MASTER OF SCIENCE IN RESPIRATORY CARE - EARLY ACCEPTANCE PROGRAM (RCEAP)

The Master of Science in Respiratory Care - Early Acceptance Program (RCEAP) is offered in collaboration with The University of Texas San Antonio (UTSA). The RCEAP program offers an accelerated pathway for full-time UTSA students majoring in Biology or Kinesiology to obtain their Master of Science Degree in Respiratory Care (MSRC). This pathway provides the student with both their BS Biology or BS Kinesiology and MSRC degree in a five year time span, saving the student one full year of study and expenses.

This program provides an excellent career opportunity to join the first approved entry-level-to-practice MSRC degree program in Texas. Our program is one of six MSRC first-professional degree programs in the country and provides a great opportunity to become a leader in the respiratory care profession. This program prepares our graduates to be excellent clinicians, making a difference in our patients' lives.

Prospective students do not need any healthcare experience to be considered. The professional phase includes more than 1,200 hours of in-hospital clinical practice. This rich clinical experience prepares graduates to enter the profession as skilled, highly sought clinicians. As a leadership program in respiratory care, this course of study aspires to provide graduates with the foundation needed to assume professional leadership roles in clinical practice, research, education and management. Upon completion of the program, graduates are eligible to take the national board examinations in respiratory care as well, obtain a state license.

Admission Requirements

This Respiratory Care Early Acceptance Program (RCEAP) is offered in collaboration with The University of Texas San Antonio (UTSA). For UTSA students to apply and be admitted to the RCEAP program, students must meet the eligibility factors listed below:

1. Eligible applicants must be full-time UTSA students majoring in Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology or Bachelor of Science Degree in Kinesiology (Kinesiology and Health Science Concentration) who have completed at least 12 semester credit hours (SCH) of coursework at UTSA in their program of study.

2. Minimum GPA $\geq$ 3.0 and GPA $\geq$ 3.0 in all college science/math coursework (unless only one science or math course has been taken).

For students to maintain eligibility in the RCEAP program, students must complete the first three years of the curriculum in either the BS in Biology program or the BS in Kinesiology (Kinesiology and Health Science Concentration) program, including the core curriculum requirements at UTSA with an overall GPA $\geq$ 3.0 and GPA $\geq$ in all college science coursework.

UTSA students must have completed between 12-60 hours of the required coursework at UTSA prior to applying to the RCEAP program.

Admission to the program is on a competitive basis. Student selection is based on a number of factors including overall grade point average, prerequisite grade point average, consistency of academic performance, coursework completed prior to application and interpersonal abilities. Application deadline (https://www.uthscsa.edu/academics/health-professions/programs/master-of-science-in-respiratory-care/admissions/) can be found on the program admission webpage.

Requirements for admission to the professional phase of the Master of Science in Respiratory Care (MSRC) program include:

- Completion of all required professional prerequisite courses with a "C" or better.
  - Anatomy & Physiology I & II Lectures & Laboratories (8 semester credit hours) ***OR*** Anatomy I Lecture & Laboratory AND Physiology I Lecture & Laboratory (8 semester credit hours)
  - Any Chemistry Lecture & Laboratory (4 semester credit hours)
  - Any Physics Lecture & Laboratory (4 semester credit hours)
  - Microbiology Lecture & Laboratory or Biology & Laboratory (4 semester credit hours)
- Completed application to the program and submission of official transcripts for all college coursework completed.
  - Completion of the online Allied Health Centralized Application System (AHCAS) (https://ahcas.liaisoncas.com/).
  - Payment of a non-refundable application fee of $95 to AHCAS.
- Recommended that two letters of reference be provided that attest to the applicant's readiness for graduate level studies.

International Applicants only:

- Each foreign transcript will be evaluated to ascertain that courses are equivalent in content and rigor to prerequisite courses offered by regionally accredited higher education institutions in the United States.
- Applicants from countries where English is not the official language are required to submit scores on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), the International English Language Testing System (IELTS), or Duolingo English Test. The minimum required scores are listed below:
  - TOEFL 84
  - IELTS 7.0
  - Duolingo 115
- Scores on TOEFL, IELTS and Duolingo tests taken more than two years prior to the date of application are not acceptable.
- This requirement may be waived when the applicant is a graduate from an accredited post-secondary institution in the USA.

Application Requirements

- Completion of the online Allied Health Centralized Application System (AHCAS) (https://ahcas.liaisoncas.com/).
  - Payment of a non-refundable application fee of $95 to AHCAS.
  - Submission of the following documents to AHCAS or Office of University Registrar contingent on which application system was used.
    - All Official Transcripts from *each* college/university attended. Applicants who are enrolled in college courses at the time of application should submit official transcripts showing courses in progress. An updated transcript must be submitted upon completion of courses.
    - **Note:** Transcripts from institutions *outside* the United States must be evaluated by an acceptable NACES Members

organization. For additional information – www.naces.org (http://www.naces.org/)

If you are accepted to the Master of Science in Respiratory Care Entry to the Profession program you will need to complete the following:

- Pay a non-refundable Tuition Deposit of $450.00 to the School of Health Professions.
- A background check. Directions for this process will be sent to accepted students.
- Proof of completion of required immunizations: All enrolled students at the health science center are required to be fully immunized with required immunizations (http://catalog.uthscsa.edu/generalinformation/institutionalpolicies/immunizations/) prior to orientation and registration. Additional information is available on the Wellness 360 website (https://wellness360.uthealthsa.org/services/employee-student-health/student-immunization-tracking/).
- Evidence of current health insurance showing dates of coverage. Unless proof of proper insurance coverage is provided before the first day of classes, students will be charged for a health insurance policy through the university.
- Final updated transcripts must be submitted upon completion of courses from each college/university to the Office of University Registrar. All foreign transcripts must be also sent to include the original transcript and the NACES evaluated official transcript (course by course).

The University Registrar Mailing Address:

Office of the University Registrar – MC 7702
7703 Floyd Curl Drive
San Antonio, TX 78229-3900

Degree Requirements

To graduate from the Respiratory Care Master of Science in Respiratory Care program, students must:

- Must complete 92 total program hours.
- Complete all required respiratory care professional courses with a grade of **C** (75%) or better.
- Must have an overall GPA 3.0 to graduate.
- Successfully complete the self assessment examinations given by the National Board for Respiratory Care.
- Successfully complete a comprehensive end-of-year and program competency assessment.
- Successfully complete a research project (create and implement an educational project, create and implement a quality improvement plan, or create and implement a research project).
- Hold current certification in Basic Life Support for Healthcare Professionals (https://cpr.heart.org/en/cpr-courses-and-kits/healthcare-professional/basic-life-support-bls-training/) (BLS), Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS), Pediatric Advanced Life Support (https://cpr.heart.org/en/courses/pals-course-options/) (PALS) and Neonatal Resuscitation Provider course (NRP) (https://www.aap.org/en/pedialink/neonatal-resuscitation-program/?srsltid=AfmBOorjrHP5DwYqY93bcASlmiWVQtk-ndk8wahHZw4Mk-phy0s8SGfo).
- Complete all University requirements for graduation.

Master of Science in Respiratory Care Sample Plan of Study

First Year		
Fall		**Credit Hours**
RESC 5002	Introduction to Respiratory Care	5
RESC 5005	Pharmacology	4
RESC 5010	Cardiopulmonary Physiology	5
RESC 5011	Patient Assessment	5
Spring		
RESC 5020	Diseases Affecting the Cardiopulmonary System	4
RESC 5023	Cardiopulmonary Diagnostics and Pulmonary Function Testing	3
RESC 5030	Pediatric & Neonatal Respiratory Care	4
RESC 5031	Critical Care & Mechanical Ventilation	5
RESC 5041	Clinical Practice Introduction	1
Summer		
RESC 5013	Management & Leadership in Health Profession	3
RESC 5015	Education in Respiratory Care	3
RESC 5017	Introduction to Research	3
RESC 5042	Critical Care Introduction	3
Second Year		
Fall		
RESC 6011	Clinical Seminar 1	2
RESC 6019	Clinical Practice 1	12
RESC 6030	Research Project 1	2
Spring		
RESC 6029	Clinical Practice 2	12
RESC 6031	Research Project 2	2
RESC 6033	Clinical Seminar 2	2
Summer		
RESC 6032	Clinical Practice 3	8
RESC 6034	Research Project 3	2
RESC 6035	Clinical Seminar 3	2
	Total Credit Hours:	**92.0**

Elective Courses

Students may enroll in elective courses with the approval of their division director or department chair.		
RESC 6150	Independent Study	1-6
RESC 6301	Advanced Patient Assessment and Care Plan Development	3
RESC 6302	Advanced Critical Care and Ventilatory Support	3
INTD 5064	Applied Statistics for Health Care Practitioners	3