

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

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	ENG 1550	3
Mathematics, Statistics, and Logic:	Any Ohio Transfer 36 approved Mathematics course [Recommended: Introductory Statistics (TMM010)]	STAT 2625	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)]	PSYC 1560 or SOC 1500	3
Natural Sciences:	Any Ohio Transfer 36 approved Natural Sciences course with Lab	Oho Transfer 36 Elective*	3-4
Natural Sciences:	Any Ohio Transfer 36 approved Natural Sciences course	Oho Transfer 36 Elective*	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]	ENGL 1551 or CMST 1545	0-6
GENERAL EDUCATION TOTAL:			16-25
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.			

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.

## Youngstown State University Respiratory Therapy Bachelor of Science

*Effective beginning academic year 2023-2024 (Last revised: October 24, 2023)*

The following additional coursework will be required to complete the Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Care at Youngstown State University 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:	Writing II (if not completed during associate degree)	ENGL 1551	0-3
University Requirement:	Communication Foundation (if not completed during associate degree)	CMST 1545	0-3
University Requirement:	Lifespan Development	PSYC 3758	3
University Requirement:	Arts and Humanities course	Varies	3
Major Requirement:	Respiratory Care the Profession <sup>1</sup>	RESC 5820	3
Major Requirement:	Fundamentals of Leader Development for the RCP	RESC 4867	3
Major Requirement:	IPE for Health Professions	HAHS 5875	3
Major Requirement:	Advanced Respiratory Care Diagnostics <sup>1</sup>	RESC 3765	3
Major Requirement:	Technology Applications for Respiratory Care <sup>1</sup>	RESC 5860	3
Major Requirement:	Advanced Management of Ventilator Patient <sup>1</sup>	RESC 5880	3
Major Requirement:	Advanced Cardiopulmonary Case Management	RESC 4870	3
Major Requirement:	Comparative Health Systems <sup>1</sup>	AHLT 5840	3
Major Requirement:	Research Methods	AHLT 4806	3
Major Requirement:	Directed Research	ALHT 4820	3
Major Requirement:	Special Topics in Respiratory Care (Only required for CRT)	RESC 4801	0-3
Major Requirement:	Upper Division Courses (as needed) <sup>2</sup> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stress and the Health Care Professional</li> <li>Pathology of Infectious Diseases</li> <li>Principles of Occupational Health/Safety</li> <li>Environmental Health Concerns</li> </ul>	AHLT 4804, AHLT 3740, 3755, or AHLT 4808	6-12
REMAINING COURSEWORK TO COMPLETE BACHELOR'S DEGREE TOTAL: <sup>2</sup>			42-60
Advising Notes: <sup>1</sup> A 3.2 GPA and junior standing or 60 semester hours is required to complete these courses. <sup>2</sup> Total hours for the Bachelor of Science Respiratory Care Degree Advancement Program are 120 semester hours. All semester hours from the previous associate degree may be applied to the 120 semester hours. Of the 120 total credit hours, 48 hours must be upper-division. In the event that further upper-division semester hours are required, up to 10 semester hours of prior professional learning experience will be applied.			
COMPLETE BACHELOR'S DEGREE			Total Credit Hours
BACHELOR'S DEGREE TOTAL:			120

### SPECIAL NOTES

For more information, please contact:  
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<https://ysu.edu/academics/bitonte-college-health-and-human-services/online-respiratory-care-major>

### SAMPLE DEGREE MAP

#### THIRD YEAR

SEMESTER 5		SEMESTER 6	
Course Name & Number	Credit Hours	Course Name & Number	Credit Hours
RESC 5820 Respiratory Care the Profession	3	HAHS 5875 IPE for Health Professions	3
RESC 4867 Fundamentals of Leader Development for the RCP	3	RESC 3765 Advanced Respiratory Care Diagnostics	3
RESC 4810 Special Topics in Respiratory Care (CRT only required to complete course)	0-3	RESC 5860 Technology Applications for Respiratory Care	3
PSYC 3758 Lifespan Development	3	Elective (if needed to meet 120 total hours required)	3
ENGL 1551 Writing II (if not completed during associate degree)	0-3	Arts & Humanities course	3
Total Semester 5 Credit Hours	9-15	Total Semester 6 Credit Hours	15

#### FOURTH YEAR

SEMESTER 7		SEMESTER 8	
Course Name & Number	Credit Hours	Course Name & Number	Credit Hours
AHLT 5840 Comparative Health Systems	3	RESC 4870 Advanced Cardiopulmonary Case Management	3
AHLT 4806 Research Methods	3	AHLT 4820 Directed Research	3
RESC 5880 Advanced Management of Ventilator Patient	3	Upper-Division Course (if needed to meet 120 total hours required)	0-3
CMST 1545 Communication Foundation (if not completed during associate degree)	0-3	Upper-Division Course (if needed to meet 120 total hours required)	0-3
Upper-Division Course (if needed to meet 120 total hours required)	0-3	Upper-Division Course (if needed to meet 120 total hours required)	0-3
Total Semester 7 Credit Hours	9-15	Total Semester 8 Credit Hours	6-15