TRANSFER PATHWAY GUIDE
2022-2023

Associate in Science To
Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Care Program

Overview

Completion of the following curriculum will satisfy the requirements for the Associate in Science (AS) degree at Gateway Community and Technical College (GCTC) and the pre-requisite requirements for selective admission into the Respiratory Care Bachelor of Science (BS) program at Northern Kentucky University (NKU), pending admittance.

The Respiratory Care pathway is a 2 + 3 pathway where students can earn an Associate in Science at Gateway Community and Technical College and then transfer to NKU. Alternatively, students can choose to transfer to NKU upon completion of listed courses before meeting Gateway degree requirements and then use the reverse transfer process to use credits taken at NKU to fulfill the remaining associate degree requirements. A minimum of three years will be required to complete the Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Care degree after transferring to NKU.

About the Program: Respiratory Care is the allied health profession devoted to the diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation of patients with diseases of the respiratory system. Respiratory therapists must have a thorough understanding of normal pulmonary anatomy and physiology and of the pathology and treatment of various breathing-related disorders. They work in adult and pediatric hospitals, in some nursing homes, and for a growing number of home-care companies. With the authorization of a healthcare provider, they give aerosolized medications and various special breathing treatments to patients with acute or chronic pulmonary disease. Respiratory therapists are life-support specialists, setting up artificial ventilators for patients of all ages who cannot breathe for themselves. When a cardiac arrest occurs in the hospital, respiratory therapists provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation and manual ventilation. With sophisticated equipment, they measure the effectiveness of breathing and levels of oxygen and carbon dioxide in the blood. Following recognized protocols or authorized orders, they institute therapies to reduce the work of breathing and to improve ventilation and oxygenation.

The professional program is six semesters long. Besides didactic, lab, and clinical training in basic respiratory care, the first professional year includes courses in microbiology and anatomy/physiology.

The second professional year focuses on more advanced or specialized modalities of respiratory care. The third professional year includes courses necessary to develop an informed, broadly educated healthcare professional. To provide experience with patients, the program has clinical affiliations with hospitals in the northern Kentucky and Greater Cincinnati area. Successful completion of the program leads to the Bachelor of Science and to eligibility for the Therapist Multiple Choice (TMC) credentialing examinations given by the National Board for Respiratory Care. After passing the TMC exam, the graduate is eligible for a Kentucky Mandatory Certificate, an Ohio Respiratory Care Professional License, or licensure in another state.

Applying to the Gateway2NKU Program

Students can apply to participate in the pathway program by completing the online application on the NKU transfer webpage. Students must be enrolled in at least six credit hours at Gateway, enrolled in an associate degree program, plan to transfer to NKU, and maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA at Gateway.

Degree Requirements for GCTC

1) Completion of minimum 60 credit hours, 2) minimum cumulative GPA 2.0, 3) minimum of 15 credit hours earned at the institution awarding the degree, 4) cultural studies course, 5) demonstration of digital literacy, 6) college success requirement.

Admission Requirements for NKU

Students completing an associate degree with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher will be accepted into NKU.

Special admission requirements: The respiratory care program admits students each fall through a selective admission process. Once applicants have regular admission to NKU, they will be considered for the professional RSP courses if these criteria are met:

1. Complete a program application form.
2. Possess a GPA of 2.30 or higher on previous college coursework, assuming a 4.0 scale.
3. Completion of CHE 115/CHE 115L (with a **C** or higher).
   a. GCTC: CHE 130: Introduction to General and Biological Chemistry and CHE 135: Introduction to General and Biological Chemistry Lab
4. Completion of general education courses in the "written I" and "oral" parts of the communication category.
5. Completion of BIO 208/BIO 208L with a grade of **C** or higher.
   a. GCTC: BIO 137: Human Anatomy and Physiology I with Lab
6. Completion of STA 205 or STA 205R with a grade of **C** or higher.
   a. GCTC: MAT 151: Intro to Applied Statistics + STA 251: Applied Statistics
7. Completion of HSC 101 with a grade of **C** or higher.
8. Successful completion of a criminal background check prior to final acceptance into the program.

Applications completed prior to **February 15** are given priority. Conditional acceptance into the program can be given to students enrolled in any prerequisite course by the priority application date of **February 15**. Successful completion of these courses must be documented at the end of the term for final program admission. Students will be notified of their admission status in writing. Students who want to

major in Respiratory Care but do not yet meet the above criteria should declare pre-respiratory care (XRSP) as their major, apply for acceptance into the program, and follow the advice of their Respiratory Care faculty advisor. Many students take prerequisites, general education, and science requirements before starting the professional RSP course sequence. Students must also fulfill the immunization requirements listed on the Respiratory Care program immunization form and described in the Respiratory Care program student handbook before they are given hospital clinical assignments, a required part of the curriculum.

Student criminal background check: Healthcare agencies are charged with providing care and protecting the safety of vulnerable populations including children and the aged. Agencies used for clinical placement require students to undergo criminal background checks and may deny clinical access to those convicted of felonies and certain misdemeanors. Conviction of these offenses may result in a student's denial of admission to, or dismissal from, the College of Health Professions. Applicants are required to submit to criminal background checks as identified by the College of Health Professions as part of the application process. The cost of this and any subsequent screening will be borne by the student. The student is responsible for notifying the College of Health Professions of any change in the status of this record after starting the program. Note that successful completion of a criminal background check does not ensure eligibility for certification, licensure, or future employment. **All students must be physically free of illegal drugs and alcohol. Drug testing may be required by specific clinical sites at the student's expense. Failure of a drug test may result in program dismissal.**

You should also know: The Respiratory Care program is a full-time, daytime, face-to-face program. The schedule is challenging with classes and clinical activities each day plus out-of-class/clinical assignments. The time frame is demanding, and any work outside of the program needs to be both flexible and limited in hours per week in order for the student to be successful in the Respiratory Care program.

Progression: A student must achieve a grade of at least *C* in each Respiratory care course, as well as in each science course and required courses for the major, to continue in the program.

Degree Requirements for NKU
To earn a bachelor's degree at NKU, students must complete a minimum of 120 credit hours with at least 45 credit hours numbered 300 and above. In addition, at least 25% of the credit hours required for the degree and the last 30 credit hours must be completed at NKU. Students must have an overall GPA of 2.0 and meet all requirements for the major. A minor is not required for this major.

General Transfer Information
Students must complete the online application to NKU. There is no application fee for students who are transferring from GCTC.

KCTCS Scholars Award: Students who are KY residents transferring directly from a KCTCS institution with at least 36 hours from that institution and minimum GPA of 3.0, were never enrolled as a degree-seeking student at NKU, and will be enrolled in at least 12 credit hours both fall and spring semester are eligible for a limited number of $2,500 annual scholarships ($1,250 per fall and spring). Students must gain admission to NKU by June 15 for fall and November 1 for spring to be eligible for a possible scholarship. Online accelerated programs are not eligible for the KCTCS Scholars Award.

GCTC AS TO NKU BS IN RESPIRATORY CARE CHECKLIST
Gateway Community and Technical College

Category 1: GCTC General Education Core Requirements

GCTC Course	Course or Category	Credits	NKU Course	Completed
ENG 101	Writing I (WC)	3	ENG 101	
ENG 102	Writing II (WC)	3	ENG 102	
TBS XXX	Oral Communication (OC)	3	TBD XXX	
TBS XXX	Arts & Humanities (AH) – Heritage	3	TBD XXX	
TBS XXX	Arts & Humanities (AH) – Humanities	3	TBD XXX	
TBS XXX	Social & Behavioral Science (SB)	3	TBD XXX	
TBS XXX	Social & Behavioral Science (SB)	3	TBD XXX	
BIO 137	Human Anatomy and Physiology I (SL)	4	BIO 208/208L	
BIO 139	Human Anatomy and Physiology II (SL)	4	BIO 209/209L	
MAT 151	Introduction to Applied Statistics (QR)	3	STA 100G	
STA 251	Applied Statistics (QR)	3	STA 205	
	Subtotal General Education Core Courses	**35**		

TBS XXX means to be selected by GCTC student.
TBD XXX means to be determined by NKU based on course selected.

For Social and Behavioral Sciences courses, two disciplines must be represented and different from those in the Arts and Humanities category.

STA 251 equates to STA 205 only with the completion of MAT 151 or MAT 161.

Category 2: GCTC AS Requirements

GCTC Course	Course or Category	Credits	NKU Course	Completed
CHE 130 and CHE 135	Introductory General and Biological Chemistry with Lab	4	CHE 115/115L	
BIO 225	Medical Microbiology	4	BIO 202/202L	
	Subtotal AS Requirement Courses	**8**		

Category 3: GCTC Electives

GCTC Course	Course or Category	Credits	NKU Course	Completed
CIT 105 or OST 105	Introduction to Computers or Introduction to Information Systems	3	BIS 101	
FYE 105	Achieving Academic Success	3	UNV 100T	
HST 101 or HST 102	Health Care Basic Skills I Health Care Delivery & Management	3	HSC 101	

GCTC Course	Course or Category	Credits	NKU Course	Completed
Taken at NKU	Will be satisfied by NKU courses and transferred back to Gateway to earn an Associate in Science degree	9		
	Subtotal Elective Courses	**18**		
	Total Associate Degree Hours	**61**		

Degree Requirement: One course must be selected from the KCTCS identified Cultural Studies course list in the KCTCS catalog.

If student completes all program pre-requisites and general education classes, instead of completing final three elective courses (noted as taken at NKU) before applying to the Respiratory program at NKU, they can choose to go ahead and transfer to NKU and then use the reverse transfer process to send back over final 9 credits to meet Gateway degree requirements using classes taken at NKU.

Please refer to the first page of this pathway for important transfer information for the competitive admissions process for this program.

Northern Kentucky University

Category 4: NKU Major Requirements for the BS in Respiratory Care

NKU Course	Course	Credits	GCTC Course	Taken at GCTC
BIO 202/202L	Microbiology for Health Professionals with Lab	4	BIO 225	x
BIO 208/208L	Human Anatomy and Physiology I with Lab	4	BIO 137	x
BIO 209/209L	Human Anatomy and Physiology II with Lab	4	BIO 139	x
CHE 115/115L	Physiological Chemistry with Lab	4	CHE 130/135	x
CHP 500	Teaching & Learning in Healthcare Education	3		
ENG 101	Writing I	3	ENG 101	x
HIN 355	Foundations of Health Informatics	3		
HSC 101	Introduction to Health Professions	3	HST 101 or HST 102	x
HSC 410	Healthcare Management	3		
HSC 421	Healthcare Research	3		
TBS XXX	Oral Communication	3	TBS XXX	x
STA 205	Applied Statistics	3	MAT 151 + STA 251	x
RSP 201	Fundamentals of Respiratory Care	3		
RSP 201L	Respiratory Care Equipment and Procedures	1		
RSP 205	Respiratory Care Pharmacology	2		
RSP 220	Introduction to Respiratory Critical Care	4		
RSP 220I	Respiratory Critical Care Lab	1		
RSP 235	Respiratory Physiology and Physics	3		
RSP 286	Clinical Practicum I	3		

NKU Course	Course	Credits	GCTC Course	Taken at GCTC
RSP 296	Clinical Practicum II	3		
RSP 310	Mechanical Ventilation	3		
RSP 310L	Mechanical Ventilation Lab	2		
RSP 331	Cardiopulmonary Diagnostics	3		
RSP 350	Cardiopulmonary Pathophysiology	3		
RSP 362	Prenatal-Pediatric Respiratory Care	3		
RSP 386	Clinical Practicum III	3		
RSP 396	Clinical Practicum IV	3		
RSP 430	Advanced Pathophysiology	3		
RSP 441	Case Studies in Evidence Based Practice	3		
RSP 445	Health Assessment and Promotion	3		
RSP 460	Advanced Respiratory Critical Care	3		
RSP 480	Respiratory Care Seminar	3		
RSP 486	Clinical Practicum	3		
RSP 485	Respiratory Care Capstone	3		
	Subtotal Major Credit Hours at NKU	**70**		
	Subtotal Major Credit Hours at GCTC	**28**		
	Total Major Credit Hours	**98**		
	Total Baccalaureate Degree Credit Hours	**122**		

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