited to a maximum of 10% of each class.

PROGRAM OUTCOME DATA

Program outcome data regarding credentialing success, employment, and retention are available at <https://coarc.com/students/programmatic-outcomes-data>.

PROGRAM ACCREDITATION

Ball State University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. The program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC), <https://coarc.com>.

CONTACT US

Office of Admissions

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CHECK SHEET

RESPIRATORY THERAPY

Use this Check Sheet, along with your BSU Student Stellic record, to keep track of your progress.

NOTE: If you declared Respiratory Therapy as a major prior to Fall 2026, contact the Respiratory Therapy Major Advisor for admission requirements.

PREREQUISITE PHASE AND UNIVERSITY CORE CURRICULUM (UCC) - 51 or 52 HRS

The prerequisite phase and UCC includes 51 or 52 semester hours of required courses. This phase of the program may be started during any semester; however, some courses may only be offered during certain semesters each year. All required prerequisite and UCC courses must be taken for credit on a letter-grade basis, excluding courses accepted by Ball State for advanced standing. All required prerequisite and UCC courses must be completed by the end of the summer semester prior to beginning the professional phase of the program. If a student is unable to complete the prerequisite and UCC requirements by the time the professional phase begins due to remedial courses, major change, etc., it will be necessary for the student to wait until the following year to apply. All prerequisite math/science courses must be completed with a C or higher.

Suggested sequencing:

FIRST SEMESTER – 13 or 14 HRS	SECOND SEMESTER – 12 HRS	THIRD SEMESTER – 14 HRS	FOURTH SEMESTER – 12 HRS
___ CHEM 101 (5)**	___ ANAT 201 (3)	___ MATH 181 (3)*	___ BIO 113 (5)
___ ENG 103 (3)*	___ COMM 210 (3)*	___ PHIL 202 (3)***	___ PHYC 110 (4)
___ MATH 112 or MATH 114 (3) or (2)	___ HSC 180 (3)***	___ PHYS 215 (5)	___ UCC Beneficence (3)****
___ UCC Beneficence 1 st Theme Choice (3)*****	___ HSC 208 or ENG 208 (3)*****	___ UCC Beneficence 2 nd Theme Choice (3)*****	___ 3 rd Theme Choice

*Fulfils Undergraduate Core Curriculum (UCC) Foundations Requirement; **Fulfils UCC Ways of Knowing Requirement, Scientific; ***Fulfils UCC Ways of Knowing Requirement, Social and Behavioral; ****Fulfils UCC Ways of Knowing Requirement, Humanistic and Artistic; *****Fulfils UCC Beneficence Theme; *****Fulfils UCC Research-Based Writing Requirement.

PROFESSIONAL PHASE - 70 HRS

The professional phase of the program, which includes 70 semester hours, begins at IU Health Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis each July and runs 6 consecutive semesters. All required professional phase courses must be completed with a C or higher.

JR. SUMMER SEMESTER – 3 HRS

AHSC 311 (3)

JR. FALL SEMESTER – 16 HRS

AHSC 303 (2)	AHSC 326 (2)
AHSC 315 (3)	AHSC 333 (2)
AHSC 325 (4)	AHSC 405 (3)

JR. SPRING SEMESTER – 13 HRS

AHSC 350 (3)	AHSC 385 (3)
AHSC 355 (3)	AHSC 444 (2)
AHSC 356 (2)	

SR. SUMMER SEMESTER – 4 HRS

AHSC 395 (4)

SR. FALL SEMESTER – 17 HRS

AHSC 371 (3)	AHSC 456 (6)
AHSC 420 (2)	AHSC 461 (3)
AHSC 451 (3)	

SR. SPRING SEMESTER – 17 HRS

AHSC 430 (3)	AHSC 480 (3)
AHSC 440 (2)	AHSC 485 (6)
AHSC 445 (3)	Capstone course

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students may complete the required respiratory therapy prerequisite and UCC courses upon admission to the university. Admission to the professional phase requires a separate application and is competitive. Admission to the university, satisfactory completion of the prerequisite and UCC courses and fulfillment of program admission requirements does not guarantee admission to the professional phase of the program. The respiratory therapy program designates the number of students admitted to the professional phase each year based on clinical setting capacity. To apply for admission to the professional phase students must:

- Meet with the Respiratory Therapy Major Advisor.
- Be a current Ball State student by December 1 of the year immediately prior to the professional phase application deadline. All transfer credits must be evaluated and appear on the official BSU transcript.
- Successfully complete 28 of the 51 or 52 hours of respiratory therapy prerequisite and UCC courses.
- Earn a minimum of 2.5 overall GPA.
- Disclose any termination from a healthcare facility.
- Meet the following requirements for the math/science courses (ANAT 201, BIO 113, CHEM 101, MATH 112 or MATH 114, MATH 181, PHYC 110, PHYS 215):
 - Complete 10 hours of the required math/science courses.
 - Earn a grade of C or higher for all required math/science courses.
- Read the most current Respiratory Therapy Program documents posted on the BSU website at www.bsu.edu/respiratorytherapy: *Respiratory Therapy Program Instructions and Application; Respiratory Therapy Prospective Student Information; Respiratory Therapy Check Sheet*.
- Complete an admission interview scheduled by program faculty.
- Be a minimum of 18 years of age by the first day of the professional phase of the program to meet legal clinical setting policies.