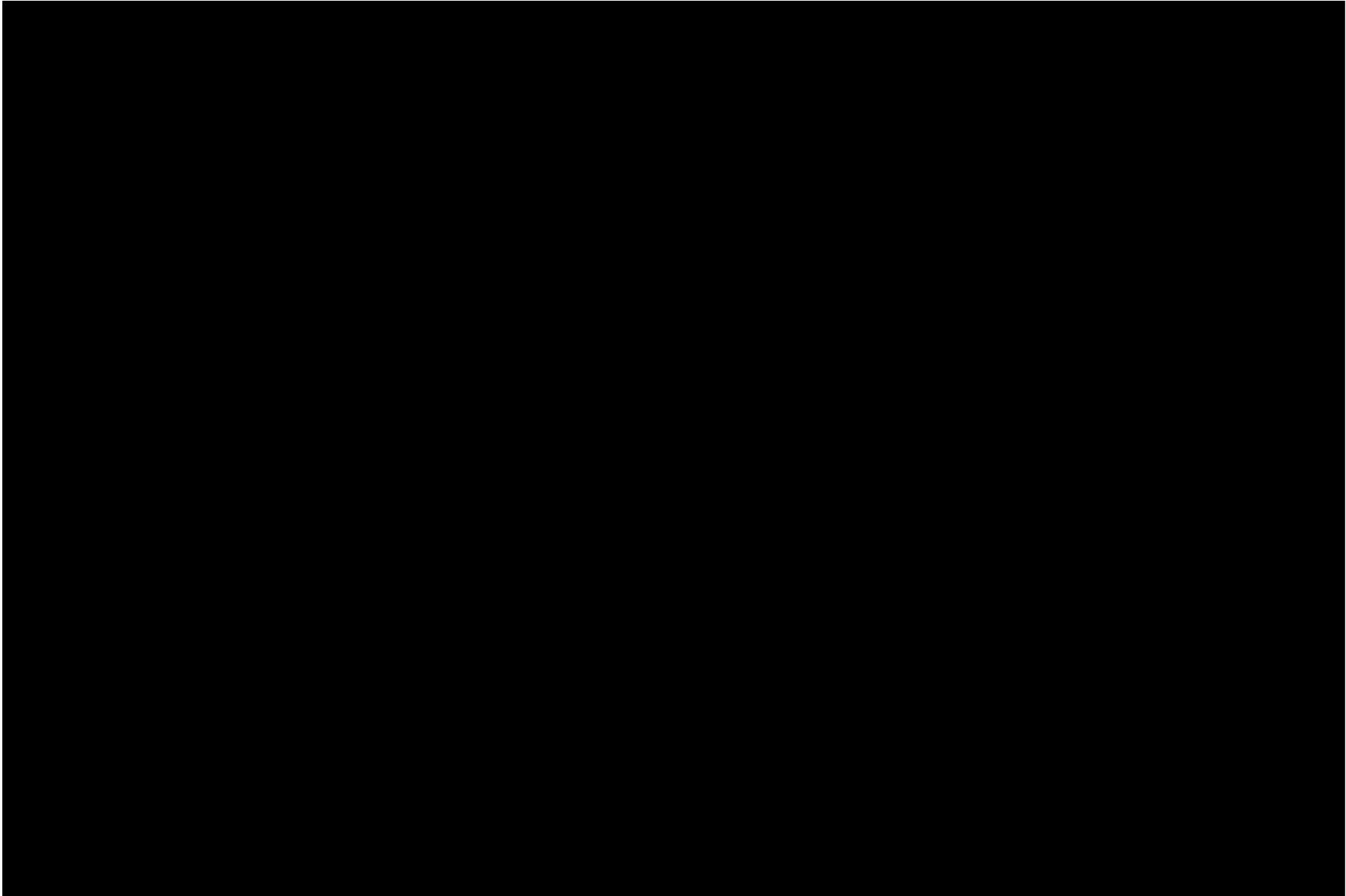




INTRODUCTION  
— TO THE  
RESPIRATORY  
CARE PROGRAM

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<http://www.aarc.org/careers/what-is-an-rt/life-breath-video/>

# What is the role of the Respiratory Therapist

- The respiratory therapist is one of the most critical members of any health care team. Respiratory therapist work closely with doctors to diagnose, treat, manage and educate patients with asthma, emphysema and a wide range of other respiratory problems. Respiratory care students learn to
  - assess a patients' need for respiratory care,
  - administer the therapy,
  - evaluate the patients response and
  - modify the care to provide the maximum benefits to the patient.

# Where are these duties performed:

- Registered Respiratory Therapist work in
  - hospitals providing therapy, intensive care units managing ventilators,
  - in emergency rooms delivering life-saving treatments,
  - in newborn and pediatric units helping children with conditions ranging from premature birth to cystic fibrosis,
  - in patients' homes providing regular check-ups,
  - in sleep laboratories helping diagnose disorders such as sleep apnea,
  - in skilled nursing facilities and pulmonary rehabilitation programs helping people get more out of life, and
  - in physicians' offices conducting pulmonary function tests and patient education.



## Where are these duties performed:

- Students develop skills through lab simulations and clinical rotations at affiliated hospitals and other designated agencies.

# Our Curriculum

- General Education Courses

- COL101                      College Orientation
- BIO 210                     Basic A&P I
- BIO 211                     A&P II
- BIO 225                     Microbiology
- ENG 101                    English Composition
- MAT 120                    Probability & Statistics
- PSY 201                    General Psychology
- Elective

- Fall Semester

- Meets Monday through Thursday from 8:00 until 12:30. Seems like short days but we keep you busy.

- Spring Semester

- One of our busiest semesters with clinic on Monday and Wednesday from 6:45 until 4:00 and classes on Tuesday and Thursday from 8:00 until 3:30

- Remaining Semesters

- Monday through Thursday format with two clinic days per week.

# The classroom

- Unlike taking an English, a Math and a Psychology where you can jump from one subject to another, all of our courses are interrelated. Another unique aspect in health care programs is that everything builds upon previously learned material.
- There is a lot of material to learn and it must be retained in order to proceed to the next term.
- Prepare yourself not only for your class time, but time outside of class to study and constantly review.

# The Clinical Component

- The clinical education sites provide the opportunity for the mastery of the knowledge, insight, and skills required to perform respiratory procedures and/or assist the physician in performing various procedures.
- It is the place where the educational component meets the hands on training.
- The mastery of interpersonal skills required to deal effectively with patients and other members of the health care team is an important aspect that is developed and acquired in conjunction with the performance of the skills.

# The Clinical Component

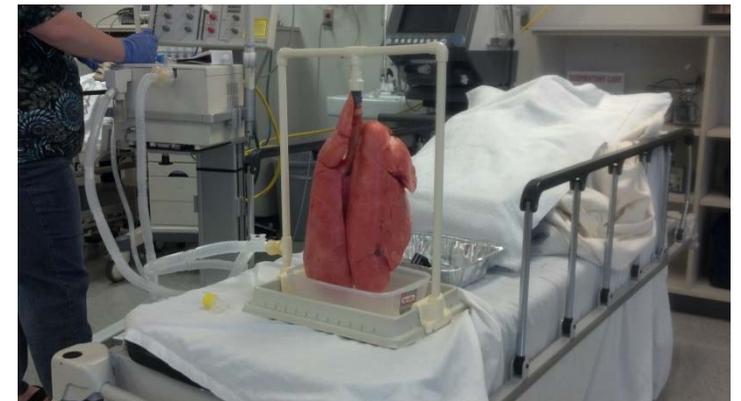
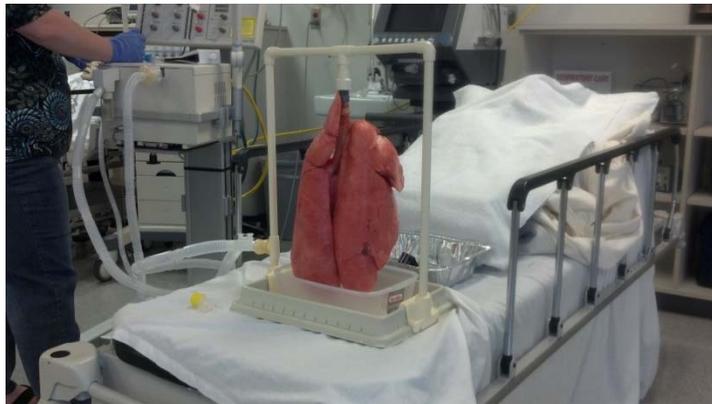
- We work as a collaborative partner with the clinical sites. The clinical sites limit how many students can be there at any one time and therefore we use multiple sites. Multiple sites also provides the benefits of seeing how care is delivered across the spectrum of health care settings.
- We schedule clinic in Rutherford, Cherokee and Union Counties in addition to Spartanburg. Clinical rotations start at 6:45. Be prepared to get up early and be ready to go when you hit the door. Reliable transportation is a must. We try to pair students during the first term, but after that travel becomes an individuals responsibility.

# Clinical Sites

- Spartanburg Regional Downtown Campus
  - Spartanburg Hospital for Restorative Care
  - Village of Pelham
  - Rutherford Regional Health System
  - Spartanburg Regional Mary Black Campus
  - Spartanburg Regional Mary Black Gaffney
  - Spartanburg Medical Research
  - Resource Medical Group
- Clinical sites can vary from semester to semester

# The college is:

- Where you will attend classes and use labs to enhance learning:



# The clinic is where you will work with patients of all ages and conditions



# Program Statistics

- 2018 Data Published by our accreditation agency CoARC
- Last 3 year average
- Retention Rate      91.0%
- Job Placement      96.0%
- Board Exams      100 %
- Program Outcome Data
- <https://coarc.com/Students/Programmatic-Outcome-Data.aspx>

## Questions to ask:

- How do you feel about technology?
- Do you mind having close physical contact with people?
- How do you feel about regularly having face-to-face discussions with individuals or teams?
- Are you dependable?
- Are you good at controlling your emotions?
- Are you willing to work in an area where you are exposed to sick people?
- Are bothered by coughing or sputum?
- Are you attentive to details?

# Important Information

- The Respiratory Care Program is a competitive program and students are required to submit a selective admission packet in the event that the number of students applying to the program exceed the number that we can accept into the formal program in the fall. This process will start in May with the downloading of packets and submitting the completed packets the following week. Exact dates to be posted on the website.
- It is likely, some students will be placed on a wait list

# Still have questions?

- These websites may offer additional information about the profession:

- [www.aarc.org](http://www.aarc.org)



- Bottom left “Learn about Careers” ([http://aarc.org/career/be\\_an\\_rt/](http://aarc.org/career/be_an_rt/))

- Bureau of Labor and Statistics

- <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/respiratory-therapists.htm>

Employment  
& Financial  
Outlook

The projected average salary  
of RTs working in the U.S.  
is over \$62,000 a year

Be an RT

The image shows two female respiratory therapists standing side-by-side. The one on the left is wearing colorful scrubs and has her hands on her hips. The one on the right is wearing a white lab coat over green scrubs and is holding a clipboard. The background is a light blue gradient.

So, the chance to connect with patients and families, the opportunity to challenge your mind with high tech patient care, variety on the job, lots of places to work, and a career ladder that can't be beat—it looks like respiratory care really does have it all.