

# Respiratory Care – St. Mary’s, AAS

Academic Year 2026-2027

## Accreditation:

The St. Mary’s/Mountwest Community and Technical College respiratory program, CoARC program number 200653, Associate of Applied Science in Respiratory Care, holds provisional accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care ([www.coarc.com](http://www.coarc.com))

This status signifies that a program with an Approval of Intent has demonstrated sufficient compliance with the Standards (through submission of an acceptable Provisional Accreditation Self-Study Report (PSSR) and any other documentation required by the CoARC, as well as satisfactory completion of an initial on-site visit), to be allowed to admit students. It is recognized as an accredited program by the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC), which provides enrolled students who complete the program with eligibility for the Respiratory Care Credentialing Examination(s). The program will remain provisional accreditation until it achieves continuing accreditation.

Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care  
264 Precision Blvd.  
Telford, TN 37690  
817-283-2836

## Program Description:

The Respiratory Care Program is a cooperative effort between St. Mary’s Medical Center and Mountwest Community & Technical College. The overall goal of the Respiratory Care program is to prepare graduates with demonstrated competence in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and Affective (behavior) learning domains of respiratory care practice as performed by registered respiratory therapists (RRTs).

Through selective admissions, students are admitted to the respiratory care program. The respiratory care program consists of 65 total credit hours, 16 of these are general education hours. The general education courses can be taken prior to admission or in conjunction with the respiratory care courses. \*\*It is highly recommended to complete BIOL 257 and BIOL 259, and MAT 120 prior to beginning the respiratory courses.

Throughout the respiratory care program, clinical rotations at varying facilities are required. The clinical rotations will cover several age ranges and specific populations that include but are not limited to adult general floor care, adult intensive care, long term acute care, neonatal, pediatric floor care, pediatric intensive care, pulmonary function testing, pulmonary rehabilitation, trauma, and emergency care.

## Career Outlook:

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Respiratory Therapist employment opportunities are expected to increase 14% (much faster than average) from 2023 to 2033, As of 2023, the median salary for a full-time Respiratory Therapist was \$77,960 per year. [www.bls.gov/ooh/](http://www.bls.gov/ooh/)

## Program Outcomes:

- Graduates will adhere to best practices in their discipline
- Graduates will analyze complex and diverse concepts, and use reason and judgement
- Graduates will communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, in academic and professional settings
- Graduates will interact effectively and respectfully with people from diverse backgrounds and cultures and work through differences with civility
- Graduates will exhibit ethical leadership skills in professional practice and community service
- Graduates will utilize knowledge and skills related to their discipline to engage in activities that directly benefit the College or community
- Graduates will exhibit readiness to pursue life-long learning through continuing education, scholarship, service, and participation in professional organizations

## Admission Requirements:

Admission to the St. Mary’s/Mountwest Community and Technical College’s School of Respiratory Care is selective. The program seeks to admit new students annually, in the spring semester. All applicants must be a graduate of an accredited high school or have a high school equivalent through GED testing.

Students who have fewer than twelve (12) college credit hours must have:

- A minimum of “C” on each required non-respiratory course completed.
- An overall 2.0 GPA (“C” average) or better on ALL courses completed.
- An overall 2.0 GPA on all courses completed at Mountwest Community and Technical College.
- Taken twelve college semester credit hours at the 100 level or above for a grade.

GED applicants must:

- Meet the criteria for GED admission as stated in the Mountwest Community and Technical College undergraduate catalog.
- Have completed at least twelve college credit hours at the 100 level and earned grades of C or above.
- Meet criteria for applicants who have completed at least 12 college credit hours.

### **Drug Screen and Background Check**

ALL admitted students are required to have a background check and drug screen.

NOTE: Certain types of criminal offenses may result in an inability to receive professional licensure and job offers upon graduation.

Before entry into the program, students in this situation must speak with the Program Director to determine the extent of potential difficulties with this issue.

### **Vaccinations and Immunizations:**

- Two-step TST or an IGRA
- MMR Titer OR proof of two MMR vaccinations administered at least 1 month apart.
- Varicella titer OR proof of two Varicella vaccinations.
- Proof of Polio vaccination must be provided with the date. If unable to provide proof of Polio vaccination, student must provide proof of Enhanced Inactivated Polio Vaccine.
- Proof of one Tdap administration over the age of 18 years. If administered prior to the age of 18, it must be within 7 years.
- Hepatitis B Panel results
- Proof of Hepatitis C Antibody screen

### **Transportation**

It is the student's responsibility to provide transportation to and from all courses and clinical experiences. All respiratory care courses are conducted at the St. Mary's Center for Education (CFE) located on 2853 Fifth Avenue. You will have clinical experiences at a variety of facilities. Students will be responsible for providing transportation to these sites.

### **Contact Information:**

Chris Henderson, MS, RRT - Program Director

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Keith Terry, Ed.D, RRT, RRT-ACCS, RN - Director of Clinical Education

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*Mountwest empowers students to learn and lead in the community and in the workforce.*

**Respiratory Care<sup>1</sup>—Major Code CR30**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ID Number 942-** \_\_\_\_\_

**Educational Counselor:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Faculty Advisor:** \_\_\_\_\_

COURSE	REQUIREMENTS	SEM	HRS	GR	SUBSTITUTE/REPEAT CRS	SEM	CR
BIOL 257	Intro to Anatomy and Physiology	F	3				
BIOL 259	Intro to Anatomy and Physiology Lab	F	1				
MAT 120	Applied Professional Math <sup>2</sup>	F	3				
ENL 101	Written Communications <sup>3</sup>	F	3				
COM 112	Oral Communication	F	3				
PSYC 211	Child Development	F	3				
			16				
RESP 100	Respiratory Pharmacology	SP	3				
RESP 101	Patient Assessment/ Intro Resp.	SP	4				
RESP 102	Intro to Respiratory Skills	SP	3				
RESP 102L	Intro to Respiratory Skills Lab	SP	1				
RESP 104	Clinical Experience I	SP	1				
			12				
RESP 201	Pathophysiology	F	3				
RESP 209	Clinical Experience II	F	2				
RESP 211	Procedure and Application	F	4				
RESP 212	Pulmonary Diagnostics	F	3				
			12				
RESP 202	Mechanical Ventilation I	SP	3				
RESP 206	Neonatal/Pediatric Resp. Care	SP	3				
RESP 207	Critical Care Management	SP	3				
RESP 210	Clinical Experience III	SP	3				
			12				
RESP 208	Respiratory Seminar	F	5				
RESP 214	Mechanical Ventilation II	F	3				
RESP 215	Critical Care Management II	F	3				
RESP 216	Clinical Experience IV	F	2				
			13				

**HOURS REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION: 65**

<sup>1</sup> The Respiratory designated Courses are taken in the sequence listed above. Successful completion of each RESP. course is required to advance to the next semester.

<sup>2</sup> MAT 120 has a prerequisite of minimum ACT Math 19, SAT Math 510+, or Accuplacer 250+

<sup>3</sup> ENL 101 has a prerequisite of ACT 18, SAT 480, or Accuplacer 250-300, or be placed in ENL 101E