



PROGRAM OFFERED

- ◆ Entry-level B.S.

Most people take breathing for granted. But for thousands of people who suffer from breathing problems, each breath is a major accomplishment. Respiratory Care Practitioners treat all types of patients, ranging from premature infants whose lungs are not fully developed, to children having asthma attacks or adults with lung disease. They are a vital part of the medical team and provide temporary relief to patients with chronic lung diseases and also provide emergency care for patients who suffered heart failure or a stroke, or are victims of drowning or shock.

Respiratory Care Practitioners (RCP's) most commonly use oxygen and aerosol medications to help their patients. They also manage breathing machines, called ventilators, which deliver pressurized gases (air, oxygen, and nitric oxide) into the lungs of patients who cannot breathe for themselves. Respiratory Care Practitioners are involved in prevention, diagnosis, treatment, management and education related to problems effecting the heart and lungs. Advanced procedures include specialty clinical areas, hyperbaric medicine, lung ultrasound and assisting in bronchoscopy. RCP's are a very important part of the patient care team.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

An entry level B.S. degree in respiratory care is recommended as the foundation for advancement in the profession. There is an expected increased demand for RCPs because of growth of the middle-aged and older population, with an increased incidence of cardiopulmonary diseases. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of RCPs is expected to grow 12 percent through 2024, faster than the average for all occupations.

Although hospitals continue to employ the majority of RCP's, a growing number of practitioners may work under contract to home health agencies and extended care facilities.

EARNINGS

In California, the annual base salary of full-time respiratory therapists is \$50,000 - \$90,000 (annual mean wage of \$78,820 as of 2016), with management positions earning as much as \$100,000 or more.

EMPLOYMENT

About 9 out of 10 jobs are held in hospital departments of respiratory care, anesthesiology, or pulmonary medicine. Home health agencies, respiratory therapy clinics, and extended care facilities count for most of the remaining jobs.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

To receive a B.S. degree in Respiratory Care, you will need to finish four years of college after high school. The first two years are spent taking prerequisites at a regionally accredited college or university. These prerequisites are classes that prepare you for the professional level of study at Loma Linda University. The prerequisite courses that you need to take during your first two years in college are listed on the back of this page. High school mathematics and natural sciences are recommended.

After completing your two years of required prerequisites, or if you already have an AS degree or the equivalent, you may continue studies toward the Bachelor of Science degree.

This program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC). Upon completion of our program, graduates are eligible to take examinations for their license to practice and credentialing examinations (CRT, RRT, NPS, ACCS, SDS, CPFT, RPFT) offered through the National Board for Respiratory Care. In the State of California, obtaining the RRT credential is a requirement for obtaining licensure as an RCP.

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Loma Linda University Requirements: To be eligible for admission the applicant must complete a minimum of 78 quarter units / 52 semester units at an accredited college or university. The minimum subject requirements are:

COMMUNICATION:

Freshman composition, complete sequence
Speech or interpersonal communication
Intro to computers or a high school computer course

NATURAL SCIENCES:

Human Anatomy & Physiology with lab **or** general biology with lab (complete sequence)
Microbiology with lab
Intro Chemistry w/ lab (to include inorganic, organic and biochemistry) **or** General Chemistry w/ lab (complete seq)
Intro Physics, one quarter **or** one year of H.S. level physics w/ lab or Respiratory Physics or the equivalent.
Math: 2 years H.S. level with C grade or better **or** college intermediate algebra.

SOCIAL SCIENCES: (12 quarter/8 semester units)

Intro or General psychology (required)
Cultural diversity or anthropology (one course required)
Select one additional class from the following:
Anthropology Geography
Economics Political Science
Sociology (recommended)

HUMANITIES: (12-20 quarter/8-14 semester units)

Select courses from at least three areas listed below:
Art / Music (performing arts limited to 4 qtr-units)
Literature History
Philosophy Foreign Language

RELIGION: (a maximum of 8 qtr-units may be applied); for students who attended or are enrolled in an Adventist college, 4 qtr-units per year are required, in addition to required Humanities.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS:

Physical Education Activity (two courses)
Health Education (personal health or nutrition) - one course

ELECTIVES (to meet minimum total of 78 qtr/52 sem. units)

OBSERVATION EXPERIENCE RECOMMENDATION:

Four to eight hours observing a respiratory care practitioner participating in patient care in a hospital setting is recommended.

"C minus" grades are not transferable for credit

You can find the courses we recommend for your college by accessing the "Transfer Patterns" on our website at:
<http://www.llu.edu/llu/sahp/transfer/index.html>

How to apply

Applications are accepted starting November 1 of each year for the following Autumn (September) acceptance.
Apply at: <http://home.llu.edu/academics/how-apply>
Letters of recommendation from three (3) professors you have taken course work, are preferred. Catalogs may be viewed free on our web site.

You may complete prerequisite course work at any regionally accredited college or university before admission to a program in the School of Allied Health Professions. A high school diploma or the GED is required for acceptance, unless you possess an associate (two years of college) or higher degree.

TOEFL or IELTS (or equivalent English language proficiency examination) scores are required for applicants whose native language is not English or whose secondary education was received outside the United States (refer to: <http://home.llu.edu/academics/how-apply/international-students-scholars>).

Applicant interviews may be conducted either in person or via Zoom.us by appointment.

Financial Aid

Apply early for financial assistance - even before receiving your acceptance into the program. You may begin your financial aid process on October 1 of the year preceding your anticipated enrollment. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) can be found online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. It's best to apply before March each year. You will need your previous year's tax information as part of the application.

Applications for Cal Grants (California residents only) must be postmarked no later than March 2.

LLU's Student Financial Aid office will help you obtain the necessary applications and guide you through the process of applying for aid. Contact them at: Office of Financial Aid, Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, CA 92350, (909) 558-4509.

Housing

On-campus housing is available for men and women. For information on the men's dormitory (Daniells Residence), call (909) 558-4562. For information on the women's dormitory (Lindsay Hall), call (909) 558-4561.

Contact Information

Office (909) 558-4932
studycps@llu.edu

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LLU at a Glance

>> Founded in 1905 >> A Seventh-day Adventist institution integrating health, science, and Christian faith >> Offers over 200 programs in the health sciences >> Houses eight schools: Allied Health Professions, Behavioral Health, Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Public Health, and Religion >> About 4,000 students >> Over 1,300 faculty >> 2,000 professional researchers >> \$46 million dollars in private and public grants generated each year >> Many service learning opportunities

Loma Linda University
Loma Linda, California 92350
909.558.4932
Website: www.llu.edu
www.facebook.com/llualliedhealth