

When you can't breath, nothing else matters



FSW's Associate in Science (A.S.) degree in Respiratory Care will prepare you for a career as a respiratory therapist (RT).

You'll train on the same state-of-theart technology used in local health systems, making your transition from student to professional seamless.

Upon completion of the program, you will be a registry-eligible respiratory therapist, and you'll be prepared to take the National Board for Respiratory Care Examinations.

As a Respiratory Therapist, You Will:

- Perform breathing treatments to open patient airways
- Look, listen, and feel to determine patient respiratory status
- Consult with physicians to recommend a change in therapy
- Analyze breath, tissue, and blood specimens to determine levels of oxygen and other gases used to identify respiratory disorders and recommend treatment methods
- Manage ventilators and artificial airway devices for patients who can't breathe normally on their own
- Respond to emergency situations and urgent calls for care as a key member of the medical response team
- Educate patients and families about lung disease so they can maximize their quality of life
- Continue toward a bachelor's degree



*United States Bureau of Labor Statistics







Career Outlook

Respiratory therapists are in great demand locally and nationally. As of the summer of 2021, there were **over 100 RT jobs available locally.**

While U.S. employment in general is forecast to increase by 4% from 2019-2029, the **need for RTs is projected to grow by 19%.**

FSW's Respiratory Care Program is a limited access program. The criteria for admission are available at www.FSW.edu/SOAH or call 239-985-3499.



Where Respiratory Therapist Work

- Intensive Care Units (ICUs)
- Emergency rooms
- Newborn and pediatric units
- Patient homes
- Sleep laboratories

- Doctors' offices
- Asthma education/smoking cessation programs
- Air transport and ambulance transport
- Telehealth medicine



Advanced Career Pathways

Respiratory therapy can open the door to becoming an Advanced Practice Therapist (APRT), and pursuing higher degrees that lead to careers such as physician assistants, medical doctors, anesthesia assistants, and perfusionists.

We offer a B.S. in Cardiopulmonary Sciences degree for graduates of the A.S. degree program in Respiratory Care with an RRT license.

RTs also eligible to obtain advanced credentials and specializations such as:

- Adult Critical Care Specialist (ACCS)
- Neonatal-Pediatric Specialist (NPS)
- Certified Pulmonary Function Specialist (CPFT)
- Sleep Disorders Specialist (SDS)
- Asthma Educator Specialist (AE-C)

For more information email: alliedhealth@fsw.edu | www.fsw.edu/academics/programs/asrespiratorycare



The The Florida SouthWestern State College Respiratory Care Associate in Science Degree Program, Edison Campus, (program #200317) is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care 264 Precision Blvd. Telford, TN 37690

Florida SouthWestern State College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award associate and baccalaureate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call (404) 679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Florida SouthWestern State College.