

# **Respiratory Care**

**- Revised for Summer 2021 Application -**

The Dallas College School of Health Sciences offers a 65-credit-hour curriculum leading to an Associate of Applied Sciences Degree in Respiratory Care at the El Centro campus. The program prepares students to become respiratory therapists and perform complex patient care procedures in specialized patient care units and diagnostic laboratories. Successful completion of the program enables the graduate to apply for the Therapist Multiple Choice (TMC) and Clinical Simulation (CS) examinations from the National Board of Respiratory Care (NBRC). Based on performance in the examination, the graduate may be awarded a Certified Respiratory Therapist (CRT) or Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) credential. Passing the TMC at the CRT level will a allow graduate to become a Respiratory Care Practitioner (RCP), the legal credential required to work in the state of Texas. The Respiratory Care AAS (Associate of Applied Science) Program, CoARC Program Reference 200103, 801 Main Street, Dallas, TX 75202, is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care ([www.coarc.com](http://www.coarc.com)).

After completion of the 23 credit hours or Respiratory Care Prerequisite Courses, meeting eligibility to apply to the Allied Health Associate Degree programs, and achieving the minimum required scores on designated sections of the HESI A2 test, the student applies for entrance into the Respiratory Care courses, which begin in June of each year and encompass 13 months of specific lecture, laboratory, and clinical coursework in respiratory care. Acceptance to the Respiratory Care program is via a **competitive selection process based on grade point average ranking of the Respiratory Care Core curriculum courses.** This information packet details the procedure for program application.

**This information packet contains specific application guidelines and requirements for application to the Summer 2021 (June) program. Submission of application materials verifies that an individual has 1) read the packet thoroughly, 2) obtained all necessary documents from designated website addresses, and 3) understands the policies and procedures for application and acceptance to the program.**

Equal Educational Opportunity

Educational opportunities are offered by Dallas College without regard to race, color, age,

national origin, religion, sex, disability, or sexual orientation.

## Eligibility to Apply to Allied Health Associate Degree Programs

In order to apply to the Fall 2021 Radiologic Sciences program, an applicant must meet the conditions of one of the three [Application Eligibility Categories](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-health-resources.aspx), as well as meet other application requirements prior to the application deadline. The categories include:

Category 1 Applicant – Completion of the six HPRS courses for the Health Professions Readiness Awards I and II.

Category 2 Applicant – Documentation of a minimum of two (2) years employment as a healthcare worker with direct patient care experience within the last five (5) years by successful completion of the Prior Learning Assessment Portfolio, programmatic assessment exams, or course work demonstrating the skills/knowledge encompassing the content of the six HPRS courses.

Category 3 Applicant – Documentation of a current professional credential in a healthcare profession as approved by the Radiologic Sciences program coordinator.

## A. General Admission Requirements to the College

Applicants to the Respiratory Care program must meet all [college admission requirements](https://www1.dcccd.edu/catalog/GeneralInfo/AdmissAssessAdvEnroll/require.cfm?loc=econ) as outlined in the official college catalog.

Applicants must have earned either a high school diploma or General Education Diploma (GED) in addition to complying with Texas Success Initiative (TSI) requirements before they will be eligible to apply to the program. Students should consult an academic advisor to determine their TSI status prior to application to the Respiratory Care program.

All students applying or enrolled at a Dallas College campus are required to submit their Social Security number to the Registrar’s Office. Students who do not possess a Social Security number must complete a form obtained at the Registrar’s Office. For more information, consult a Registrar/Admissions Office at any Dallas College campus.

### Official College Transcripts

Prior to application to the Respiratory Care program, potential applicants must have submitted ***official transcripts from all colleges and universities the applicant has attended whether the coursework is or is not relevant to the program application***. Transcripts from Dallas College campuses are not required.

The transcripts must be current with the **print date no earlier than three years** prior to the applicant’s anticipated admission to the program. If the official transcripts have not been submitted, the individual’s application will be voided.

Official transcripts must be sent electronically from the applicant’s previous colleges to [registrar-ecc@dcccd.edu](mailto:registrar-ecc@dcccd.edu). Transcripts sent by the applicant in pdf or other formats are not accepted. Transcripts may also be mailed from a college in a sealed envelope to Registrar-El Centro campus, 801 Main Street, Dallas, TX 75202-3604.

#### Initial College Application, Advisement, and Enrollment

Students who are beginning college for the first time will follow the [Six Steps to Enrollment](https://www.dallascollege.edu/admissions/application/pages/default.aspx) which will guide them from applying the college system to placement testing, selecting a degree plan, contacting an academic advisor, and enrolling in basic courses.

A student who has not completed college coursework should request a general Associate Degree plan from the Academic Advisement Center as a starting point toward future application to a health occupations program. ***NOTE: Additional assessment testing in computer literacy and learning frameworks courses may be required for certain students.***

### Online Program Information Sessions

Potential applicants are required to view an online [Respiratory Care information session](https://www.dallascollege.edu/health-packets-sessions) where the program, application procedures, and acceptance policies are discussed in detail. The information session must be viewed as a running Power Point and a link to a questionnaire will activate at the end of the presentation. Once the questionnaire is submitted, application forms will be emailed to the applicant within 1-2 business days.

## B. Application Requirements to the Respiratory Care Program

Application to the Respiratory Care Program requires the following steps:

* Application and current admission to Dallas College.
* Viewing an online Respiratory Care program information session.
* Meeting one of the three Application Eligibility Categories (see page 1).
* Completion of the 23 credit hours of Respiratory Care Prerequisite Courses with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.00 or higher on those specific courses and a minimum grade of “C” in each course.
* Completion of designated sections of the HESI A2 Test (Reading Comprehension, Grammar, Math, Vocabulary/General Knowledge, and Anatomy/Physiology) with a **minimum score of 70%** on each of the five required sections, in addition to completing the Personality Profile and Learning Styles sections.
* Submission of complete documentation of a current physical exam, tuberculosis screening, required immunizations and CPR certification to Castle Branch.
* Submission of complete application materials to the Health Occupations Admissions Office during a designated filing period.

## C. Respiratory Care Prerequisite Courses

An applicant must have completed the entire 23 credit hours of Respiratory Care Prerequisite Courses with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.00 or higher in order to apply to the Respiratory Care Program. In addition, each course must have been completed with a minimum grade of “C” or higher.

### Respiratory Care Prerequisite Courses

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  | Lec  Hrs | Lab Hrs | Ext  Hrs | Cont Hrs | Cr  Hrs |
| BIOL | 2401\* | Human Anatomy & Physiology I | 3 | 3 | 0 | 96 | 4 |
| BIOL | 2402 | Human Anatomy & Physiology II | 3 | 3 | 0 | 96 | 4 |
| ENGL | 1301 | Composition I | 3 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 3 |
| MATH | 1314\*\* | College Algebra | 3 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 3 |
| PSYC | 2301 | General Psychology | 3 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 3 |
| SPCH | 1311# | General Psychology | 3 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 3 |
| Humanities Elective ## | | | 3 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 3 |
| Total Program Prerequisites | | | 21 | 6 | 0 | 432 | 23 |

\* **Important Note:** BIOL 1406 is the required prerequisite for enrollment into BIOL 2401. A CLEP test is also available for BIOL 1406.

\*\* Higher level math courses such as Calculus may be evaluated for possible substitution if a student did not complete a college algebra course.

# SPCH 1315 – Public Speaking and SPCH 1321 – Business and Professional Communication will also be accepted for the SPCH 1311 prerequisite course.

## Humanities elective must be chosen from the Humanity, Creativity and Aesthetic Experience section of the general Associate Degree of Arts/Sciences degree plan. See the current Dallas College catalog for a full list of accepted courses. **Suggested courses include: ARTS 1301, DANC 2303, DRAM 1310, HUMA 1315, MUSI 1306, PHIL 1301, PHIL 1304, selected ENGL literature courses at the 2000 level or higher, sophomore level foreign languages such as SPAN 2311.**

## D. Evaluation of Previous Coursework

Official transcripts are fully evaluated by the Dallas College Transcript Evaluation Center after a student has been enrolled for at least one regular semester. However, the Health Occupations Admissions Office at the El Centro campus also evaluates a student’s coursework and generates an Educational Plan for the student. The [Educational Plan](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=U1R-1i9z3EqUpEiI8tl9XR-JTZXG4gtGtI5xwkPieuFUOFdER1BQS1k5TU02R09FQTU0WFVDTEJQWSQlQCN0PWcu) is a preliminary, unofficial degree plan for advisement purposes and only reflects specific courses toward a health occupations program.

Educational Plans are optional and are not required for application to a health occupations program. are usually completed within 4-6 weeks. **The evaluation process is not completed during individual appointments or on an “as you wait” basis.** During peak times such as registration or after the close of the semester when faculty are unavailable, an evaluation may take longer to complete. Therefore, an Educational Plan should be requested at least one semester prior to a program application filing deadline if possible.

*The School of Health Sciences and the Health Occupations Admissions Office reserve the right to accept or reject any coursework completed at other colleges presented for transfer evaluation toward Health Occupations programs.*

### Determination of Application Eligibility Category

As part of the Educational Plan process, potential applicants should include additional documentation such as an employer/supervisor letter verifying direct patient care experience, a professional healthcare credential, etc. with the Educational Plan request form which will assist them in determining their Application Eligibility category. See page 7 for examples of documents needed for Categories 2 and 3. Coursework for potential applicants completing the HPRS courses for Category 1 are automatically considered in the Educational Plan review process.

### Credit by Examination, CLEP, and Advanced Placement Credit

Credit through CLEP, High School Advanced Placement Exams and Credit by Examination may be awarded for a limited number of courses toward Health Occupations programs.

Advanced Placement (“AP”) credit for ENGL 1301 and MATH 1314 is acceptable if the credit appears on a college transcript as ENGL 1301 and MATH 1314 equivalency. A letter grade is not awarded for “AP” credit.

**NOTE: An applicant to the Respiratory Care program may present credit by exam, CLEP, or “AP” credit for only two of the Respiratory Care Prerequisite Courses. Credit will be acknowledged but not calculated with the grade point average.**

See detailed information regarding [Advanced Placement, CLEP, and Credit by Examination.](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-health-resources.aspx)

Coursework from Foreign Universities

Only courses such as college algebra/calculus, human anatomy/physiology, and chemistry may be considered for transfer to Health Occupations program from colleges or universities outside the United States. **No other courses will be considered.** Chemistry must be within the five-year time limit. [Foreign Coursework Evaluation](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-health-resources.aspx) is a multi-step process which may take several weeks. **The student must be enrolled in credit classes at a Dallas College campus before the evaluation process can be initiated.**

## E. HESI A2 Test

The [HESI A2](https://www.dallascollege.edu/hesi) test is a timed, computerized test which is usually completed in 3-4 hours. In addition to completing the Respiratory Care prerequisite courses, all applicants to the Respiratory Care program must also earn ***a minimum score of 70 or higher*** on the following sections of the HESI A2 test: **Reading Comprehension, Grammar, Vocabulary/General Knowledge, Math, and Anatomy/Physiology.**  Students must also complete the **Learning Styles and Personality Profile sections** and submit those results with their application materials. The Learning Styles and Personality Profile sections are not graded.

Please note the following important information regarding the HESI A2:

* Test scores are valid for **two years** from the date of testing to the application filing deadline date.
* Applicants may take the HESI A2 at any approved testing site including the assessment center at the El Centro campus. The approximate cost of the HESI test at the El Centro campus (Paramount Building) is $42.00.
* HESI A2 testing is also available online at a cost of approximately $59.00. Email [5tests@dcccd.edu](mailto:5tests@dcccd.edu) for instructions.
* **Applicants are responsible for securing their own testing appointment at the location of their choice.** The procedure for making testing appointments and payment varies among testing sites. **Applicants are responsible for submitting their score sheet with their program application materials.**
* HESI A2 testing appointments at the El Centro campus fill quickly. Applicants are encouraged to schedule their HESI A2 several weeks prior to an application filing deadline. ***NOTE:* Score sheets may not be available for download from the Elsevier website for 2-3 days. Do not assume that you will have your score sheet to submit with application materials if you test on the application deadline date.**
* The **HESI A2 Study Guide** is available at various bookstores including the Follett Bookstore at the El Centro campus. A **HESI A2 Prep** course is periodically offered by the El Centro Continuing Education Division. Contact that office at 214-860-2147 for dates and times of the prep course.
* **There is no limit on the number of times an applicant may take the HESI A2 test for application to the Respiratory Care program.** If the applicant desires to retake the HESI A2, **ALL FIVE SECTIONS** must be retaken. Only one score sheet should be submitted with scores of 70 or higher on each of the five required sections. Scores on individual test sections which are printed on separate score sheets cannot be combined. If more than one score sheet is submitted, the scores from the latest HESI testing attempt will be considered the official scores. It is not necessary to repeat the Learning Styles and Personality Profile sections on retests. The printout of these sections can be submitted from any testing attempt.
* Before retesting, the applicant is encouraged to review the study guide and/or enroll in the HESI A2 prep course to prepare for the retest opportunity.

See [HESI A2](https://www.dallascollege.edu/HESI) for more information.

## F. Castle Branch

Applicants to the Respiratory Care program are required to have a current physical examination, specific immunizations, a tuberculosis screening, and certification in BLS (Basic Life Support) CPR. The School of Health Sciences utilizes Castle Branch, a medical record management company, to verify these requirements. Applicants submit this documentation directly to Castle Branch which will verify whether the records are complete.

***Important Note: Some of the immunizations require multiple doses on a specific timeline over several months. Therefore, potential applicants to this program should begin their immunizations at least six to seven months prior to the application deadline.***

Although applicants to this program are not required to submit all the physical examination, immunizations, and BLS CPR certification documents to Castle Branch before the application filing deadline, ***they are strongly encouraged to do so.*** I**f an applicant is accepted to the program, the absolute deadline for submission of the physical examination form, TB screening, and complete immunizations to Castle Branch is July 15th during the first semester of the program.**  Therefore, potential applicants to the program are strongly encouraged to begin obtaining that documentation before application to the program.

**Failure to submit this documentation and to comply with these requirements by July 15th will prevent the applicant from progressing to the fall semester and clinical rotations of the program.**

Applicants must be aware that the documentation required by Castle Branch must be kept current throughout the application process and (if accepted to a program) during their participation in the program. It is the responsibility of the applicant to assure that your health records are current. **NOTE: Additional proof of immunizations including titers may be required by hospital clinical sites.**

For more information on Castle Branch and this process, see [Immunization Requirements](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-immunization-requirements.aspx).

If the applicant has personal healthcare coverage at the time of application, that documentation may also be submitted to Castle Branch. If accepted to the program, the applicant must submit proof of coverage to Castle Branch prior to attending clinical practicum. For more information, see item 7 on page 12 of this packet.

## G. Respiratory Care Application Materials Submission – Summer 2021 Selection Process

**Read the Following Instructions Carefully.**

After verifying their Application Eligibility Category, completing the Respiratory Care Prerequisite Courses, the five designated sections of the HESI A2 test, and uploading the required physical exam, immunization and CPR certification documentation to Castle Branch, the student is ready to submit their application materials. I**ncomplete application materials will be disqualified.**

The application materials must be scanned and emailed to [ECCHOAO@dcccd.edu](mailto:ECCHOAO@dcccd.edu) as pdf documents by the application filing deadline.

Application materials must include the following to be considered complete and valid:

1. **Documentation of Application Eligibility** 
   * 1. **Category 1 Applicant** – Completion of the six HPRS courses will be verified on official transcripts and/or the advising report.
     2. **Category 2 Applicant** – The following documentation must be submitted with application materials:
     3. **Official letter from your place of employment** on original healthcare facility letterhead with the ink signature of your supervisor verifying your employment position, specific duties, and employment dates (minimum 2 years of direct patient care experience within the last 5 years)

***And***

* + 1. **A photocopy of the Non-traditional Equivalent Credit Assessment form** signed by the HPRS Coordinator and Division Dean if credit for one or more HPRS courses was awarded through the prior Learning Assessment Portfolio process or if credit was awarded through a programmatic assessment exam. (See page 1 for details.)
    2. If an applicant under Category 2 enrolled and completed one or more HPRS courses through traditional enrollment, the coursework will be verified on official transcripts and/or the advising report.
    3. **Category 3 Applicant** – The following documentation must be submitted with application materials:
    4. **Photocopy of a current professional healthcare credential** such as a nursing license, ARRT registry, CST certification, CCIS registry, CMA certification, etc.

***And***

* + 1. **Official transcript or other official document** authenticating the completion of the qualifying degree or certificate.

1. A completed **Respiratory Care Program Application form and the signed Statement of Students’ Responsibility form.**
2. The **HESI A2 score sheet(s)** indicating achievement of **a minimum score of 70 or higher on each of the five required sections and the Personality Profile and Learning Style results.**

**Note: Applicants are solely responsible for ensuring that their current official transcripts from ALL PREVIOUSLY ATTENDED COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES (excluding Dallas Colleges) are submitted to a Registrar/Admissions Office at a Dallas College campus prior to applying to an El Centro health occupations program. Official transcripts must have a print date no earlier than three years of anticipated entry to a health occupations program.**

**Submitting incomplete application materials will disqualify the application and the student will not be considered further in the application process. Students are advised to retain a photocopy of all materials submitted as their application and to Castle Branch.**

**Once application materials are emailed to the health occupations admissions office, additional materials cannot be added in later emails.**

## H. Application Filing Periods

There is one official application filing period for the June 2021 class of the Respiratory Care program:

***JANUARY 1, 2021 – FRIDAY, MAY 14, 2021***

**Applicants are notified via email of selection status by Wednesday, May 19, 2021.**

**Complete application materials must be emailed to** [**ECCHOAO@dcccd.edu**](mailto:ECCHOAO@dcccd.edu) **by the application filing deadline. Application materials are not accepted in person or by conventional mail.**

**Note: Applicants anticipating acceptance to the program should be aware that a mandatory orientation/registration will be held in late May and should mark their calendars accordingly.**

## I. Selection Process

Applicants during the Official Application Filing Period are selected for acceptance to the Respiratory Care program via the following competitive ranking process:

1. Applicants are listed by cumulative grade point average (GPA) on the Respiratory Care Prerequisite Courses from highest (4.00) to lowest (3.00) to initially rank applicants.
2. When two or more applicants have the same cumulative GPA on the Respiratory Care Prerequisite Courses, the combined GPA on the two Anatomy/Physiology courses in the Core (BIOL 2401 and BIOL 2402) will be listed to break the tie.
3. When two or more applicants have the same cumulative GPA on the Respiratory Care Prerequisite Courses and the same combined GPA on the two anatomy/physiology courses, the cumulative score on the five required sections of the HESI A2 is used to break the tie.

The table below illustrates the ranking process for a sample group of applicants:

### Example of Ranking Process

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | GPA on Respiratory Care Prerequisite Courses | Combined GPA on Anatomy/Physiology courses  (BIOL 2401/2402) | Cumulative Score on the five sections of the HESI A2 test |
| Applicant #1 | 4.00 | 4.00 | 331 |
| Applicant #2 | 3.88 | 3.50 | 347 |
| Applicant #3 | 3.76 | 3.00 | 324 |
| Applicant #4 | 3.76 | 3.00 | 328 |
| Applicant #5 | 3.65 | 2.50 | 312 |
| Applicant #6 | 3.53 | 3.50 | 286 |
| Applicant #7 | 3.00 | 2.00 | 305 |
| Applicant #8 | 3.00 | 2.00 | 297 |

If seven spaces were available, applicants 1 through 7 would be accepted.

## J. Notification of Acceptance

A student who applies during the official filing period and receives an acceptance email is required to respond to a notification email within a specified timeframe to confirm their space in the class. Failure to respond to the email by the specified date and time or failure to attend the scheduled preregistration/orientation seminar for the accepted class will result in forfeiture of the student’s space in that class.

**Note:** Applications materials submitted during an official filing period are not “held over” to the next year’s official filing period. Students who are not selected for admission to the program or students who decline their acceptance may reapply again during the next year’s filing period to be considered for a future admission opportunity.

## K. Late Application Filing Period (first-received, first-served)

If all individuals on the initial ranked list for the official application filing period are accepted and space remains in the Respiratory Care class, applications which are submitted during the late filing period will be considered on a first-received. first-served basis.

The late application filing period for the Summer 2021 Respiratory Care class is:

**Monday, May 17, 2021 through 12:00 noon on Wednesday, May 19, 2021**

NOTE: Applicants who are being offered a late space for the Summer 2021 class will be notified via email on Thursday, May 20, 2021.

***It should not be assumed that late applications will be necessary for every Respiratory Care incoming class.***

### Curriculum Overview – Respiratory Care – Summer 2021 Admission

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Respiratory Care Prerequisites | | | Lec  Hrs | Lab  Hrs | Ext  Hrs | Cont  Hrs | Cr  Hrs |
| BIOL | 2401 \* | Anatomy/Physiology I | 3 | 3 | 0 | 96 | 4 |
| BIOL | 2402 | Anatomy/Physiology II | 3 | 3 | 0 | 96 | 4 |
| ENGL | 1301 | Composition I | 3 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 3 |
| MATH | 1314 | College Algebra | 3 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 3 |
| PSYC | 2301 | General Psychology | 3 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 3 |
| SPCH | 1311 | Introduction to Speech Communication | 3 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 3 |
| Humanities elective \*\* | | | 3 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 3 |
| Total Prerequisite Credit Hours | | | 21 | 6 | 0 | 432 | 23 |
|  | | | | | | | |
| The Respiratory Care Prerequisite courses are completed in two or more semesters prior to application into the Respiratory Care Program. Prerequisite courses are offered during fall, spring and summer semesters. See a general academic advisor for assistance in registering for Prerequisite courses. | | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | | |
| Semester I – Summer (10 weeks) | | |  |  |  |  |  |
| RSPT | 1201 | Introduction to Respiratory Care | 2 | 0 | 0 | 32 | 2 |
| RSPT | 1410 | Respiratory Care Procedures I | 2 | 6 | 0 | 128 | 4 |
|  |  |  | 4 | 6 | 0 | 160 | 6 |
|  | | | | | | | |
| Semester II – Fall | | |  |  |  |  |  |
| RSPT | 1340 | Adv. Cardiopulmonary Anatomy/Physiology | 3 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 3 |
| RSPT | 1113 | Basic Respiratory Care Pharmacology | 1 | 0 | 0 | 16 | 1 |
| RSPT | 2217 | Respiratory Care Pharmacology | 2 | 0 | 0 | 32 | 2 |
| RSPT | 1311 | Respiratory Care Procedures II | 2 | 3 | 0 | 80 | 3 |
| RSPT | 2258 | Respiratory Care Patient Assessment | 2 | 0 | 0 | 32 | 2 |
| RSPT | 2310 | Cardiopulmonary Disease | 3 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 3 |
| RSPT | 1360 | Clinical-Respiratory Therapy/Therapist | 0 | 0 | 12 | 192 | 3 |
|  |  |  | 13 | 3 | 12 | 448 | 17 |
|  | | | | | | | |
| Semester III – Spring | | |  |  |  |  |  |
| RSPT | 2453 | Neonatal/Pediatric Cardiopulmonary Care | 2 | 4 | 0 | 128 | 4 |
| RSPT | 2314 | Mechanical Ventilation | 2 | 3 | 0 | 80 | 3 |
| RSPT | 2325 | Cardiopulmonary Diagnostics | 3 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 3 |
| RSPT | 2231 | Simulations in Respiratory Care | 0 | 2 | 0 | 32 | 2 |
| RSPT | 2130 | Respiratory Care Examination Preparation | 0 | 2 | 0 | 32 | 1 |
| RSPT | 2362 | Clinical-Respiratory Therapy/Therapist | 0 | 0 | 15 | 240 | 3 |
|  | | | 7 | 11 | 15 | 528 | 16 |
| Semester IV – Summer (5 weeks) | | |  |  |  |  |  |
| RSPT | 2263 + | Clinical-Respiratory Care Therapy/Therapist | 0 | 0 | 6 | 96 | 2 |
| RSPT | 2166 + | Practicum-Respiratory Therapy/Therapist | 0 | 0 | 10 | 160 | 1 |
|  |  |  | 0 | 0 | 16 | 256 | 3 |
|  |  |  | 0 | 0 | 32 | 512 | 6 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Program Hours | | | 45 | 26 | 43 | 1824 | 65 |

\* BIOL 1406 is a prerequisite course for BIOL 2401 and must be completed with a grade of “C” or higher within the last three years or a satisfactory score on the Biology CLEP exam.

\*\* Humanities elective must be chosen from the Humanity, Creativity and Aesthetic Experience section of the general Associate Degree of Arts/Sciences degree plan. See the current Dallas College catalog for a full list of accepted courses. **Suggested courses include: ARTS 1301, DANC 2303, DRAM 1310, HUMA 1315, MUSI 1306, PHIL 1301, PHIL 1304, selected ENGL literature courses at the 2000 level or higher, sophomore level foreign languages such as SPAN 2311.**

**+ RSPT 2263 – Clinical – Respiratory Care Therapy/Therapist and RSPT 2166 – Practicum – Respiratory Care Therapy/Therapist are the Capstone experiences for the Associate Degree in Respiratory Care.**

A minimum grade of “C” is required in all courses.

## General Information

1. The Respiratory Care program is approved to accept 20\* students for each June class.

\* The School of Health Sciences reserves the right to make changes in program enrollment capacity.

1. Once admitted to the Respiratory Care program, a student must complete each Respiratory Care course during the semester indicated in the program curriculum outline and each course must be passed with a grade of “C” or better for the student to continue in the program curriculum.
2. Respiratory Care courses are taught during daytime hours. Lecture classes may end as late as 6:30 p.m. Clinical training at a local hospital begins during Semester II (Fall) of the program and involves approximately 12 clock hours per week. Clinical training in Semester III (Spring) involves 16 hours per week. Clinical training in semester IV may include 12-hour shifts and may end as late as 7: 30 p.m. Due to patient care schedules, clinical days may begin as early as 5:30 a.m.

**Note:** Prior to attending clinical rotations, students are required to complete a fit-to-mask test with an N95 mask.

1. In considering respiratory care as a career, applicants should be aware that as a respiratory care practitioner, they will be required to:

* Lift and move patients; push, pull, and/or lift equipment; stand, stoop, or bend for long periods of time; walk or be on your feet for long periods of time.
* Move very quickly (in emergency situations).
* Perform multiple psychomotor skills, many involving fine motor skills.
* Take patient vital signs; for example, pulse, respiratory rate, blood pressure, etc.
* Use a stethoscope to listen to patients for breath sounds.
* Read manometers, scales, dials, meters, etc.
* Communicate effectively with patients and their families, physicians, nurses, and other health care providers.
* Develop and use multiple interpersonal relationship skills.
* Function effectively in high stress situations.
* Legible handwriting.

1. Applicants who are accepted to the program must submit the official physical exam and required immunization documentation to Castle Branch no later than July 15th during their first semester of the program. See section F on page 6 for more information. Download more information at [Physical Exam and Immunization Requirements](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-immunization-requirements.aspx).

The physical examination must be on the **official El Centro Health form** and must have been documented no earlier than 12 months prior to the April 1st deadline. **NOTE: Additional proof of immunizations including titers may be required by hospital clinical sites.**

1. Applicants who are accepted to the program must be certified in BLS – Basic Life Support (formerly “Healthcare Provider”) cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) as designated by the American Heart Association and a photocopy of the front and back of the card must be submitted to Castle Branch with immunization records no later July 15th during their first semester of the program. The CPR certification must not expire during any semester when enrolled in the program. CPR classes are available through the El Centro Continuing Education Division, the American Heart Association, American Red Cross, various hospitals, independent instructors, etc. **Totally online CPR certification classes including those offered by the Red Cross are not valid for application to health occupations programs.**
2. Personal healthcare insurance coverage is required for all health occupations students. **Proof of coverage must be submitted to Castle Branch with immunization records, no later than July 15th if the student is accepted to the program.** Students must secure their own coverage and the insurance policy must cover the student at any hospital facility. Information on college student policies and rates can be found under the “Resources for Potential Applicants” link at <https://healthcare.gov>.
3. Clinical opportunities may be limited for students without Social Security numbers. If accepted to the program, a student must contact the El Centro Multicultural Center Office (Room CM-60, telephone 214-860-2090) regarding eligibility to apply for a Social Security number before graduation from the program. **A Social Security number is required for graduates to take the NBRC exam and to be licensed to practice in the field of Respiratory Care by the Texas Department of State Health Services.**
4. Many of the Respiratory Care Prerequisite Courses including many of the HPRS courses in one of the Application Eligibility Categories are offered online. See the presentation [Getting Ready for Online Learning](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/online-learning/getready/pages/default.aspx) to see if you are a good candidate for online learning.
5. *Criminal Background Check / Drug Screening*

All students enrolled in Health Occupations programs are required by the Dallas/Fort Worth Hospital Council member facilities to undergo a [Criminal Background Check and Drug Screen](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-health-resources.aspx) prior to beginning their clinical experience. Students are responsible for all charges incurred (approximately $86.00) for these screenings. **This procedure is conducted *after* a student has been accepted to their respective program.**

Results of these screenings are forwarded to the School of Health Sciences for review and verification that a student is eligible to attend clinical rotation. All background check and drug screening results become the property of the School of Health Sciences and will not be released to the student or any other third party.

A clinical affiliate/facility reserves the right to remove a student from the facility for suspicion of substance use or abuse including alcohol. The clinical affiliate/facility reserves the right to request that a student submit to a repeat drug screening at the student’s expense on the same day that the student is removed from the clinical facility. Failure to comply will result in the student’s immediate expulsion from the clinical facility. Furthermore, regardless of testing or testing results, a clinical affiliate/facility reserves the right to expel a student from their facility.

***Note: Should a student who has been accepted to a Health Occupations program be prohibited from attending a clinical rotation experience due to findings of a criminal background check and/or drug screening, the student may be dismissed from the Health Occupations program.***

1. Students are responsible for their own transportation arrangements to the college and to their assigned health care facilities for clinical experience. Clinical assignments occur at various Metroplex clinical affiliates. Examples are:

Baylor Heart Hospital Dallas

Baylor Our Children’s House

Baylor University Medical Center

Children’s Medical Center

Methodist Dallas Medical Center

Parkland Health and Hospital System

William P. Clements, Jr. University Hospital

1. Students who are enrolled in 6 credit hours or more during a fall or spring semester and 3 credit hours or more during a summer semester are entitled to a free [DART Go-Pass](https://www.dallascollege.edu/resources/dart-gopass/pages/default.aspx) for that semester. DART passes are available two weeks after the semester begins.
2. Individuals who were first-time college freshman students in Fall 2007 or after are subject to the guidelines of section 51.907 of the Texas Education Code which prohibits a student from dropping more than six (6) college level credit courses during their entire undergraduate career. See [Six Drop Rule](https://econnect.dcccd.edu/DroppingFacts.jsp) for more information.
3. Dallas College charges a higher tuition rate for courses in which a student registers for the third or more times. The [Third Attempt Policy](https://www.dallascollege.edu/paying-for-college/cost-tuition/third-course-attempt/Pages/default.aspx?utm_source=shortcut+url&utm_medium=redirect&utm_campaign=financial+aid&utm_term=thirdcourseattempt) includes courses taken at any of the Dallas College campuses since the Fall 2002 semester. Developmental courses are not considered in this policy.
4. A student may apply to more than one El Centro Health Occupations program during a given filing period. However, if the student receives an acceptance letter to a specific program, confirms their intent to enter that program, and registers for program courses, their application to any other Health Occupations program that may share that filing period will be null and void.

Further, an individual accepted for admission and currently enrolled in an El Centro Health Occupations program may not apply or be considered for admission selection for another El Centro Health Occupations program unless their current program of study will complete before the second program curriculum begins.

1. Graduates are eligible to attempt the credentialing exams administered by the National Board for Respiratory Care. **A Social Security number is required for graduates to take the exam. G**raduates who achieve the designated cut score on the NBRC exam are eligible to apply to the Texas Medical Board to obtain a Respiratory Care Practitioner (RCP) license. The RCP license is required to practice respiratory care in the state of Texas. Included in the RCP application are the following questions:

“8. Have you ever been convicted, pled guilty or pled nolo contendere to any misdemeanor or felony? (Do not include juvenile or misdemeanor traffic violations.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Please Note: If YES, a copy of the charges and disposition papers MUST be attached. Driving while intoxicated (DWI) is NOT a minor traffic violation. Applicants must provide all information relating to criminal history. Discovery of criminal convictions not disclosed may result in denial of your license and disclosure of discovered information to other licensing boards.”

**Do Not Answer These Questions.** They are presented here to inform you of the legal credential application process regarding prior convictions.

1. Financial Aid: Students should apply for [financial aid](https://www.dallascollege.edu/paying-for-college/financial-aid/Pages/default.aspx) well in advance of program application.
2. Please visit the website below for a link to the CoARC Respiratory Care Programmatic Data and other links to professional organizations and other information regarding the respiratory care profession.

[CoARC Respiratory Care Programmatic Data](https://www.coarc.com/Students/Programmatic-Outcome-Data.aspx)

[National Board for Respiratory Care](http://www.nbrc.org/)

[Department of State Health Services - Respiratory Care](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/respiratory/default.shtm)

[Respiratory Care Journal](http://www.rcjournal.com/)

1. Please contact the individuals below for assistance (physical addresses):

Idichandi Idicula, Program Coordinator

Respiratory Care

El Centro campus/Paramount

301 North Market Street

Dallas TX 75202

Email: [iidicula@dcccd.edu](mailto:iidicula@dcccd.edu)

Telephone: 972-860-5070

Ariel Smith, Respiratory Admissions

Health Occupations Admissions

El Centro campus/Paramount

301 North Market Street Room P-101

Dallas TX 75202

Telephone: 972-860-5003

Email: [Ansmith@dcccd.edu](mailto:Ansmith@dcccd.edu) Jennifer de la Garza, Clinical Coordinator

Respiratory Care

El Centro campus/Paramount

301 North Market Street

Dallas, TX 75202

Email: [jdelagarza@dcccd.edu](mailto:jdelagarza@dcccd.edu)

Telephone: 972-860-5072

**Official transcripts should be mailed Electronic transcripts must be sent**

**directly to: directly to:**

Registrar - El Centro [Registrar-ECC@dcccd.edu](mailto:Registrar-ECC@dcccd.edu)

801 Main Street

Dallas, TX 75202-3604

**Program information packets are revised September 1st of each year and other times during the academic year as needed. Program guidelines are subject to change. Students are responsible for insuring they have the latest program information packet available at that time from:**

[**Respiratory Care information packet/information session**](https://www.dallascollege.edu/health-packets-sessions)

**Visit the** [**Respiratory Care**](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/respiratory-care/pages/default.aspx) **webpage:**

**Like us on** [**Facebook.**](https://www.facebook.com/groups/ECC.AlliedHealthandNursing)

We would appreciate your comments on our customer service by completing a brief [survey](https://dcccdnlc.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_ey8GuYYCjHZTAwJ).

## Estimated Expenses for the Respiratory Care Program \*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Dallas County Resident | Out of County Texas Resident | Out of State/  Country Resident |
| **Respiratory Care Prerequisite Courses** |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Tuition/Textbooks - (23 credit hours) \*\* | $ 1,817.00 | $ 3,105.00 | $ 4,600.00 |
| HESI A2 Test Fee | 42.00 | 42.00 | 42.00 |
| Physical Exam and Immunizations + | 225.00 | 225.00 | 225.00 |
| Castle Branch | 25.00 | 25.00 | 25.00 |
| CPR Certification | 65.00 | 65.00 | 65.00 |
| Total | $ 2,174.00 | $ 3,462.00 | $ 4,957.00 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Respiratory Care Program** |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Semester I – Summer** |  |  |  |
| Tuition/Textbooks (6 credit hours) | $ 474.00 | $ 810.00 | $ 1,200.00 |
| Background Check/Drug Testing | 86.00 | 86.00 | 86.00 |
| Total | $ 560.00 | $ 893.00 | $ 1,286.00 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Semester II – Fall** |  |  |  |
| Tuition/Textbooks (17 credit hours) | $ 1,343.00 | $ 2,295.00 | $ 3,400.00 |
| Fees | 40.00 | 40.00 | 40.00 |
| Uniforms (2)/Lab Coat | 120.00 | 120.00 | 120.00 |
| Name Badge | 10.00 | 10.00 | 10.00 |
| Total | $ 1,513.00 | $ 2,465.00 | $ 3,570.00 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Semester III – Spring** |  |  |  |
| Tuition/Textbooks (16 credit hours) | $ 1,264.00 | $ 2,260.00 | $ 3,200.00 |
| Therapist Multiple Choice (TMC) Exam | 50.00 | 50.00 | 50.00 |
| Clinical Simulation (CS) Exam | 70.00 | 70.00 | 70.00 |
| Total | $ 1,384.00 | $ 2,380.00 | $ 3,320.00 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Semester IV – Summer** |  |  |  |
| Tuition (2 credit hours) | $ 158.00 | $ 270.00 | $ 400.00 |
| Credential Exam Review | 295.00 | 295.00 | 295.00 |
| Total | $ 453.00 | $ 565.00 | $ 695.00 |
|  |  |  |  |
| Total Estimated Program Expense | $ 6,084.00 | $ 9,768.00 | $ 13,828.00 |

\* This estimate does not include tuition and textbooks for the six HPRS courses required in Application Eligibility Category 1 which is approximately $1,027.00 for a Dallas County resident.

\*\* Tuition now includes textbook costs. These and other fees are subject to change. See official catalog for tuition table. A [Tuition Payment Plan](https://www.dallascollege.edu/paying-for-college/payments/Pages/payment-plans-UNPUB.aspx) option is available in fall and spring semesters.

+ Estimated cost of physical exam and immunizations.

Other costs to consider: Personal health care insurance coverage, transportation and parking fees to the El Centro campus and hospital clinical sites.

## Respiratory Care Application Checklist

This checklist is provided to assist you in following the steps to prepare for program application. It is not part of the application materials that are emailed to [ECCHOAO@dcccd.edu](mailto:ECCHOAO@dcccd.edu).

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Download a [Respiratory Care information packet and view the online information session.](https://www.dallascollege.edu/health-packets-sessions)
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Complete an application for college admission and consult an academic advisor as needed for TSI counseling, placement testing, etc.; complete any developmental courses as may be prescribed from test scores.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Submit official transcripts from all previously attended colleges and universities to the El Centro Registrar’s Office or the Registrar/Admissions Office at any other campus of Dallas College.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ If needed, request Educational Plan from the Health Occupations Admissions Office for evaluation of transferred course work taken at other colleges that applies to the Respiratory Care Core Curriculum.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Meet one of three [Application Eligibility Categories](https://dcccd.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-health-resources.aspx) in order to qualify to apply to the program.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Complete the following Respiratory Care Prerequisite Courses:

\_\_\_\_\_ ENGL 1301 \_\_\_\_\_ SPCH 1311 or 1315 or 1321

\_\_\_\_\_ BIOL 2401 \_\_\_\_\_ PSYC 2301

\_\_\_\_\_ BIOL 2402 \_\_\_\_\_ Humanities elective

\_\_\_\_\_ MATH 1314 or 1414

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Complete the HESI A2, scoring a minimum of 70% on all five required sections of the test ***and*** complete the Personality Profile and Learning Styles sections.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Download the [Physical Exam form and Immunization requirements](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-immunization-requirements.aspx)  from the Castle Branch website; see a physician or healthcare clinic for a physical examination, immunizations, TB screening, etc., and obtain BLS CPR certification. Submit physical exam form, immunizations, TB screening documentation, and photocopy of front and back of CPR card to Castle Branch prior to application filing deadline.
3. Compile the following complete application materials.

\_\_\_\_\_ Supporting documentation if applying under Application Eligibility Category 2 or 3. (See guidelines on page 7).

\_\_\_\_\_ Completed Respiratory Care Application form and signed Statement of Students’ Responsibility forms.

\_\_\_\_\_ Official HESI A2 score sheet(s) indicating minimum score of 70% on each of the five required sections of the test ***and*** the Personality Profile and Learning Styles section results.

\_\_\_\_\_ Copies of any request for course substitution forms (for evaluated transferred courses), educational plans, etc.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Email all materials in item 9 to [ECCHOAO@dcccd.edu](mailto:ECCHOAO@dcccd.edu) by the May 14, 2021 application filing deadline.
2. Final ranking is complete and notification emails are sent by May 19, 2021.