Dear Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in the Respiratory Therapy program offered on the Virginia Beach Campus of Tidewater Community College. Successful graduates will earn an Associate of Applied Science in Respiratory Therapy. This packet will provide information on the profession, program pre-requisites and the admission process of the TCC program.

What is a respiratory therapist? With a vast knowledge of physiology, the job description of a therapist is very diverse and includes:

- Diagnosing lung and breathing disorders and recommending treatment methods.
- Interviewing patients and doing chest physical exams to determine what kind of therapy is best for their condition.
- Consulting with physicians to recommend a change in therapy, based on your evaluation of the patient.
- Analyzing breath, tissue, and blood specimens to analyze patient status.
- Managing ventilators and artificial airway devices for patients who can’t breathe normally on their own.
- Responding to Trauma Team, Rapid Response Team, and Cardiac Arrest calls.
- Educating patients and families about lung disease so they can maximize their recovery.

Mission Statement: The mission of the TCC Respiratory Therapy Program is to be an exemplary program graduating highly qualified individuals to fill the employment needs of the profession. The program is committed to serving students and the respiratory therapy community through guidance, excellent academic instruction and professional training, utilizing traditional and innovative means of instruction.

Accreditation: The Respiratory Therapy faculty is committed to preparing competent Respiratory Therapists with the cognitive, psychomotor and professional characteristics as required by the Committee for Respiratory Therapy Education (COARC), the accrediting body for respiratory therapy education. The Tidewater Community College, program number 200275, awarding the Associate of Applied Science Degree from the Virginia Beach Campus is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation from Respiratory Care (www.coarc.com). The TCC program was re-accredited by COARC in 2016 and was awarded the highest degree of accreditation (10 years). Further information concerning COARC can be obtained on the following website: www.coarc.com

Prospective applicants can review outcome statistics for all program at: https://www.coarc.com/Students/Programmatic-Outcome-Data.aspx

The respiratory therapy program accrediting body, COARC, established an award in 2011 entitled "CoARC Distinguished RRT Credentialing Success" award. TCC has been recognized for the past 6 out of 7 years and is the only program in the state to hold such a distinction.

2012 - COARC Distinguished Registered Respiratory Therapy Credentialing Success
2013 - COARC Distinguished Registered Respiratory Therapy Credentialing Success
2014 - COARC Distinguished Registered Respiratory Therapy Credentialing Success
2015 - COARC Distinguished Registered Respiratory Therapy Credentialing Success
2016 - COARC Distinguished Registered Respiratory Therapy Credentialing Success
2017 - COARC Distinguished Registered Respiratory Therapy Credentialing Success

Application Process: The deadline for applying to the program is January 15th for the cohort beginning the upcoming May. Admission to the program requires students to submit a TCC college application at www.tcc.edu/apply, in addition to a Health Professions Program Application at https://www.tcc.edu/uploads/pdf/TCC-health-professions-application-admission-packet.pdf. The Health Professions Program Application should be mailed or submitted in-person to Enrollment Services, Building B (Bayside) Room B105, Tidewater Community College, 1700 College Crescent, Virginia Beach, VA 23453. If applicable, unofficial college transcripts should be attached to the Health Science Application. If unofficial college transcripts are not attached to the application, the candidate may not receive any admission points for classes already completed.
College transcripts from non-VCCS institutions: Be sure to have official college transcripts sent directly to the Office of the College Registrar, Green District Administration Building, PO Box 9000, Norfolk, VA 23509-9000 from the appropriate institution’s registrar. In addition, using the on-line form, submit a "Request Transfer Evaluation" form which can be found at https://forms.tcc.edu/request-transfer-evaluation/. This form can only be submitted after you have enrolled in classes at TCC. The Office of College Registrar is responsible for evaluating credits earned from other educational institutions. It is important that students complete this step early in the process to assist with academic planning and to determine completed courses by the application deadline. Note: Transcript evaluations may take up to six weeks to process following receipt of the transcript(s) and the “Request Transfer Evaluation” form. Students who are brand new to the college cannot/will not be able to have a transfer evaluation done until they have started classes at TCC. The college only begins the process after the applicant has enrolled in and started classes at TCC. That being said, the program director should have access to the non-evaluated transcript after it has been submitted. NOTE: If you intend to transfer coursework from another community college within the Virginia Community College System (VCCS), you do not need to submit these transcripts to the Office of College Registrar. However, you will need to complete and submit the online “Request Transfer Evaluation” form at www.tcc.edu/transfer-credits.

After you have applied to TCC and the respiratory therapy program, had your transcripts sent to TCC and completed the Request Transfer Evaluation form, applicants should contact the Domicile Health Profession and Records Office at 757-822-7340 to verify receipt of all documents. Due to the competitive nature of the program, only students with completed applications will be considered for the program.

Grants and Loans: Information on grants, loans, and scholarships is available from the Financial Aid Office and TCC’s website; visit www.tcc.edu/paying-for-tcc for information. If you are active-duty military, veteran, spouse or dependent, the Center for Military and Veterans Education (CMVE) can assist you with your application for VA educational benefits. The CMVE can be reached at 757-822-7645 or military@tcc.edu. Visit www.tcc.edu/military for information.

Mandatory Open House: Prospective students are required to attend one Open House presentation conducted by the Respiratory Therapy Program Faculty on the third Thursday of each month (except December) at 3 pm on the Virginia Beach Campus, room MN 206 in the Regional Health Professions Building.

Please note: Information in this packet is subject to change. Students should periodically check to see if materials have been updated.

Criminal/Sex Offender Background Checks/Drug Screens: Prospective students are hereby notified that after an offer for admission has been extended, the prospective candidate must complete a criminal/sex offender background check and drug screening from Castlebranch. The results of the background check and drug screen must be received prior to the first day of classes and indicate “green” checks. If a student has a “red” checked background/sex offender background check, the offer for admission will be rescinded and the student will not be allowed to enter the program. In addition, some clinical sites require additional background checks (must be repeated each year) or request random drug screens. If a student turns up positive for a drug screen, they may be dismissed from the program. The cost of the background check is the responsibility of the student.

Tidewater Community College maintains and promotes equal opportunity without regard to ethnicity, color, gender, age (except where gender or age is a bona fide occupational qualification), religion, handicap, national origin, or other non-merit factors. Disclosure of social security number, age, gender, and ethnicity is optional.

Once again, thank you for your interest in the program. Please review the admissions qualifications and process detailed below. Should you have questions or concerns, I can be reached at the email address listed below.
Program Length and Degree Awarded

The Tidewater Community College Associate of Applied Science in Respiratory Therapy is six semesters in length and consists of 67 credit hours: This curriculum is designed to prepare students for employment as respiratory therapist upon graduation, certification and licensure. The Respiratory Therapy curriculum is included at the end of this document.

Essential Functions of the Respiratory Therapy Student

To successfully complete the clinical component of the RT program, the student must be able to perform all of the essential functions of a Respiratory Therapist. Students should possess and be able to demonstrate the following:

1. **Manual Dexterity**: Bilateral use of hands or terminal devices that involves coordination and strength.

2. **Sufficient gross and fine motor coordination** to manipulate equipment and accessories, lift a minimum of 50 pounds, and to stoop, bend, or promptly assist patients who become unstable.

3. **Sufficient eyesight** to observe patients, read patient records, manipulate equipment and accessories, visually monitor patients in dimmed light via video monitors, evaluate radiographs for quality, and see distinct colors on sonograms.

4. **Sufficient hearing** to communicate with patients and other members of the health care team, monitor patients via audio monitors, and hear background sounds during equipment operations.

5. **Satisfactorily demonstrate effective written and oral communication abilities** sufficient for interaction with others. This includes, but is not limited to, reading, following instructions, and other forms of communication.

   - **Writing**: Ability to communicate effectively in legible written form.
   - **Speaking**: Ability to verbally communicate understandably in English.
   - **Reading**: Ability to read, understand, and follow directions printed in English.

6. **Emotional stability**: Ability to work independently maintaining composure and competence under stressful situations. Be able to function as a supportive member of the health care team to maintain the highest standards of the laboratory in its delivery of patient care.

7. **Interpersonal skills**: Sufficient ability to interact with individuals, families, and other health care professionals from a variety of emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds.

8. **Mobility**: Physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room, maneuver in small places and stand and walk for extensive periods of time.

9. **Cognitive Abilities**: Ability to be oriented to time, place, and person: organization responsibilities, prioritizing appropriately, and making decisions in a timely manner.

10. **Health Status**: Students, who pose a risk to the health, safety or well-being of patients or other students, whether due to infectious disease or otherwise, may be removed from clinical settings. If a student should contract or be a carrier of any infectious disease whether acute, chronic, active or inactive, it is the student’s responsibility to report this immediately to the course/clinical instructor. Patient well-being, safety and health are the primary concern of all clinical faculties and clinical sites. All clinical sites and clinical facilities, as well as TCC, reserve the right to require medical verification that a student may participate in a clinical setting without posing a risk to the health, safety or well-being of patients, other students or staff.

11. **Satisfactory physical strength and endurance** to move immobile patients to or from a stretcher or wheelchair to the x-ray table, work with arms extended overhead, stand in place for long periods of time, and carry 20-25 pounds while walking.
12. **Satisfactory intellectual and emotional functions** to ensure patient safety and exercise independent judgment and discretion in the performance of assigned responsibilities. Ability to respond appropriately in emergency and high stress patient care situations.

**Physical Standards**

*Frequency – Constant (67% - 100%)*

**Reach:** 5 ½” above the floor to attach oxygen devices to wall outlet

**Handle:** small and large equipment for storing, retrieving, moving

**Grasp:** syringes, laryngoscope, endotracheal tubes

**Stand:** for prolonged periods of time (e.g., delivery therapy, check equipment)

**Feel:** to palpate pulses, arteries for puncture, skin temperature

**Push/Pull:** large, wheeled equipment (e.g., mechanical ventilators)

**Walk:** for extended periods of time to all areas of a hospital

**Manipulate:** knobs, dials associated with diagnostic/therapeutic devices

**Hear:** verbal directions; gas flow through equipment; alarms; breath or heart sounds (through a stethoscope)

*Frequency – Frequent (33% - 66%)*

**Lift:** up to 50 pounds to assist moving patients

**Stoop:** to adjust equipment

**Crouch:** to locate and plug in electrical equipment

**See:** patient conditions such as skin color, work of breathing mist flowing through tubing

*Frequency – Occasional (1% - 33%)*

**Kneel:** to perform CPR
General Job Descriptions

• Utilizes the application of scientific principles for the identification, prevention, remediation, research, and rehabilitation of acute or chronic cardiopulmonary dysfunction thereby producing optimum health and functions.

• Reviews existing data, collects additional data, and recommends obtaining data to evaluate the respiratory status of patients, develop the respiratory care plan, and determine the appropriateness of the prescribed therapy.

• Initiates, conducts, and modifies prescribed therapeutic and diagnostic procedures such as: administering medical gases, humidification and aerosols, aerosol medications, postural drainage, bronchopulmonary hygiene, cardiopulmonary airways; performing pulmonary function testing, hemodynamic monitoring and other physiologic monitoring; collecting specimens of blood and other materials.

• Documents necessary information in the patient's medical record and other forms, and communicates that information to members of the health care team. Obtains, assembles, calibrates, and checks necessary equipment.

• Uses problem solving to identify and correct malfunctions of respiratory care equipment. Demonstrates appropriate interpersonal skill to work productively with patients, families, staff and co-workers.

• Accepts directives, maintains confidentiality, does not discriminate, and upholds the ethical standards of the profession.
Admission Requirements

Admission to Tidewater Community College does not automatically qualify a student for admission to the Respiratory Therapy Program. Students must comply with all General Admission Requirements for Division of Health Professions Programs.

In addition to meeting the admissions requirements for TCC and the Division of Health Professions programs, students must meet the following specific requirements to apply for the Respiratory Therapy Program. Students must:

1. Must be at least 18 years of age

2. Be a high school graduate or have a GED.

3. Meet current requirements for admission to TCC.

4. Attend a Respiratory Therapy Open House Information Session prior to admission (held at 3:00pm on the third Thursday of every month – except December).

5. Submit a completed Health Professions Program Application indicating that you are applying for the Respiratory Therapy Program.

6. Complete MTH 3 (MTH 1) or MTE 1-3, and MTH 5 (or MTH 95) or MTE 4-5; or qualifying placement test scores

7. Complete the following prerequisite courses with a grade of “C” or better: Biology (BIO) 141 Anatomy and Physiology I, English (ENG) 111 College Composition and Student Development (SDV) 101 Orientation to Health Care. Ensure that transcripts from all other colleges attended are on file at TCC prior to program application deadline date. These transfer credits must be evaluated before any transfer credit is granted. The application deadline is January 15 for next May admission. Admission will be on a competitive placement basis of fully qualified candidates. Students may require developmental studies, which must be completed before they are considered for admission to the program.
## Minimum Prerequisite Requirements

You must meet each of the requirements below to be considered admitted to the TCC Respiratory Therapy Program.

### Required Admission Criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criterion</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High school diploma or GED</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 Years of age</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attend a Respiratory Therapy Open House Session</td>
<td>No Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completion MTH 3 (MTH 1) or MTE 1-3, and MTH 5 (or MTH 95) or MTE 4-5; or qualifying placement test scores</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| BIO 141 Anatomy and Physiology I with a grade of “C” or higher           | Highest points for an A
Medium points for B
Lowest points for a C |
| ENG 111 College English with a grade of “C” or higher                    | Highest points for an A
Medium points for B
Lowest points for a C |
| SDV 101 Orientation to Health Care                                        | Highest points for an A
Medium points for B
Lowest points for a C |

### Priority Admission Criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criterion</th>
<th>Score</th>
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| Previous degree - AS or AAS                                                | Highest points for an A
Medium points for B
Lowest points for a C |
| Previous degree - BA or BS                                                | Highest points for an A
Medium points for B
Lowest points for a C |
| BIO 142 Anatomy and Physiology II with a grade of “C” or higher           | Highest points for an A
Medium points for B
Lowest points for a C |
| HLT 143 Medical Terminology I (not a required course but extra points towards admission if taken) | Highest points for an A
Medium points for B
Lowest points for a C |
| SOC Elective                                                              | Highest points for an A
Medium points for B
Lowest points for a C |
| HUM Elective                                                              | Highest points for an A
Medium points for B
Lowest points for a C |
| Interview Score (by invitation only)                                      | Highest points for an A
Medium points for B
Lowest points for a C |

Priority will be given to applicants having the courses below.

### Notes

- Highest points for an A
- Medium points for B
- Lowest points for a C

TCC Respiratory Therapy Program Admission Procedures & Information 2018-2019 (db 10/04/18)
Once Provisionally Accepted

1. Once accepted into the Respiratory Therapy Program, students must complete approximately 600 hours of clinical training in a hospital or health care facility. The student must possess the physical ability to aide in the lifting and moving of patients; to pull/push and control the movement of machinery, i.e., ventilators and oxygen cylinders; to view digital displays and monitor oscilloscope readouts; to hear audible alarms; to auscultate blood pressure and heart and lung sounds; to perform tasks requiring fine motor control, and to interact effectively with patients and the health care team. All student must complete an in-depth physical prior to beginning their clinical activities. A physician must deem an applicant as possessing the physical attributes one needs to perform the tasks of a respiratory therapist prior to beginning the clinical component of the program. If there is any doubt that you would not meet the guidelines, please complete the physical prior to beginning the program.

2. Once accepted into the Respiratory Therapy Program, students must submit a satisfactory health status as certified by submission of a completed Health Professions Physical Examination form signed by a licensed health care provider within the last 12 months. The form is available in the Division of Health Professions Office and online at www.tcc.edu/health-physical-exam.

3. Once accepted into the Respiratory Therapy Program, students must submit Immunization Testing record - Health Professions students must comply with both Virginia law and clinical facility requirements related to immunizations. Health care professions pose inherent health and safety risks. All health profession students are required to be compliant with Virginia laws related to immunizations for the protection of themselves and patients.

4. Once accepted into the Respiratory Therapy Program, students must submit documentation of a negative two-step TB test or, if a positive TB test was obtained, record of a negative chest X-ray.

5. Once accepted into the Respiratory Therapy Program, students must obtain a criminal background/sex offender background check from Castlebranch prior to beginning the program. The student’s results must indicate a “green” checked result. If the student’s criminal background/sex offender is not acceptable (“yellow checked”) or the criminal background/sex offender results are not back the week prior to the first day of the summer semester, the offer for admission will be rescinded and the student will be removed from the RTH classes. If they have already registered, they will be unenrolled and their curriculum will be changed to “General Studies”. Castlebranch recommends submitting the application at least six-weeks in advance, to be sure it will be completed before the start of the program. Attached is a handout which outlines the directions for completing this requirement. The background check is $46 and the Respiratory Therapy package code is id05. A link to the website can be found at: https://mycb.castlebranch.com/ Criminal Background/sex offender checks are typically good for 1 year and the clinical sites requiring the background check must be attended during that time. Some students may need to complete a second background check during the second year of the program since they are only valid for one year. In general, students with a felony conviction will show a “yellow” checked background check and will not be allowed admittance to the program.

6. While in the program, students must maintain a “C” grade point average or better to remain in good standing. Students who earn any grade below a “C” in any first-year summer semester RTH class will not be able to continue in the program and will be required to re-apply for the next year’s class. After the first summer semester, any students who earns any grade below a “C” will meet with the program director. Depending upon the circumstances the students may need to re-apply for the next year or complete a remediation plan.
Admissions Process Checkoff List

The following steps must be completed as soon as possible. Please check each item as you complete it.

1. Obtain a Respiratory Therapy Program Packet. Packets are available on the Respiratory Therapy program page: www.tcc.edu/respiratory-therapy.

2. Apply for admission to TCC at www.tcc.edu/apply.

3. Visit the Respiratory Therapy program page at www.tcc.edu/respiratory-therapy to learn more about the program, including frequently asked questions.

4. Attend the Respiratory Therapy Program Open House held on the third Thursday of each month (except December) at 3 pm in the Regional Health Professions Center, Room MN206 on the Virginia Beach Campus. This is mandatory.

5. Take the Virginia Placement Test (VPT) in English and Math, if required. It is recommended you take them as soon as possible to allow adequate time to complete required developmental courses prior to taking any RTH courses. More information about placement tests, including testing locations and hours, is at www.tcc.edu/placement. You must be able to place into MTH 3 (MTH 1) or MTE 1-3, and MTH 5 (or MTH 95) or MTE 4-5; or qualifying placement test scores.

6. Complete all pre-requisites to include: SDV 101, ENG 111 and BIO 141.

7. Submit the Health Professions Program Application to Enrollment Services in the Bayside Building, Room B105, Tidewater Community College, 1700 College Crescent, Virginia Beach, VA 23453. If transferring credits attach an unofficial copy of your transcript.

8. If applicable, have official college transcripts sent directly to Tidewater Community College Office of the College Registrar, P.O. Box 9000, Norfolk, VA 23509-9000 from the appropriate institution's registrar. Student copies are not acceptable. Missing transcripts are the greatest cause of delay in the application process and are the applicant's responsibility. Any college course work transferred to TCC requires a transcript evaluation.

9. Submit the online Request Transfer Evaluation form. This form can be found at https://www.tcc.edu/transfer-credits.
Frequently Asked Questions

What is Respiratory Therapy?
Respiratory Therapy is one of many allied health professions. The profession developed out of needs of critical and rehabilitative heart and lung patients of the early 1940’s. Respiratory care practitioners work as members of the critical care team in treating individuals who are seriously ill. Using sophisticated medical equipment, they help people with such lung disorders as asthma, emphysema, pneumonia, and bronchitis. This may include using equipment that will mechanically breathe for the patient.

Can I specialize in Respiratory care?
Yes, there are specialty positions in pediatric care, newborn care, pulmonary rehabilitation, home care, pulmonary function diagnostics, exercise stress testing, and adult critical care. Respiratory Therapists can also specialize in teaching and management positions.

What credentials can I receive upon graduation?
Students completing the AAS program are qualified to take the Therapist Multiple-Choice Exam and upon successful completion, the Clinical Simulation Exam offered by the NBRC. There are two established cut scores for the Therapist Multiple-Choice Examination. Candidates may become eligible to take the Clinical Simulation Examination by achieving the higher cut score on the Therapist Multiple-Choice Examination. After passing both of these exams you are a Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT).

What is required for admission to the program? What can I do if I do not meet the minimum requirements for admission, or I feel it has been too long since completing the required Math and Science courses?
In order to qualify for admission to the program you must, at minimum:

- Be at least 18 years old
- Have a high school diploma or GED
- Pass BIO 141 Human Anatomy & Physiology I with a grade of “C” or better,
- Place into MTH 3 (MTH 1) or MTE 1-3, and MTH 5 (or MTH 95) or MTE 4-5; or qualifying placement test scores
- Complete ENG 111
- Complete SDV 101

TCC offers a wide variety of developmental courses. These courses will provide students with the necessary knowledge to succeed in the program. Developmental Math, English, and Biology are offered at various times both day and night. Biology 141 courses are offered each semester. Just a reminder that Natural Science (NAS) 2 Foundations of Life Science is a pre-requisite to BIO 141.

When is it necessary to take the Math and English placement tests?
All students who are not otherwise exempt must take the Virginia Placement Test (VPT). It is recommended that these tests be taken as early as possible so that if developmental work is necessary, a student can complete it prior to the start of the program. Visit www.tcc.edu/placement for more information, including testing locations and hours.

Is it OK if my pre-requisite and previously taken classes are old?
Yes! It does not matter how old your courses are – the respiratory therapy program will accept them as long as they are from an accredited institution.

Are there jobs available?
Since the program’s inception in 1975, most graduates have accepted positions immediately upon graduation. The future continues to be very bright for employment in Respiratory Therapy. The number and types of employers actively seeking qualified respiratory care practitioners have increased.
considerably. Today’s practitioner may work in large and technologically advanced critical care units, perform in small rural hospitals, work for a private physician or act as independent providers in home care. The projected number of jobs is far in excess of the projected number of graduates expected over the next several years. Entry-level salaries should continue to increase over the next few years at or above those of other allied health occupations. Job outlook is faster than average-U.S. Bureau of Labor

Is there a four-year degree in RT?
Yes, many colleges across the country offer B.S. degrees in Respiratory Therapy and there are 4 in the state of Virginia. Another option is to transfer to a four-year institution upon completion of your TCC associate degree. Under the college’s transfer agreements, TCC respiratory therapy graduates can transfer as juniors into state colleges in the Commonwealth. Details are at www.tcc.edu/transfer-agreements.

What salary can I expect to earn?

Are all classes offered only during the day?
Respiratory Therapy classes are only offered at the Virginia Beach Campus of TCC during the day (identified by the prefix letters RTH). You may take all non-Respiratory Therapy courses in the curriculum (except HLT 155) either during the day or evening at any TCC campus.

Must courses be taken in the order they appear on the curriculum?
You must take all Respiratory Therapy courses in the order in which they appear in the curriculum. Each course prepares you for the next course, and each is offered only once a year. You may take any non-Respiratory course during the semester it appears in the curriculum or before that semester. It is recommended that non-Respiratory Therapy courses be taken prior entry into the program to lighten student load.

How many hours a week will I be in class?
You will attend class an average of 26 hours a week during the program. Of course, if you have already completed any required course work you will attend class fewer hours.

I do not believe I can handle so many credit hours every semester. What courses can I take before I enter the therapist program?
Any course that is not a Respiratory Therapy course (RTH prefix – except HLT 155) can be taken before you are accepted into the program. You can complete courses such as BIO 141 and 142, ENG 111, SDV 101 as well as your social science and humanities electives before you enter the program. However, if this is your desired approach it is extremely important to contact the counseling center as soon as possible to make sure you are taking the appropriate classes.

How long will it take to complete the Respiratory Therapy Program?
Once admitted to the program, you will be able to complete it in six semesters.

Where are the clinical assignments in the program?
Clinical assignments are the following hospitals:

- Lake Taylor Hospital, Norfolk, Virginia
- Children’s Hospital of the King’s Daughters, Norfolk, Virginia
- Chesapeake Regional Medical Center, Chesapeake, Virginia
- Sentara Norfolk General Hospital, Norfolk, Virginia
- Sentara Careplex, Hampton, Virginia
- Portsmouth Naval Hospital, Portsmouth, Virginia
- Riverside Regional Medical Center
- Sentara Leigh Hospital, Norfolk, Virginia
Are there any costs involved in the Respiratory Therapy Program?
With the cost of required software (DataArc CD-ROM), and recommended texts, uniforms, a stethoscope, state and regional educational meeting fees and student membership in the national association for respiratory care is totaled, a student can expect to spend approximately $2,200 in addition to tuition.

Are there scholarships and loans available to select applicants?
Yes. Traditional college loans and scholarships are available to many students, please contact the financial aid office for more information. Visit www.tcc.edu/paying-for-tcc for information.

I am transferring from another Respiratory Therapy Program. Can I get credit for some of the respiratory therapy courses?
The Respiratory Therapy Program does not offer credit for respiratory therapy classes taken at other institutions.

Who will be teaching?
There are three full-time faculty members:

- Denise Bieszczad, MA, RRT-ACCS — Program Director
- Jennifer Briggs, MBA, RRT-ACCS — Director of Clinical Education
- Gary Cross, RRT — Simulation Specialist

In addition, there are five part-time faculty members and eight clinical faculty members.