

# **RESPIRATORY THERAPY**

**Bachelor of Science (BS) Degree**  
(IU School of Medicine Health Professions)

***2009 - 2010***

## **HEALTH PROFESSIONS AND PRELAW CENTER**

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#### **IMPORTANT:**

This document was prepared for Indiana University Bloomington students by the Health Professions and Prelaw Center. Please note that specific requirements and policies can change at any time without notice. Students are responsible for obtaining the most current information directly from the application services, and the schools and programs in which they have an interest. Refer to the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) bulletin, at <http://bulletin.iupui.edu> (click on School of Medicine, and then on Health Professions Programs). Also refer to the program web site at <http://medicine.iu.edu/hpp/>.

## I. GENERAL INFORMATION <sup>1</sup>

### A. Description of the Profession

**Respiratory therapists** evaluate and treat patients with cardiopulmonary disorders, and participate in health promotion / disease prevention. They care for all types of patients, from premature infants to the very old; practice in many settings, ranging from patients' homes to critical care units; and utilize a range of diagnostic procedures, from the physical exam to the use of sophisticated equipment. Learned skills include administration of inhaled medications and maintaining critically ill patients on ventilators.

**Skills and characteristics important to this profession:** Technology skills, critical thinking / problem-solving, patience, empathy, and the ability to work with a team of care givers. These and other professional development components are a critical part of any undergraduate degree. Click the Professional Development link on the HPPLC home page for further suggestions.

**HPPLC advisors strongly encourage you to review further information about this program**, including links to web resources, on the HPPLC web page ([www.hpplc.indiana.edu](http://www.hpplc.indiana.edu)) and at the end of this document.

**We also suggest you sign up for the HPPLC email list** associated with your program of interest, also found on our home page. Feel free to sign up for more than one list.

### B. Description of the Program

- IUB does *not* offer a respiratory therapy program, but students may complete the prerequisites at IUB and apply to the IUPUI program. The IU School of Medicine Health Professions Program at IUPUI offers a BS in Respiratory Therapy, and is part of a hospital and university-based consortium. The course of study requires the completion of 2 years (55 credit hours) of prerequisite work at IUB or another campus / college. Once admitted, students complete 2 years of professional training in Indianapolis. Prior to being admitted to the professional program, students must fulfill all preprofessional requirements.

## II. COURSES REQUIRED FOR ADMISSION (*Carefully read Notes on next page*)

The requirements below are for the IUPUI program.

Required Preprofessional Courses (Course designations are for IUB)	Credit Hours
<b>Written &amp; Oral Communication</b>	
<b>Elementary Composition</b> (ENG-W 131 or W170)	3
<b>Second writing course</b> (ENG-W 231 preferred; ENG-W 270; ENG-W 240; BUS-X 204; or any College of Arts & Sciences Intensive Writing course)	3
<b>Verbal Communication</b> (CMCL-C 122 preferred; or CMCL-C 121 or HPER-R 362)	3
<b>Mathematics, Statistics, Life &amp; Physical Sciences</b>	
<b>Mathematics</b> (Two types of math required. Some <i>examples</i> of approved combinations include: Pre-Calculus MATH-M 025 + Trigonometric Functions MATH-M 026; Math-M 118 + 119; Math-M 026 + 119; COLL-J 112 + Math-M 026; MATH-M 211 by itself) <sup>2,5</sup>	4 - 6
<b>Statistics</b> (One of the following: MATH-K 300; MATH-K 310; PSY-K 300; PSY-K 310; STATS-S 300; SPEA-K 300; SOC-S 371; or ECON-E 370) <sup>2,3</sup>	3
<b>Chemistry with Lab</b> (CHEM-C 101 + 121 or CHEM-C 103 or C117) <sup>2</sup>	5
<b>Human Anatomy with Lab</b> (ANAT-A 215) <sup>2</sup>	5
<b>Human Physiology with Lab</b> (PHSL-P 215 or BIOL-P 451 (P451 - jr standing) <sup>2</sup>	4 - 5
<b>Microbiology Lecture</b> - no lab required (BIOL-M 200 (Spring only) or BIOL-M 250) <sup>2</sup>	3
<b>Physics</b> (PHYS-P 201 or P221) <sup>2,4</sup> (no lab required – see note 4)	5
<b>Other Program Prerequisites</b>	
<b>Humanities - Ethics</b> (One of the following: PHIL-P 140 or REL-R 170 or REL-R 373 or a different Philosophy that includes an ethics component)	3
<b>Human Growth &amp; Development</b> (HPER-F 150 or EDUC-P 314 or PSY-P 315) <sup>6</sup>	3
<b>Social / Behavioral Science</b> (PSY, SOC, or ANTH preferred)	3
<b>Computer Science &amp; Technology</b> (CSCI-A 110 or CSCI-A 201 or BUS-K 201 or other computing elective) <sup>2</sup>	3
<b>General Electives</b> , to bring total preprofessional credit hours to 55 (See chart below)	1 - 5
<b>Total preprofessional credit hours</b>	<b>55</b>

(*Carefully read Notes on next page.*)

## NOTES:

- 1) The information in this handout refers only to the IU School of Medicine Health Professions BS program (at IUPUI). However, IUN, USI, and some branches of Ivy Tech offer an Associate's Degree (AS) in respiratory therapy. See [www.caahep.org/Find-An-Accredited-Program/](http://www.caahep.org/Find-An-Accredited-Program/), and refer to each program's web page for details.
- 2) Math / science prerequisites courses must be completed with a "C" or higher ("C-" not acceptable).
- 3) MATH-K 300, SPEA-K 300 and SOC-S 371 assume proficiency at the MATH-M 014 level. M118 is a suggested prerequisite for MATH / PSY K300. MATH-M 119 is a prerequisite for MATH / PSY-K 310. ECON-E 201, MATH-M 118, and Math-M 119 are all prerequisites for ECON-E 370 (M119 and / or ECON-E 201 could be taken concurrently with E370). Students should consider taking one of the math combinations before registering for a Statistics course.
- 4) Physics *lab* not required. IUB physics options do include the lab, but students may take a lecture-only physics elsewhere. Before doing so, check with the respiratory therapy program to make sure it will transfer.
- 5) Consult the HPPLC pre-respiratory therapy advisor or contact the program directly to confirm other math combinations.
- 6) PSY-P 315 has a prerequisite of PSY-P 101 and P102, or P155. P101/102 are recommended for most students. Prerequisite or corequisite for EDUC-P 314 is PSY-P 101 or P155.

## III. ADDITIONAL COURSE OPTIONS

General Elective Suggestions (Course Designations Are For IUB)	Credit Hours
First Aid (HPER-H 160)	3
Medical Terminology (CLAS-C 209)	2
Death & Dying (HPER-H 220)	3
Nature of Cancer (HPER-H 320)	3
Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease (HPER-H 333)	3
Gerontology (HPER-H 324)	3
EMT Certification (HPER-H 401 + HPER-H404, concurrently. <b>Prerequisite:</b> H160 )	3, 1
Nutrition (HPER-N 220 <b>or</b> N231)	3
Health Care Administration (SPEA-H 320)	3
Exercise Physiology (HPER-P 205)	3
Personal Health (HPER-H 263)	3
Additional Psychology courses	Varies

## IV. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND STATISTICS

### A. Overview

- The IUPUI respiratory therapy program is moderately competitive (see stats on **page 4**). Successful completion of prerequisite coursework (see **Section I**), cumulative GPA (CGPA), and the admission interview are all part of the admission process.

### B. Shadowing and Observation

- The IU program requires a *minimum* of 3 hours of clinical observation. HPPLC advisors recommend you undertake substantially more than 3 hours to help you decide whether respiratory therapy is a good career choice for you.
- Print and complete the Respiratory Therapy Clinical Observation Form, available at <http://medicine.iu.edu/hpp>. Click on How to Apply / Program Specific Requirements. Turn in the form with your program application.
- At the How to Apply / Program Specific Requirements links, you'll also find a list of facilities that offer observation opportunities. You may also visit the Bloomington Hospital Student Placement Center web page, [www.bhstudents.org/](http://www.bhstudents.org/), and click on the "Shadowing" link.

### C. Volunteering and Other Professional Development

- Not required, but HPPLC advisors suggest that such experience is important to any college education.

#### **D. GPA**

- **Cumulative GPA (CGPA):** Minimum of 2.5 required
- **Math/Science GPA:** Minimum grade of "C" required in each Math/Science prereq ("C-" not acceptable).

<b>2009 Applicant GPA Statistics (IUPUI)</b>	<b>GPA</b>
Minimum GPA admitted	3.089
Maximum GPA admitted	3.979
Average ("Mean") GPA admitted	3.396

#### **E. Admissions Test**

- (None required for the IU program.)

#### **F. Application Information**

- **Deadlines / Requirements:**
  - 1) All application materials are due **January 1** of the year prior to when you anticipate beginning the core program. (Late applications will be considered on a space-available basis.) Students typically submit their application at the end of Fall semester of sophomore year.
  - 2) As part of the application, students submit a plan for how they will complete the remaining prerequisites prior to the start of the professional program. Applicants might then be admitted on the condition that they complete all prereqs prior to the start of the professional program, and maintain minimum grade and GPA requirements.
  - 3) At time of application, IUB students must also submit a non-binding Intercampus Transfer (ICT) Application to IUPUI. ICT website: [www.iupui.edu/~moveiu](http://www.iupui.edu/~moveiu).
- **Where / When to Find the Application**

Available in early or mid Fall at <http://medicine.iu.edu/hpp>. Click on How to Apply / Application. Print and submit to address indicated on form.
- **Second Chances (e.g., repeating courses)**
  - 1) For repeated courses, the most recent grade is used to recalculate admission GPA. Up to 15 hours of repeated courses are allowed. The grade can be deleted up to two times for a given course. Other restrictions apply. Contact the program to confirm policies.
  - 2) For Academic Bankruptcy, Fresh Start, and Extended X (repeat course) policy information, refer to <http://medicine.iu.edu/hpp>. Click on How to Apply / Admission Policies. The complete text of all three of these policies can be found in this section. Students must request the use of these policies at the time of application.
- **Residency / Non-Residency**

Preference is given to applicants who are Indiana residents and to applicants who complete the majority of applicable course work at a public college or university in Indiana. Each School of Medicine program's admissions committee determines how the preference policy shall be weighted in their admissions policies.

#### **G. Admission Interview**

- Qualified applicants who have submitted required documents (including clinical observation form/s) will be contacted regarding an interview appointment with the admissions committee, which normally consists of 2-4 faculty members. Interviews are about 20 minutes long.
- In addition to helping determine who is admitted, the interview is intended to help applicants assess whether they have a clear understanding of what the profession involves; whether they are adequately prepared to succeed in the program; to assess general communication skills; to provide applicants with more information about the program itself; and to answer any questions you might have.
- If you have not heard from the respiratory therapy program about an interview date within 30 days of the application deadline, contact them. (See contact information at end of this document.)
- Admission decisions are usually made by the end of February.

## **H. Credit Hours Required Prior to Admission to Professional Program**

- 55 cr hrs. See **Section II** for details.

## **I. Letters of Recommendation**

- (None required for the IU program.)

## **J. Personal Statement / Essay**

- None required for the IU program (but remember that a minimum of 3 hours of documented clinical observation is required—refer to **Section IV.B**).

## **V. ADMISSION NOTES AND SUGGESTIONS**

- <http://medicine.iu.edu/hpp/> is an excellent source for program information. Pay attention to the links on the left side of the web page.
- **HPPLC advisors strongly recommend you talk with the director or advisor of the respiratory therapy program** with any unanswered questions you have about the program or admission. It's also just good policy to keep in touch with the people who have a say in whether or not you are admitted.

## **VI. CAREER INFORMATION**

- **HPPLC advisors strongly recommend you talk with the director or advisor of the program** regarding credentialing and national board examinations (both of which you complete after you complete your respiratory therapy degree).
- **According to the US Department of Labor / Bureau of Labor Statistics**
  - 1) Respiratory Therapy "job opportunities will be very good [through 2016], especially for therapists with cardiopulmonary care skills or experience working with newborns and infants."
  - 2) Annual income of respiratory therapists in 2006 was about \$47,420. The "middle 50 percent earned between \$40,840 and \$56,160," and "the highest 10 percent earned more than \$64,190." The "lowest 10 percent earned less than \$35,200."
  - 3) Visit <http://stats.bls.gov/home.htm> & [www.bls.gov/search/ooh.asp?ct=OOH](http://www.bls.gov/search/ooh.asp?ct=OOH) & [www.bls.gov/oco/ocos084.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos084.htm)

## **VII. PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION and OTHER RESOURCES**

### **Respiratory Therapy Program**

Mailing Address:

Respiratory Therapy Program

Clarian Health and Affiliated Universities

1701 N. Senate Blvd./WH 652

Indianapolis, IN 46202

Phone: Linda Van Scoder (317) 962-8475

Email: Linda Van Scoder ([lvanscoder@clarian.org](mailto:lvanscoder@clarian.org))

Office location of Linda Van Scoder:

Methodist Hospital, Wile Hall Room 652

(Corner of 18<sup>th</sup> St. and Capital Ave.)

### **IU School of Medicine Health Professions Programs**

635 Barnhill Drive

Medical Science room 158

Indianapolis IN 46202

Phone: (317) 278-4752,

Email: [askhpp@iupui.edu](mailto:askhpp@iupui.edu)

Web: School of Medicine Health Professions Programs

<http://medicine.iu.edu/hpp/>

(At the above page, refer to the Advising Information link and the Degrees Offered link, on the left side of the screen.)

### **American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC)**

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

### **AARC listing of accredited respiratory therapy programs**

[www.aarc.org/education/accredited\\_programs/](http://www.aarc.org/education/accredited_programs/)

### **Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care**

[www.coarc.com/index.html](http://www.coarc.com/index.html)

**HPPLC web page**

[www.hpplc.indiana.edu](http://www.hpplc.indiana.edu)

**Professional Development** is a critical part of any undergraduate degree. Click the Professional Development link on the HPPLC home page for important suggestions.

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**The Health Professions and Prelaw Center encourages you to email our advisors** with questions. Feel free to e-mail an individual advisor; or, if you're not sure who to contact, send a message to [hpplc@indiana.edu](mailto:hpplc@indiana.edu).

**Visit the HPPLC web site to sign up for your area's email list, and for further program information**, notices about upcoming meetings, campus visits by admission representatives, our Health Programs Fair, and other items of interest ([www.hpplc.indiana.edu](http://www.hpplc.indiana.edu)).

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