

26-27 A.S. Respiratory Therapy Degree (RSPT)



ABOUT THIS MAJOR

Respiratory care practitioners work in a wide variety of settings to evaluate, treat, and manage patients of all ages with respiratory illnesses and other cardiopulmonary disorders. The respiratory care practitioner participates in clinical decision-making and patient education, develops and implements respiratory care plans, applies patient-driven protocols, utilizes evidence-based clinical practice guidelines, and participates in health promotion, disease prevention, and disease management.

The respiratory care practitioner may be required to exercise considerable independent judgment, under the supervision of a physician, in the respiratory care of patients. For more information, visit the [Health and Safety Sciences](#) division.

TO EARN A DEGREE A STUDENT MUST COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

- [1] Completion of a minimum of 60-semester units or 90 quarter units of degree applicable courses
- [2] A minimum of 18-semester units in a major
- [3] Completion of 21 units AVC General Education Requirements
- [4] Minimum overall grade point average of 2.0
- [5] A "C" or better in all courses required for the major

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[Total Units 68]

*The following **program prerequisites must be completed** prior to applying to the program with a **2.0 overall GPA** and grades posted on official transcript at the time of application

Program Prerequisites (C or better) TOTAL 20-22 UNITS	
BIOL201 - General Human Anatomy	4
*pre-req: BIOL 100 or 101 or 102 or 110+ or 120+	
BIOL202 - General Human Physiology	4
*pre-req: BIOL 201+ & CHEM 101+	
CHEM 101- Introductory Chemistry	5
ENGLC1000 or ENGLC1000H- Academic Reading and Writing/Honors	4
AVC GE AREA 2 MATH: see back for options	3-5

Complete the following courses: TOTAL 12 UNITS

AVC GE AREA 3: Arts and Humanities (see back for options)	3
AVC GE AREA 6: ETHNIC STUDIES (see back for options)	3
COMMC1000 or COMMC100H - Intro to Public Speaking/Honors	3
PSYCC1000 or PSYCC100H - Intro to Psychology/Honors	3

Formal admission to program to enroll in the following courses

Required Courses: (C or better) TOTAL 42 UNITS

Formal admission to program to enroll in the following courses

RCP101 - Fundamentals of Respiratory Care	6
RCP103 - Concepts in Respiratory Care	6
RCP104 - Respiratory Care Pharmacology	3
RCP105 - Fundamentals of Clinical Respiratory Care	5
RCP201 - Neonatal and Pediatric Respiratory Care	3
RCP202 - Fundamentals of Intensive Respiratory Care	4
RCP203 - Seminar and Practicum in Respiratory Care I	6
RCP204 - Seminar and Practicum in Respiratory Care II	9

RECOMMENDED PATHWAY

Respiratory Therapy Degree

The Recommended Plan of Study is determined by the discipline faculty
Take classes in **Summer** or **Interession** if needed to complete your degree in a timely manner!

Fall/Spring: Max 19 units | Summer: Max 9 units | Interession: Max 6 units

Prerequisite for Program

Course	Units
BIOL 201 (AVC GE AREA 5)	4
BIOL 202	4
CHEM 101	5
ENGL C1000/H (AVC GE AREA 1A)	4
Any AVC GE AREA 2	3-5
Total Prerequisite Units	20-22

***Formal Admission to the Program to begin RCP courses ***

SEMESTER 1 (FALL-1)

Course	Units
RCP 101	6
COMMC1000 OR COMMC1000H (AVC GE AREA 1C)	3
AVC GE AREA 6: ETHNIC STUDIES	3
Total Units	12

SEMESTER 2 (SPRING -1)

Course	Units
AVC GE AREA 3: ARTS & HUMANITIES	3
RCP 103	6
RCP 104	3
Total Units	12

SUMMER 1

Course	Units
RCP 105	5
Total Units	5

SEMESTER 3 (FALL-2)

Course	Units
RCP 201	3
RCP 202	4
RCP 203	6
Total Units	13

SEMESTER 4 (SPRING-2)

Course	Units
PSYCC1000 OR PSYCC1000H	3
RCP 204	9
Total Units	12

COUNSELING NOTE SECTION

RCP Application: All pre-requisite courses must be completed. All substitutions/equivalencies must be approved. All required courses must be completed, we will not accept any noted as "In progress". For more up to date information visit the RCP website: <https://www.avc.edu/program/respiratory-caretherapy-rcp>

APPLICATION DEADLINES & Link:

- **Fall Admission:** April 1 2027 at 7:30 am - June 21 2027 close at 6:00pm
- **Online Application:** <https://www.avc.edu/program/respiratory-caretherapy-rcp>

Please note, we will not accept any documents (forms, transcripts, educational plans etc.) before the application period begins or after it has closed. Any items received outside the application period will not be considered or saved.

Effective Fall 2026 - CCN

BIOL C1001 (formally BIOL 101)

BIOL C1001L (formally BIOL 101L)

Honors Courses: COMMC1000H/ PSYCC1000H / ENGLC1000H.

Students may enroll in either the honors or the non-honors version of these courses. If you complete both versions, you will receive credit for only one. This honors course is intended for students in the Honors Transfer Program. For more information about Honors Transfer Alliance Program visit: <https://www.avc.edu/academics/programs-and-pathways/honors>

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2026-2027 AVC General Education Requirements

Advising Form Effective Fall 2026 - Summer 2027

AREA 2: Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning

1 course, 3 semester or 4 quarter units

MATH 103, 110, 116, 124, 128, 140, 148, 149, 150, 150H, 160, 220, 230, 250; STAT C1000, C1000H

AREA 3: ARTS AND HUMANITIES

1 courses, 3 semester units or 4 quarter units

ART 100, 103, 104, 106, 113, 132, 135, 137, 140, 145, 163, 170, 213; ARTH C1100, C1100H, C1200, C1200H; CHIN 101, 102, 201, 202; DFST 101, 102, 201, 202; COMM 112, 114, 217, 219; DA 101, 113; ENGL 114, 221, 222, 225, 227, 230, 231, 235, 242, 253, 253H, 256, 257, 259, 265, 279, C1002, C1002H; FREN 101, 102, 201, 202, 203; FTV 101, 107, 108, 201, 203, 251, 261; GER 101, 102, 201, 202; HIST 104, 105, 110, 110H, 111, 111H, 113, 115, 119, C1001, C1001H, C1002, C1002H; LATN 101, 102, 201; MUS 101, 101H, 105, 106, 110, 111, 120, 151; MUSC 102, 103, 107, 108, 109; PHIL 105, 105H, 106, 108, 109, 230, 240; NF 150; PHOT 107; PHTC 101, 150, 201; SPAN 101, 102, 110SS, 201, 202, 203, 210SS, 220SS; THA 101, 101H, 102, 103, 104, 106, 110, 111, 130, 225, 239, 239H, 240

AREA 6: ETHNIC STUDIES

1 course, 3 semester units or 4 quarter units

ETHN 101, 102, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114; ENGL 257 or ETHN 257EN

Questions?

- Please email healthsciences@avc.edu.

What is respiratory care?

- Respiratory care is a health profession that specializes in the promotion of optimum cardiopulmonary function and health. Respiratory care practitioners apply scientific principles to prevent, identify, and treat acute or chronic dysfunction of the cardiopulmonary system.

Primary goal

The respiratory care program's goal at Antelope Valley College is: "to prepare graduates with demonstrated competence in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and affective (behavior) learning domains of respiratory care practice as performed by registered respiratory therapists (RRTs)." *Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care Standard 3.01.*

Respiratory therapists have an in-depth knowledge of

- Cardiopulmonary anatomy, physiology, and pathophysiology
- Patient assessment and cardiopulmonary diagnostics
- Pulmonary disease
- Advance life support and critical care
- Pharmacology
- Biomedical engineering and technology

Respiratory therapists effectively

- Assess, educate and treat patients with heart and lung problems

Requirements of Program if Offered Admission

Students who are offered a space in the program are required to adhere to the background, physical and vaccination guidelines set forth within the clinical affiliation agreements AVC Health programs have with various hospitals and doctors office's. If you fail to meet those requirements, you will not be able to proceed in the Respiratory Therapy Program.

For more information: <https://www.avc.edu/program/respiratory-caretherapy-rsp>

What to know before you apply:

* Beginning January 2026, applications for admission will be online only. *

Students will be given spaces in the program based on a multiple screening criteria. Should the 1st fall on a weekend, the due date will be the Monday immediately after. Students are admitted into the program in the fall of each year. All students wanting to enroll in RCP 101 should follow the instructions on the "Verification of Prerequisites for RCP 101."

1. Beginning January 1, 2026, the Health and Safety Sciences Office will no longer accept physical applications. This process will be online only.
2. You must sit with an AVC counselor and receive a completed educational plan. (All pre-requisite courses must be completed. All substitutions/equivalencies must be approved. Any courses noted as in progress or pending approval will disqualify your application). This form is required to apply. You will be prompted to upload a copy when submitting your application. Your official transcripts must be on file in the transcripts office in order to receive an educational plan.
3. Counseling **WILL NOT** schedule students for an educational planning and evaluation of transcripts two weeks from the application deadline. Please do not wait until the last minute to schedule this appointment if you are trying to apply by the deadline. **If you are requesting an equivalency or a substitution, allow at least six weeks for the process to be completed.**
4. If you are trying to receive additional points for work experience, volunteer hours, or personal experiences, please download and correctly complete the appropriate forms to upload with your application. You will not get credit for these items if you do not upload the appropriate forms.
5. High School Graduation or GED Completion is a requirement for this program unless you have a college degree (Associates or higher) which can be used in lieu of. However, it must be posted on your official college transcripts. If this does not apply to you, you will have to send your official transcripts showing graduation of high school or GED completion. We do not accept certificates of completion or diplomas. Your HS Graduating or GED Transcripts must be sent electronically.
6. We no longer will accept physical transcripts and will only accept official electronic ones. This means you will have to request them through your institution or parchment. We will only accept transcripts during the application period. We will not accept ANY electronic transcripts directly from the student. They must come from the official institution. **All required courses must be completed, we will not accept any noted as "In progress".** If you are trying to receive credit for a degree, it must be posted on your transcript. We do not accept diplomas.
7. You will have to send transcripts from ALL colleges where you completed required courses INCLUDING AVC. If you did not take any courses that apply to this program at AVC, you will only send from institutions where relevant coursework was completed. The link to purchase your electronic transcript from AVC only is noted below.
8. Transcripts must be sent to healthsciences@avc.edu during the application period. Any received outside the window will not be accepted.
9. If you attended high school or college outside of the United States and would like to use those courses for credit, you will have to have your transcripts evaluated by a NACES approved agency.
10. Only submit ONE application. Submitting multiple does not make the chances of acceptance higher but will make the screening process take longer.
11. You must have an AVC email address in order to complete the online application. If you are having issues with your email, please contact ITS at help@avc.edu.
12. Once you submit, keep a copy of the response email informing you it has been submitted. Technical difficulties can occur. This is your proof that you submitted within the application window.

Please note, we will not accept any documents (forms, transcripts, educational plans etc.) before the application period begins or after it has closed. Any items received outside the application period will not be considered or saved.

Link to purchase AVC Electronic

Transcript: <https://www.parchment.com/u/registration/34993/institution>

Forms for Application:

- [Multi Screening Questionnaire.pdf](#)
- [Experience Verification Form.pdf](#)