

University of Akron Respiratory Therapy Bachelor of Science

Effective beginning Academic Year 2023-24 (Last revised January 22, 2024)

Respiratory Therapy is a specialized healthcare field where practitioners are trained and licensed to assess, treat, and care for people suffering from lung and heart diseases. Respiratory Therapists are required to have at minimum an associate degree in respiratory therapy/care, but many employers give preference to or pay higher salaries to Respiratory Therapists with a bachelor's degree. The Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC) accredits associate degree programs and two types of bachelor's degree programs, Entry into Practice and Degree Advancement.

Degree Advancement bachelor's programs are for students who have already completed an associate degree program in respiratory therapy/care holding the Respiratory Therapist credential from the National Board for Respiratory Care and wish to further their education and professional advancement opportunities with a bachelor's degree. The curriculum typically consists of general education coursework necessary to meet bachelor's degree requirements as well as coursework in leadership, management, education, research, and advanced clinical practice skills. Because these programs require an earned associate degree in respiratory therapy/care for admission, they typically require approximately 60 credit hours to complete, for a total of 120-126 credit hours.

Entry into Practice bachelor's programs are for students who do not have previous respiratory therapy degrees or credentials. The first half of the curriculum typically consists of general education requirements and pre-respiratory therapy coursework/prerequisites, and the second half consists of respiratory therapy professional coursework. Because these programs do not require an associate degree, they typically require 120-126 credit hours to complete, but students can transfer in most general education and prerequisite coursework.

Sources: American Association for Respiratory Care (<http://www.aarc.org/>) (<https://be-an-rt.org/what-is-respiratory-therapy/>) , Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (<https://www.coarc.com/>)

Ohio Guaranteed Transfer Pathways offer students wishing to pursue a career in the field of Respiratory Therapy two different pathway options.

Option 1: The Statewide Guaranteed Respiratory Associate of Applied Science (AAS) Respiratory Therapy/Care to CoARC Degree Advancement Bachelor's Programs at Kent State University Ashtabula, University of Akron, University of Cincinnati, University of Toledo, and Youngstown State University. This pathway may be a good option for students who:

- know they want to pursue a career in respiratory therapy and want to get hands-on experience earlier in their academic career
- want to enter the workforce after completing their associate degree in respiratory therapy/care and continue their education later and/or while working (in a more flexible, online program)
- want to transfer to a university that only offers a Degree Advancement bachelor's program in respiratory therapy/care

Option 2: Alternatively, students may complete the Associate of Science (AS) or Associate of Arts (AA) Ohio Guaranteed Pre-Health Professions Transfer Pathway. This pathway is designed to transfer into CoARC Entry into Practice Bachelor's Programs offered at Bowling Green State University (Firelands campus), Ohio State University, University of Akron, University of Toledo, and Youngstown State University. This pathway may be a good option for students who:

- attend a community college that does not offer an AAS in Respiratory Therapy
- are interested in health professions such as respiratory therapy, occupational therapy, and physical therapy, but are not yet decided on a specific field
- want to transfer to a university that offers an Entry into Practice bachelor's program in respiratory therapy/care

University of Akron Respiratory Therapy Bachelor of Science

Effective beginning Academic Year 2023-24 (Last revised January 22, 2024)

In addition to the course requirements outlined in the tables below, the Ohio Guaranteed Respiratory Therapy Transfer Pathway also requires:

1. The associate degree must be from a CoARC-accredited Respiratory Therapy/Care program
2. Students must have earned the Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) credential from the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC); or have earned the Certified Respiratory Therapist (CRT) credential from NBRC and be eligible to take and complete the RRT exam sequence

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS		Course Number	Credit Hours
English Composition:	Any Ohio Transfer 36 approved First Writing (TME001) course	ENGL111	3
Mathematics, Statistics, and Logic:	Any Ohio Transfer 36 approved Mathematics course [Recommended: Introductory Statistics (TMM010)]	MATH145	3-4
Social and Behavioral Sciences:	Any Ohio Transfer 36 approved Social and Behavioral Sciences course [Recommended: Introduction to Psychology (OSS015) or Introduction to Sociology (OSS021)]	PSYC100 or SOC100	3
Natural Sciences:	Any Ohio Transfer 36 approved Natural Sciences course with Lab	Oho Transfer 36 Elective* ¹	3-4
Natural Sciences:	Any Ohio Transfer 36 approved Natural Sciences course	Oho Transfer 36 Elective* ¹	3-4
Other:	Additional Ohio Transfer 36 approved courses as curriculum permits [Recommendations include: Second Writing (TME002); Arts and Humanities (Ethics course suggested); Public Speaking (OCM013) or Oral Communication course]	COMM106	0-6
GENERAL EDUCATION TOTAL:			15-24
<p>Advising Notes: (*) Indicates that course will be evaluated for applicable equivalency upon transfer at the university. If a Transfer Assurance Guide (TAG) course is taken, the approved course equivalency will be awarded. ¹ The University of Akron recommends Anatomy I and II with their respective labs and Microbiology to complete the natural sciences requirements for Respiratory Therapy. Consult with your academic advisor and your receiving institution to determine an appropriate program of study.</p>			

ADDITIONAL COURSEWORK	Credit Hours
Additional coursework to complete institution's associate degree requirements: This coursework will be evaluated by the receiving institution for potential course applicability or may be accepted as block credit.	36-50
ADDITIONAL COURSEWORK TOTAL:	36-50

APPLIED ASSOCIATE DEGREE	Total Credit Hours
APPLIED ASSOCIATE DEGREE TOTAL:	60-65

SPECIAL NOTES
Some bachelor-degree granting programs may be competitive and admission into the program is not guaranteed. Students should check with individual institutions for their program admission requirements.
Bachelor-degree granting institutions may require additional general education courses since students will not complete the Ohio Transfer 36 by following this pathway and will take these courses upon transfer.

University of Akron Respiratory Therapy Bachelor of Science

Effective beginning Academic Year 2023-24 (Last revised January 22, 2024)

The following additional coursework will be required to complete the Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Care at the University of Akron after a student has completed an Associate of Applied Science Respiratory Therapy Transfer Pathway degree. To enter this pathway, students must pass the national registry exam and hold the RRT credential. Some bachelor-degree granting programs may be competitive and admission into the program is not guaranteed. Students should check with individual institutions for their program admission requirements.

REMAINING COURSEWORK TO COMPLETE BACHELOR'S DEGREE		Course Number	Credit Hours
University Requirement:	GNED Domestic Diversity	Varies	6
University Requirement:	GNED Social Sciences	Varies	3
University Requirement:	GNED Writing II	ENGL112	3
University Requirement:	GNED Fine Arts	Varies	3
University Requirement:	GNED Humanities/Fine Arts	Varies	3
University Requirement:	Introduction to Ethics	PHIL120	3
Major Requirement:	Biomedical Ethics	PHIL361	3
Major Requirement:	Advanced Pharmacology for Respiratory Therapy	RESP315	3
Major Requirement:	Neonatal/Pediatrics for Respiratory Therapy II	RESP420	3
Major Requirement:	Advanced Clinical Care	RESP421	3
Major Requirement:	Respiratory Therapy in Alternate Settings with Laboratory	RESP413	3
Major Requirement:	Problems in Respiratory Care	RESP 430	4
Major Requirement:	Principles of Organizational Supervision	COMM330	3
Major Requirement:	Professional Nursing Leadership	NURS446	3
Major Requirement:	Electives ¹	Varies	16
REMAINING COURSEWORK TO COMPLETE BACHELOR'S DEGREE TOTAL: ²			62

Advising Notes:

¹ Student must work with the advisor to choose the appropriate electives for this program.

² All general education credits and a total of 120 credit hours must be completed for graduation from the Respiratory Therapy, BS program. To enter this pathway, students must pass the national registry exam and hold the RRT credential.

COMPLETE BACHELOR'S DEGREE	Total Credit Hours
BACHELOR'S DEGREE TOTAL:	120

SPECIAL NOTES

For more information, please contact:

School of Allied Health, Dr. Kristine Kraft or Dr. Stacia Biddle

knk@uakron.edu or stacia1@uakron.edu

<https://www.uakron.edu/allied-health/respiratory-care/dap>

University of Akron
**Respiratory Therapy
Bachelor of Science**

Effective beginning Academic Year 2023-24 (Last revised January 22, 2024)

SAMPLE DEGREE MAP

THIRD YEAR

SEMESTER 5			SEMESTER 6	
Course Name & Number	Credit Hours		Course Name & Number	Credit Hours
RESP315 Advanced Pharmacology for Respiratory Therapy	3		GNED Global Diversity	3
GNED Writing II	3		GNED Fine Arts	3
PHIL120 Introduction to Ethics	3		PHIL361 Biomedical Ethics	3
Elective	3		RESP420 Neonatal/Pediatrics for Respiratory Therapy II	3
Elective	3		Elective	3
Total Semester 5 Credit Hours	15		Total Semester 6 Credit Hours	15

FOURTH YEAR

SEMESTER 7			SEMESTER 8	
Course Name & Number	Credit Hours		Course Name & Number	Credit Hours
COMM330 Principles of Organizational Supervision	3		GNED Humanities/Fine Arts	3
RESP421 Advanced Critical Care	3		RESP413 Respiratory Therapy in Alternate Settings	3
GNED Domestic Diversity	3		RESP430 Problems in Respiratory Therapy	4
NURS422 Professional Nursing Leadership	3		Elective	4
Elective	3		GNED Social Science	3
Total Semester 7 Credit Hours	15		Total Semester 8 Credit Hours	17