

East Central College

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Admissions Office

ECC Campus
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Division

Nursing and Allied Health
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Division Chair
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Inquiries

ECC Enrollment Services
(573) 466-4100
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Program Location

ECC Rolla at the
Rolla Technical Center
500 Forum Drive
Rolla, MO 65401

Program Faculty

Diane Oldfather, MEd, BHS, RRT, RCP
Program Director
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Rolla Technical Institute/Center is accredited
by the Commission of the Council on
Occupational Education.



East Central College is accredited by
the Higher Learning Commission and
a participant in the Academic Quality
Improvement Program (AQIP).
30 N. LaSalle St., Suite 2400
Chicago, Illinois 60602-2504
1 (800) 621-7440

THE CAREER

Respiratory therapists evaluate, treat and care for patients with breathing or other cardiopulmonary disorders. Practicing under the direction of a physician, respiratory therapists assume primary responsibility for all respiratory care, therapeutic treatments and diagnostic procedures.

PROFESSIONAL TRAITS

Those pursuing a career in this field should:

- Be sensitive to a patient's physical and psychological needs
- Pay close attention to detail
- Anticipate, identify, and quickly resolve problems
- Work collaboratively as part of a team

EMPLOYMENT AND SALARY INFORMATION

This profession is experiencing faster-than-average job growth, per the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. By 2020, the number of positions nationwide is expected to increase by 28 percent.

Average annual earnings of respiratory therapists in Missouri were \$48,800 in May 2014. The middle 50 percent earned between \$38,940 and \$58,520. The lowest 10 percent earned \$31,260, and the highest 10 percent earned \$69,800.

TRANSFER OPTIONS

The Associate of Applied Science degree is designed for students seeking employment immediately upon graduation. However, many of the credits, particularly the general education electives received with this degree, may qualify as transfer credit at four-year schools.

These decisions are made solely by the bachelor degree-granting institution, not ECC. Students seeking to transfer are advised to contact the institution of their choice before beginning a program or reviewing other degrees and coursework offered through ECC.

THE PROGRAM

East Central College, in partnership with the Rolla School District, offers a program of study leading to an Associate of Applied Science degree in respiratory care. Students learn to administer treatments and conduct tests on persons with lung and heart conditions, as ordered by a physician. They are also trained to provide patient education and develop critical-thinking skills necessary to perform the duties of a professional healthcare provider.

After program prerequisites have been met, respiratory care is a two-year degree, with an advanced placement option for transfer students and certified respiratory therapists who may qualify. The ECC Respiratory Care Associate of Applied Science Degree program is nationally accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC), program #200503 and by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

Graduates sit for the National Board for Respiratory Care examinations. Those who pass the exams may sign the initials RRT following their name to indicate that they are a Registered Respiratory Therapist.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

To enter this course of study, students must meet these institution and program-specific criteria:

- ✓ High school diploma or the equivalent (documentation sent to the registration office)
- ✓ Application for admission to ECC
- ✓ A placement test as specified by the college.
(some coursework requires minimum placement results)
- ✓ A completed respiratory care application on file by the specified deadlines (obtained from the Rolla Technical Center)
- ✓ Satisfactory criminal background check and drug screening upon admission
- ✓ Completion of prerequisites with a "C" or better prior to starting the program

RESPIRATORY CARE

ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE

PROGRAM OF STUDY

Students should plan on attending full-time while completing the program-specific curriculum. The respiratory care classes are only offered at the ECC-Rolla site. The general education courses may be completed at any location. All academic schedules are subject to change. For the most current schedule, visit www.eastcentral.edu.

GENERAL EDUCATION

(Courses must be completed with a "C" or better prior to program entry)

COURSE	HOURS
FS 1000 Campus Orientation	0
FS 1001 Foundation Seminar	1
EN 1223/ English Comp I or EN 1233 Honors English Comp I	3
EN 1333/ English Comp II or EN 1343 Honors English Comp II	3
BI 1804 Introduction to Human Anatomy & Physiology Lecture/Lab	4
MT 1303 Intermediate Algebra	3
HI 1000 Constitutions Study Module*	0
PS 1000	
History or Political Science Requirement*	3
Ethics and Social Responsibility Elective*	3
Total Hours	20

* If not already completed, these courses must be completed before the second year of the Respiratory Care Program

FIRST YEAR

RSC 1000 Orientation	0
RSC 1102 Respiratory Assessment I	2
RSC 1204 Respiratory Therapeutics I Lecture/Lab	4
RSC 1304 Applied Sciences for Respiratory Care Lecture/Lab	4
RSC 1402 Clinic I	2
RSC 1503 Respiratory Assessment II	3
RSC 1604 Respiratory Therapeutics II Lecture/Lab	4
RSC 1703 Respiratory Diseases I	3
RSC 1802 Clinic II	2

SECOND YEAR

RSC 2000 Orientation	0
RSC 2103 Respiratory Assessment III	3
RSC 2204 Respiratory Therapeutics III Lecture/Lab	4
RSC 2303 Respiratory Diseases II	3
RSC 2402 Clinic III	2
RSC 2504 Respiratory Therapeutics IV Lecture/Lab	4
RSC 2603 Respiratory Diseases III	3
RSC 2704 Respiratory Care Profession Lecture/Lab	4
RSC 2801 Clinic IV	1
RSC 2901 Clinic V	1
Total Hours	49

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

In order to achieve success in this program, a student can expect to spend a minimum of 20-30 hours per week, outside of class, studying and preparing for class and clinical experiences. Some examples include: practicing skills in the lab, preparing for clinical assignments, studying for exams, preparing for class, developing written assignments and presentations.