



PROGRAM OFFERED

- ◆ B.S.

This is a clinical immersion program with classroom and labs paired to hands on clinical training. In the critical care setting, there are typically just three practitioners present 24/7: the nurse, the respiratory care practitioner (RCP), and the physician. RCPs assess and treat all age groups from premature infants whose lungs are not yet developed, to children with asthma, to adults with cardiopulmonary disease. They are a vital part of the medical team assisting the physician in the care of patients with pulmonary disease, emergency care for patients with heart failure or stroke, victims of trauma, drowning, or other forms of shock. RCPs serve in inpatient, outpatient, and transport fields.

RCPs most commonly use oxygen and aerosol medications to help their patients during acute care. They also manage ventilators that deliver various gases (air, oxygen, and nitric oxide) to care for the critically ill. RCPs are involved in the prevention, assessment, treatment, management, and education related to problems affecting the heart and lungs. RCPs are involved in specialty clinical areas, hyperbaric medicine, lung ultrasound, provision of vaccinations, and assisting in bronchoscopy. RCPs are a very important part of the patient care team.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

An entry level B.S. Respiratory Care degree is recommended as the foundation for advancement in the profession. There is an expected increased demand for RCPs due to lifestyle related cardiopulmonary diseases in addition to trauma and pandemics which all require the expertise of the RCP. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of RCPs is expected to grow 19% through 2029, much faster than the average for all occupations.

While medical centers employ the majority of RCPs, RCPs are also involved in contracts with home health and extended care facilities.

EARNINGS

In California (2021), the annual mean salary of a respiratory care practitioner is \$81,386, with a range of \$65,000 to \$91,000. Salaries vary widely by region, qualifications, and experience. The salaries for respiratory care administrators may reach \$140,000 or more.

EMPLOYMENT

About 9 out of 10 RCP jobs are held in hospital departments of respiratory care, anesthesiology, or pulmonary medicine. Home health agencies, respiratory care clinics, extended care facilities, telehealth, case management (after obtaining the CCM® credential), and medical supply services count for most of the remaining jobs.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The program consists of the last 2 years of a BS degree. The first two years are prerequisites you take after high school at any regionally accredited college or university. The prerequisites prepare you for the professional level at Loma Linda University. The prerequisite courses you need are listed on the back of this page.

After completing the prerequisites, you may continue professional studies toward the Bachelor of Science degree upon acceptance to Loma Linda University.

This program is the 1st and only respiratory care program in California and the West Coast to receive the prestigious APEX Award by the American Association for Respiratory Care for 2021-2022. This program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care. Upon program completion, graduates are eligible to take examinations for their license to practice offered through the National Board for Respiratory Care (CRT, RRT, NPS, ACCS, SDS, CPFT, RPFT). In the State of California, obtaining the RRT credential is required to become licensed

Apex Educational Program Recognition Award for 2021 & 2022



American Association for Respiratory Care developed the Apex Recognition Award to recognize educational programs who have demonstrated a commitment to excellence through high-quality education, evidence based medicine, and patient safety.

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:
<https://alliedhealth.llu.edu/admissions/transfer-patterns>

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.

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
studycardio@llu.edu

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LOMA LINDA
UNIVERSITY

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

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