

## RESPIRATORY THERAPY PROGRAM CLASS SELECTION CRITERIA

The respiratory therapy program is a selective admissions program. Respiratory therapy program applicants must meet established minimum criteria to be considered. The respiratory therapy applicant needs to be aware meeting the minimum standards does not insure admission to the program. Up to thirty students with the highest number of points are selected each year and tend to be well qualified having exceeded the minimum standards in some, if not all, of the criteria. This handout explains the process and has the major sections of:

- I. Minimum Criteria to be considered for the Respiratory Therapy Program
- II. Respiratory Therapy Program Selection Criteria (point system)
- III. Physical Examination
- IV. Other General Information

### I. MINIMUM CRITERIA TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THE RESPIRATORY THERAPY PROGRAM:

- Graduation from high school or successful completion of the G.E.D. (General Education Development) test.
- Completion of MATH 151, Intermediate Algebra, or higher-level math with a “C” or better; or a qualifying score on ACT, SAT, COMPASS, or ACCUPLACER. It is required algebra or a higher math be repeated if it has not been taken within 10 years of the application deadline unless the applicant is able to show proficiency on the algebra section of the COMPASS exam with a score of 54 or above. The older math grade will be used to calculate points if these conditions are met.
- Completion of BIOL 257 Anatomy and Physiology I or equivalent with a “C” or better. It is required that anatomy and physiology be repeated if it has not been taken within 10 years of the application deadline and the applicant is unable to achieve a satisfactory score on a challenge exam of the respiratory therapy program’s choosing (such as the NLN Anatomy and Physiology exam). Please make inquiry to the respiratory therapy program director for further information. Students who have taken anatomy and physiology at another accredited institution of higher learning that does not transfer as equivalent to the MCCC course will have their course(s) evaluated on an individual basis.
- Official transcripts from high school sent to the MCCC Admissions office. Official transcripts from all colleges or universities, if transfer credit is desired, sent directly to the MCCC Registrar’s office.
- MELAB (80 percentile) or IBN TOEFL (79-80) tests may be required to show proof of English language proficiency for individuals whose native language is not English.

## II. RESPIRATORY THERAPY PROGRAMS SELECTION CRITERIA (POINTS)

Respiratory therapy applicants will be awarded points based upon the following criteria:

- Grades in math and anatomy and physiology
- Credits earned at MCCC
- Residency status
- Attendance at an Respiratory Therapy Information Session and/or Hospital Tour within two years
- Work experience in a health care occupation of six months full-time or more (1,000 hours or more) as documented by an employer.
- Academic credentials of a bachelor's or master's degree

Applicants enrolled in any pre-requisite classes that finish after the deadline but before the start of fall semester may still be considered for admission to the program contingent upon completion with "C" or better in the missing pre-requisite class(es). However, the total points for admission will be considered only for coursework that is completed by the application deadline. A rank ordered list of respiratory therapy applicants by point total will be created. Up to thirty (30) applicants with the highest number of points will be granted admission to the Respiratory Therapy Program. A group of up to fifteen (15) applicants with the next highest number of points will be placed on an alternate's list in the event of a vacancy for the program.

Points are calculated based upon the following criteria:

1. Math grade (MATH 151 or higher) and degree of difficulty

<u>Points</u>	<u>Grade</u>
5	A
4	Placement Testing above MATH 151
3	B
1	C

+1 added to the above grade points if the course is MATH 157 or higher

**MATH 156 or 166 do not satisfy the Respiratory Therapy Program math pre-requisite**

If a student takes MATH 151 and a higher level math (e.g. MATH 157), which ever condition that awards the highest number of points will be used for the point determination.

2. BIOL 257 Anatomy and Physiology I grade

<u>Points</u>	<u>Grade</u>
5	A
3	B
1	C

3. BIOL 258 Anatomy and Physiology II grade (This is not a requirement to enter, but applicants can earn extra points for completing prior to starting the program and it is highly suggested to complete prior to admission)

<u>Points</u>	<u>Grade</u>
5	A
3	B
1	C

4. The following courses are not a requirement to enter nor are they in the curriculum. However, they may be part of a transfer bachelor's degree and they represent useful knowledge for respiratory therapy students. Applicants can earn +1 point for completion with a C or better prior to starting the program in any or all of the following

- BIOL 153 Biological Sciences II
- BIOL 259 Introduction to Pathophysiology
- BIOL 260 Microbiology

5. Total number of credit hours taken at MCCC:

<u>Points</u>	<u>Credits</u>
3	25 or more credits
2	13-24 credits
1	1-12 credits
0	no MCCC credits

6. Residency status as of June 1:

<u>Points</u>	<u>Location</u>
2	Monroe County
1	Michigan
0	Out-of-state

7. Attendance at MCCC RT Info Session and/or hospital tour

1 point for each

8. Recent (within the past two years) health care work experience equivalent to 6 months full-time (>1,000 hours):

- 3 points if paramedic, or respiratory related career with direct patient care, LPN, RN
- 2 points if EMT or any other allied health program certification or degree
- 1 point all health care facility jobs not listed above

9. Education level

- 3 points for a masters degree
- 2 points for a bachelor's degree
- 1 point for an associates degree

In the event that two or more students receive the same number of points, a tie-breaker consideration will be based on the following order of conditions:

- Completion of BIOL 258 with a "C" or better
- Grade in BIOL 257 A&P ("A" then "A-" then "B+", etc.)
- Level or the degree of difficulty of math class (e.g. calculus then pre-calculus, then trigonometry, etc.)
- Level of education
- Monroe County resident then out-of-county Michigan resident then out-of-state
- MCCC student with highest credit hour category down to non-MCCC student
- Lottery (names drawn randomly)

**III. PHYSICAL EXAMINATION**

A physical examination is required (at the student's expense) of students selected for the program. This exam must confirm the student meets the physical and mental requirements needed to be successful in the program and a staff therapist. If special accommodations are required under A.D.A., contact the Coordinator of the Learning Assistance Laboratory for specific information.

**IV. ADDITIONAL GENERAL INFORMATION**

1. A physical examination, blood work, and immunizations are required of students selected for the program at the student's expense which verify capabilities and general health status.
2. Applicants should be aware any previous or current conviction of a crime and/or treatment for substance abuse could result in ineligibility to obtain a license as a respiratory therapist. Any questions or concerns about licensing should be directed to the State of Michigan Board of Respiratory Care at [www.michigan.gov/healthlicense](http://www.michigan.gov/healthlicense).
3. Students admitted to the Respiratory Therapy Program must consent to criminal background checks, fingerprinting, and drug screening. In order to comply with Michigan Compiled Laws, no student will be admitted to the program if convicted of a felony or attempt/conspiracy to commit a felony within 15 years preceding the date of admission; or a misdemeanor conviction involving abuse, neglect, assault, battery, or criminal sexual conduct or fraud or theft (or similar misdemeanor in state or federal law) against a vulnerable adult within 10 years of the date of admission. No student will be admitted with a positive drug screen for illegal substances. Other positive background checks, either criminal or drug screening, may also be grounds for prohibiting admission, but will be considered case-by-case. Any cost incurred with the security checks is the student's responsibility.
4. The occupation of a respiratory therapist involves providing direct care to individuals. As such, it is characterized by the application of verified knowledge in the skillful performance of respiratory care modalities. Therefore, in order to be considered for admission or to be retained in the program, all applicants should possess:
  - a. Sufficient visual acuity, such as needed in the accurate interpretation of gauges, preparation and administration of medications and observation necessary for patient assessment and care;
  - b. Sufficient auditory perception to receive verbal communication from patients and members of the health team and to assess health needs of people through the use of monitoring devices such as cardiac monitors, stethoscopes, pulse oximeters, mechanical ventilators, fire alarms, etc.;
  - c. Sufficient communication skills (speech, reading, writing) to interact with individuals and to communicate their needs promptly and effectively as may be necessary in the individual's interest;
  - e. Sufficient intellectual and emotional functions to plan and implement care for individuals;
  - f. Psychological stability allowing performance at the required levels in the clinical portions of the program;
  - g. The capability to concentrate for long periods of time in selecting correct techniques, equipment, and safety measures to assure maximum care and safety of the patient. Therefore, the applicant must be able to exercise independent judgments under both routine and emergency conditions. A person under the habitual influence of alcohol or consciousness-altering drugs could not meet the above criteria;
  - h. The ability to tolerate and function safely in environmental conditions such as exposure to a variety of substances (including latex particles) and conditions within the laboratory and clinical environment; temperature fluctuations; electromagnetic radiation; hazardous waste materials, including chemicals, poisonous substances, blood, body tissue or fluids; loud or unpleasant noises; high humidity, and inhalants such as dust and aerosol mists.