The respiratory care profession is a rapidly expanding dynamic allied health career. SUNY Erie’s Respiratory Care Program trains individuals to become respiratory therapists who, under medical direction, work in the treatment, management, diagnostic evaluation and overall care and education of patients with deficiencies and abnormalities of the cardiopulmonary system. Respiratory therapists are involved with patients of all ages, from the premature newborn whose lungs are not fully developed to the elderly whose lungs become diseased.

Utilizing classroom lecture, laboratory and clinical experiences, the Respiratory Care Program prepares students to assume responsible positions as part of a health care team. The curriculum is designed to provide a broad knowledge so that students are academically prepared and competent to enter the profession. Students are prepared to practice in a variety of settings and as graduates can find employment in hospitals and other acute care facilities, skilled nursing facilities, physician offices, laboratories and home care.

CAREER PATHS
Hospitals; extended care facilities; physicians’ offices; home care.

PROGRAM COMPETENCIES
Upon completion of this program, the graduate will be able to:

• evaluate Data in the Patient Record relative to Respiratory Care;
• gather Clinical Information relative to Respiratory Care;
• perform Procedures to Gather Clinical Information and evaluate procedure results;
• recommend Diagnostic Procedures relative to Respiratory Care;
• assemble and Troubleshoot Respiratory Care Equipment;
• ensure Infection Control;
• perform Quality Control measures;
• maintain a Patent Airway Including the Care of Artificial Airways;
• perform Airway Clearance and Lung Expansion Techniques;
• support Oxygenation and Ventilation;
• administer Medications and Specialty Gases;
• ensure Modifications are Made to the Respiratory Care Plan;
• utilize Evidence-Based Medicine Principles;
• provide Respiratory Care Techniques in High-Risk Situations;
• assist a Physician / Provider in Performing Procedures;
• initiate and Conduct Patient and Family Education, and
• demonstrate behavior consistent with acceptable professional conduct.

CURRICULUM
Total Degree Credits: 68.0

FIRST YEAR, FALL SEMESTER
RC 110 Principles of Respiratory Care I ............................ 3 cr
RC 111 Laboratory for Principles of Respiratory Care I ...... 1.5 cr
RC 112 Respiratory Care Sciences ............................... 3 cr
RC 114 Cardiopulmonary Pharmacology .................. 3 cr
BI 150 Anatomy and Physiology I .................. 3 cr
BI 151 Laboratory for BI 150 ................................ 1 cr
EN 100 or EN 110 based on department advisement ......... 3 cr

FIRST YEAR, SPRING SEMESTER
RC 120 Principles of Respiratory Care II .......................... 3 cr
RC 121 Lab for Respiratory Care II .............................. 1.5 cr
RC 122 Special Procedures I .................................. 3 cr
RC 124 Clinical Practice I .................................. 2 cr
BI 152 Anatomy and Physiology II ................ 3 cr
BI 153 Laboratory for BI 152 .......................... 1 cr
EN 111, EN 101 or EN 102 based on the departmental advisement ............................... 3 cr

FIRST YEAR, SUMMER SEMESTER
RC 128 Clinical Practice II .................................. 3 cr

SECOND YEAR, FALL SEMESTER
RC 230 Cardiopulmonary Disease .......................... 3 cr
RC 232 Respiratory Care Special Procedures II ............ 3 cr
RC 234 Neonatal and Pediatric Respiratory Care .......... 3 cr
RC 238 Clinical Practice III .............................. 4 cr
BI 230 Microbiology .................................... 3 cr
BI 231 Lab for BI 230 .................................... 1 cr

SECOND YEAR, SPRING SEMESTER
RC 240 Respiratory Care Review Seminar ................ 3 cr
RC 242 Introduction to Sleep Medicine ........................ 1 cr
RC 244 Principles of Respiratory Care III .................... 3 cr
RC 246 Clinical Practice IV .............................. 4 cr
SUNY General Education Elective – Social Science ........ 3 cr

CONTACT
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Offered at these campuses:
North Campus (Williamsville)