Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Care

On-campus Bachelor's Degree Program

KU offers a bachelor of science in respiratory care degree program with the option to specialize in pulmonary rehabilitation, neonatology, adult critical care, management, education, sleep disorders, cardiopulmonary diagnostics, and hyperbaric oxygen therapy. Most students enter this program after completion of their sophomore year of undergraduate study or after finishing two years of community college course work. With an advanced curriculum and located at an academic medical center, students receive extensive experience in advanced respiratory therapy techniques. The program includes a semester-long clinical assignment during the senior year in the student's area of specialization.

RRT-to-Bachelor's Degree Bridge Program

The University of Kansas respiratory care program offers a program for the respiratory therapist with RRT credential to obtain a bachelor's degree. This program is perfect for students unable to be physically present on campus or those with schedule constraints which make traditional college class schedules impossible. Courses (http://www.kumc.edu/school-of-health-professions/respiratory-care-education/degree-completion-bs-program-for-rrts/curriculum.html) are Web-based in this program and never require students to leave their home or office and offer added flexibility: if you're traveling or not feeling well, the courses (http://www.kumc.edu/school-of-health-professions/respiratory-care-education/degree-completion-bs-program-for-rrts/curriculum.html) are always available, anytime.

On-campus Bachelor's Degree Program

To be eligible for this program, 2 years of prerequisite course work are needed - either from the KU Lawrence campus or another regionally accredited university or community college. In order to complete prerequisites and recommended electives on-time and in the appropriate sequence, interested students should contact an academic advisor (respiratory@kumc.edu) for assistance in course selection.

Transfer students should be aware that all transfer courses for which they have requested credit must be equivalent to courses required at KU; otherwise, additional course work will be required. Graduates of an associate's degree respiratory care program are eligible to apply for advanced standing as seniors upon completion of all prerequisites.

International students should review current requirements. International students, or those for whom English is a second language, may have additional requirements relative to language proficiency, residency, and citizenship status. Information for international students (http://www.kumc.edu/school-of-health-professions/information-for-international-applicants.html)

Good physical health and mental health is essential. Minor physical handicaps are not considered deterrents. The faculty reserves the option of restricting admission of candidates with handicaps that may affect ability to deliver safe and effective patient care. The admissions committee may request a personal interview with the applicant. All students must be current with required immunizations.

A background check and documentation of shadow experience are required. Prospective students should review the program requirements, including prerequisite course work, and complete list of eligibility requirements (http://www.kumc.edu/school-of-health-professions/respiratory-care-education/how-to-apply.html).

Prerequisites

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<tr>
<th>English (6)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 101 Composition 3</td>
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<td>ENGL 102 Critical Reading and Writing 3</td>
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<tr>
<th>Mathematics (6)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MATH 101 College Algebra 3</td>
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<td>MATH 365 Elementary Statistics 3</td>
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<tr>
<th>Basic Sciences (23)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 240 Fundamentals of Human Anatomy 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 241 Human Anatomy Observation Laboratory 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIOL 246 Principles of Human Physiology 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIOL 247 Principles of Human Physiology Laboratory 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIOL 200 Basic Microbiology 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIOL 203 Introductory Microbiology Laboratory 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHSX 111 Introductory Physics 3</td>
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<td>CHEM 110 Introductory Chemistry 5</td>
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<tr>
<th>Oral Communication (3)</th>
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<tr>
<td>COMS 130 Speaker-Audience Communication 3</td>
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<th>Humanities (6)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 140 Introduction to Philosophy 3</td>
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<tr>
<th>Social Sciences (6)</th>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 104 General Psychology 3</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Hours</th>
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<td>50</td>
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RRT-to-Bachelor's Degree Bridge Program

An overall grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale) for college course work is required to enter the degree-completion program for RRTs. In addition, student transcripts must document an individual course grade of no less than "C" on each prerequisite course in math, chemistry, physics and biological sciences.

A minimum 120 hours of college credit are required to earn a bachelor's degree from KU. Students will earn at least 30 credit hours during the respiratory care program.

Note: To be transferable, all prerequisite and respiratory care course work must be from an educational institution that is regionally accredited. This is not the same as national accreditation. Not sure about your course work? Please read about the differences in accreditation. (http://www.k12.wa.us/certification/colleges/reg_accred.html)

Prerequisite Courses

- Human Anatomy (lab recommended)
- Human Physiology (lab recommended)
- Microbiology (lab recommended)
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Algebra
- English Composition I and II
• Oral Communication
• Humanities (2 courses)
• Psychology
• Sociology
• Statistics

Students having completed a single combined anatomy and physiology course will need to complete either a second, higher-level A&P course, or otherwise take a course in physiology only.

Requirements for On-campus Bachelor’s Degree Program

Upon completion of the prerequisites for the program, students will have acquired 50 credit hours. This program requires 2 years of course work in respiratory care at KU Medical Center and will provide 62 hours plus an additional 5 hours of respiratory care electives. To earn a degree from KU, 120 total credit hours must be acquired, and the remaining hours can be fulfilled with any electives.

The program provides an organized learning experience in which each student acquires an in-depth understanding of and proficiency in advanced concepts of clinical respiratory care and the fundamentals of health professions education and management. During the senior year, the student specializes in one area of concentration: adult critical care, neonatal critical care, pulmonary rehabilitation, management, education, cardiopulmonary diagnostics, sleep medicine, or hyperbaric medicine.

Clinical experience is an integral part of the curriculum and students begin clinical rotations at one of the clinical affiliate sites (http://www.kumc.edu/school-of-health-professions/respiratory-care-education/about-the-program/clinical-affiliates.html) starting in their sixth week of the program. Clinical rotations give the student exposure to patient care and experience in performing respiratory care procedures.

### Fall, Year 1 (16)
- RESP 303 Introduction to Respiratory Care Procedures 4
- RESP 310 Clinical Pharmacology I 1
- RESP 318 Pulmonary Pathology 3
- RESP 325 Clinical Process 2
- RESP 330 Cardiopulmonary Physiology 3
- HEIM 230 Medical Terminology 3

### Spring, Year 1 (14)
- RESP 311 Clinical Pharmacology II 1
- RESP 340 Mechanical Ventilators 5
- RESP 345 Adult Critical Care 3
- RESP 350 Clinical Application I 1
- RESP 355 Clinical Application II 1
- RESP 390 Pulmonary Function 2
- RESP 395 Pediatric Critical Care 1

### Summer, Year 1 (6)
- RESP 375 Clinical Application III 2
- RESP 402 Chronic Respiratory Disease Management: The Evolving Role of the Respiratory Therapist 3
- RESP 663 Scientific Investigation Part I 1

### Fall, Year 2 (15)
- RESP 400 Advanced Critical Care 4
- RESP 401 Neonatal Respiratory Care 4
- RESP 425 Advanced Critical Care Procedures 2
- RESP 662 Education Principles in Health Care 2
- RESP 664 Scientific Investigation Part II 1
- RESP 667 Registry Review 2

### Spring, Year 2 (13)
- RESP 405 Health Care Management, Ethics and Law 2
- RESP 665 Scientific Investigation Part III 1
- RESP 670 Clinical Specialty Practicum 10

Total Hours: 64

Professional Credentialing

Upon graduation, students will be prepared to sit for the national certification examination. To be employed as a respiratory therapist, graduates must pass this exam and will be recognized with the Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) credential.

Program requirements and course offerings are subject to change. For details of the curriculum, including a year-by-year course sequence, please visit the program's website (http://www.respiratorycare.kumc.edu/curriculum.html).

Requirements for RRT-to-Bachelor’s Degree Bridge Program

The curriculum for this program includes 17 hours of core courses. Students then select from a specific set of program electives (listed below) to fulfill at least a total of 30 semester hours of course work in respiratory care. Upon acceptance, students work with an advisor to organize a study plan based on a chosen clinical specialty area that serves as the final capstone project.

Clinical specialty areas: neonatal critical care, pediatric critical care, adult critical care, pulmonary rehabilitation, pulmonary function laboratory, polysomnography, hyperbaric therapy, respiratory care management or respiratory care education.

To qualify for graduation, all students must achieve a C or better on all course work in this program. A minimum 120 hours college credit are required to earn a bachelor’s degree.

The course schedule follows a typical semester and is designed to be delivered at an organized and manageable pace. Tests are scheduled during selected weeks in the course and may be taken at the convenience of the student during that week.

### Core Courses (17)
- RESP 405 Health Care Management, Ethics and Law 2
- RESP 668 Research in Health Care 3

Students take both of the following courses in his or her chosen specialty area. These are capstone courses that, when successfully completed, conclude the bachelor’s degree program. They must be taken in the sequence below and students must have at least one year of RRT experience prior to enrolling.

- RESP 671 Clinical Specialty Projects I 6
- RESP 672 Clinical Specialty Projects II 6

Program Electives (minimum of 13 hours required) (15)

Note: Some of the following courses are required for certain clinical specialty areas. Enrollment options vary by semester; these courses are not available every semester.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RESP 400</td>
<td>Advanced Critical Care</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>RESP 401</td>
<td>Neonatal Respiratory Care</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RESP 402</td>
<td>Chronic Respiratory Disease Management: The Evolving Role of the Respiratory Therapist</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>RESP 403</td>
<td>Physical Science for Health Professions</td>
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<tr>
<td>RESP 425</td>
<td>Advanced Critical Care Procedures</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RESP 662</td>
<td>Education Principles in Health Care</td>
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