



CATAWBA
VALLEY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

2025 ADMISSION PACKET Respiratory Therapy Program

- ❗ Application & Requirements Deadline - **May 31, 2025**
- ❗ Please allow 2 weeks to complete all application requirements.

It is the student's responsibility to monitor the completion of the Minimum Admission Requirements (MAR), whether enrolled at CVCC or elsewhere. CVCC reserves the right to change curriculum and admission requirements without prior notice. Applicants are responsible for completing admission requirements and ensuring all materials have been submitted by the deadline.

This packet provides information to assist you with the admission and selection process for the Respiratory Therapy program. For questions regarding the program, contact the Department Head of Respiratory Therapy at (828) 327-7000 extension 4243 or by email to ngodwin985@cvcc.edu. For questions regarding admission requirements, please contact Student Services at extension 4216 or email healthcare@cvcc.edu.

How do I find information about Respiratory Therapy and employment Opportunities?

For general information, refer to the Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Outlook Handbook – Respiratory Therapists at <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/respiratory-therapists.htm>.

What is the class schedule/length for the Respiratory Therapy program?

The program begins in the Fall Semester. Respiratory Therapy classes are held during the day. Students are expected to participate in classroom, laboratory, and clinical experiences. The Respiratory Therapy program consists of five semesters and takes two years of full-time study to complete. Students may be required to travel out of town to clinical sites and must be available during daytime hours for clinical experiences, in addition to possible evenings or weekends. Applicants may take general education/related coursework for the Respiratory Therapy program prior to being admitted to the program. Please note that taking these courses does not shorten the length of the program. Graduates of the program qualify for exams offered by the National Board for Respiratory Care to obtain national credentials. National credentials are required for licensing to practice by the NC Respiratory Care Board.

How much does the program cost?

College tuition is set by the North Carolina State Legislature and is subject to change. Students are required to purchase a variety of books, instruments, clinic uniforms, malpractice insurance, accident insurance, and other fees as set by the College. The approximate cost for the program is \$8,700 (this figure is based upon current in-state tuition rates and reflects an approximate cost only). For additional information, refer to the Estimated Additional Program Cost document in this packet.

How do I apply for Financial Aid?

All applicants are encouraged to apply for financial aid by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. For information about financial aid, contact the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid at financial_aid@cvcc.edu or by calling at 828-327-7000 extension 4860.

Do I need a computer?

Yes, access to a computer is required for this program. Once the CVCC application has been activated, students are assigned a CVCC email address and MyCVCC Portal account. Communication between students, faculty and any other college personnel will be by CVCC email, so students must frequently check their CVCC email accounts for admission status updates.

The following technology resources are recommended for successful completion of this program:

A laptop computer with:

- Windows 10 or later with at least 4GB of RAM (6GB or more preferred) and at least 3GB hard drive capacity (more preferred)

- Web camera and microphone

- Installation of Microsoft Office Suite & Teams (provided by CVCC)

- Installation of the free Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, or newest Microsoft Edge browser (Chrome recommended)

- Reliable Internet access and printer access

Cell phones are not a substitute for laptops; they cannot be used to complete assignments for this program.

Will I be required to complete a Criminal Background Check/Drug Screening?

Yes. Carefully read the information below regarding background checks, drug testing, and the result of a negative background check. Applicants must use CastleBranch, a background screening and compliance management company, for background check/drug screenings.

Clinical facilities will require students to undergo criminal background checks and drug testing.

The student will be required to pay fees associated with these screenings.

Clinical facilities may refuse access to clinical experiences based upon results of a criminal background checks, drug screening or immunization/vaccination status.

If any clinical facility refuses to allow a student access to a clinical experience, the student will be **unable to continue in the program**.

How does undocumented immigrant status or DACA status affect application to the program?

Current North Carolina Community College System policy allows DACA and undocumented applicants to enroll at CVCC at the out-of-state tuition cost. However, acceptance to the college does not guarantee acceptance to a specific program. Students with an unexpired DACA status are eligible to apply to an Allied Health program. Students must keep active DACA status to remain enrolled in an Allied Health program. Professional licensure is granted by state licensing boards. **Students should inquire with the appropriate licensure board for specific licensure requirements.** Undocumented students are not eligible for admission to an Allied Health program. According to North Carolina and Federal laws, undocumented students are not eligible for North Carolina professional licensure. This policy is subject to change without notice based upon federal and state regulations.

When and how will I be notified of acceptance to the program?

Applicants will be notified of acceptance to the program within 2 to 6 weeks of the deadline via an email to their CVCC email account. Applicants chosen as alternates or not accepted for the program will also be notified at that time. Students may apply to only one healthcare program at a time. Should acceptance to that program be denied, the student may apply to another healthcare program whose application deadline has not yet occurred.

What if I am not admitted to the program?

Applicants not admitted will need to re-apply by completing the MAR Checklist for the year of reapplication. Students are responsible for following the guidelines for reapplication. Students are required to submit a new MAR Checklist each year to apply.

What am I required to do before the first day of class if I am accepted?

Accepted students must complete and pass a background check and drug test prior to the first day of class. When offered acceptance the student will be provided the information to complete these requirements.

MINIMUM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS (MAR) EXPLAINED

To be considered for acceptance, all applicants must complete Minimum Admission Requirements (MAR) by the published deadline.

1. **Activate the [CVCC Application](#) with “Respiratory Therapy” as your intended major.**
2. **High School Transcript:** Submit an **official** High School/High School Equivalency transcript in a sealed envelope issued by the school, electronically through a 3rd party vendor to transcripts@cvcc.edu or by postal mail. Plan accordingly to ensure transcripts arrive by the deadline. Information on how to request transcripts may be found on the [How to Request Official Transcripts](#) web page.
3. **College Transcripts:** Submit **ALL** official College Transcripts in a sealed envelope issued from EVERY school ever attended (except CVCC), electronically through a 3rd party vendor, to transcripts@cvcc.edu or by postal mail. Plan accordingly to ensure transcripts arrive by the deadline.
4. **Attend the CVCC Respiratory Therapy [Information Session](#).** Applicants must attend a mandatory Information Session. Refer to the Respiratory Therapy web page for a listing of sessions.
5. **Required Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.80.** Unweighted high school GPA of 2.80 or higher. Applicants have a 2.8 or higher on all program required courses.
6. **Completed MAT 143 – Quantitative Literacy or higher-level of Math.** Applicants must complete MAT 143 or higher level of math with a minimum grade of “C” or higher.
7. **Completed BIO 168 – Anatomy and Physiology 1.** Applicants must complete BIO 168 with a minimum grade of “C” or higher.
8. **Submit the completed [MAR Checklist](#) before the deadline.**

COMPETITIVE SELECTION AND RANKING

The following criteria will be used to evaluate and select the best-qualified applicants from those who completed all Minimum Admission Requirements (MAR) by the deadline. Those applicants receiving the highest number of points will be admitted to the program until the class is filled. The number of students accepted each year can vary depending upon clinical sites. The Respiratory Therapy program plans to accept 15 students at the CVCC Main campus and 10 students at the Gaston Satellite campus.

1. **Points for completion (with a “C” or better) of any of the following general education courses in the ADN curriculum. (Found on the Pre-Admission Coursework Guide)**
2. Points will be awarded to applicants with an advanced degree. Applicants who have attained an AA/AS/AAS/AFA/AE/AGE/BA/BS/MA/MS will be awarded points toward admission. The degree must be earned from a regionally-accredited institution. Completion of the degree will be verified from official transcripts.

RESPIRATORY THERAPY - TECHNICAL STANDARDS

The following activities are examples of the kind of activities which a student in the Respiratory Therapy program will be required to perform in order to successfully complete the program. If an accepted applicant believes that he/she cannot meet one of more of the standards without accommodations or modifications, the applicant should consult the director of the program for students with disabilities.

CRITICAL THINKING	Respiratory Therapy students should possess critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgement.	Students must be able to identify cause-effect relationships in clinical situations; develop and/or participate in development of respiratory care patient plans.
INTERPERSONAL SKILLS	Respiratory Therapy students shall possess interpersonal abilities sufficient for interaction with individuals, families, groups, etc. from a variety of social, emotional, cultural and intellectual backgrounds.	A student must be able to establish rapport with patients, families and other health care members.
COMMUNICATION SKILLS	Respiratory Therapy students shall possess communication skills sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form.	Explain treatment procedures; initiate health teaching; document and interpret therapeutic interventions and patient responses.
MOBILITY	Respiratory Therapy students shall possess physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room and maneuver in small spaces, stand and walk for extensive periods of time.	Move around in patients' rooms, workspaces, and treatment areas; administer cardiopulmonary procedures.
MOTOR SKILLS	Respiratory Therapy students shall possess gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective respiratory care procedures.	Set up, calibrate and use equipment; position patients/clients; perform CPR.
HEARING	Respiratory Therapy students must possess auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs.	Hear monitor alarms, emergency signals, auscultatory breath and heart sounds, cries for help.
VISUAL	Respiratory Therapy students shall possess visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary for patient care.	Observe patient/client responses; see calibration and alarms for equipment; patient assessment.
TACTILE	Respiratory Therapy students shall possess tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment.	Auscultation, percussion, palpation, and the therapeutic interventions.
WEIGHT BEARING	Respiratory Therapy students shall possess the ability to lift and/or manipulate 45-50 lbs.	Position patients/clients; move equipment.
COGNITIVE ABILITIES	Respiratory Therapy students shall possess ability to be oriented to time, person and place, organize responsibilities, and make decisions.	Student shall assess patient/client complaints and implement appropriate treatment.
OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURES	Respiratory Therapy students may be exposed to communicable disease and/or body fluids, toxic substances, and medicinal preparations. Students shall use appropriate precautions at all times.	Student may be assigned a client/patient with a communicable disease and shall provide total care using universal precautions.

Please note: Examples are not all-inclusive.

If you have a disability and need accommodation, please contact the Counselor for Students with Disabilities and Special Programs at least 72 hours in advance at (828) 327-7000, ext. 4222 or accommodations@cvcc.edu.

RESPIRATORY THERAPY - ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL PROGRAM COSTS

(Estimates only; subject to change without notice)

Items/Services	Estimated Costs
Physical exam, Immunizations, TB test	Approx. \$400.00, must stay updated
Black Scrubs (2 sets) & Black Scrub Coat (1) CVCC logo is required	\$180.00 (First Fall Semester)
Clinic Shoes (Black leather, upper with closed heel and toe, no mesh, no canvas)	\$100.00 (First Fall Semester)
CastleBranch (Immunization/Certification tracker, criminal background check, drug test)	Approx. \$150.00 (Each Fall Semester)
Medical Malpractice Insurance	Approx. \$30.00 per year (Each Fall)
Clinical Trac Software	Approx. \$245.00
Stethoscope, scissors, HEPA mask, calculator, goggles, watch with second hand	\$165.00 (First Spring Semester)
Classmate Kettering	Approx. \$90.00 (Summer Semester)
Travel costs to clinical sites	\$500.00
AHA life support certifications	\$160.00
Kettering Seminar Review	\$430.00
Kettering National Seminars Final Mock Exams	Approx. \$125.00 (Final Spring Semester)
NC License Fee - NCRCB	\$225.00*
Credentialing Fee: \$190.00 for TMC exam/\$200 for CSE exam - NBRC	\$390.00*
Pins	\$45.00 (Final Spring Semester)
Maintaining immunizations/vaccines/ CastleBranch requirements	Ongoing throughout program
Laboratory Fee	\$50.00
Computer	Approx. \$1200.00

Please Note:

*After graduation from CVCC

Most Respiratory textbooks are purchased the 1st semester of the program and will cost approx. \$500 - \$600. Book costs for the remaining semesters will be approx. \$100/semester.

These cost estimates are **in addition** to the costs that any student attending CVCC will incur each semester, such as tuition, activity fees, accident insurance, books, and class supplies such as pens, paper, etc.

Students applying for graduation will pay graduation fees.

Estimates for these costs may be found in the [CVCC Catalog](#)

2025 FALL RESPIRATORY THERAPY PROGRAM **PRE-ADMISSION COURSEWORK GUIDE**

The information provided below is for planning purposes only. Admission and curriculum requirements are subject to change without notice.

The following courses **must be completed with a grade “C” or higher** by the published deadline:

MAT 143 – Quantitative Literacy (3 credit hours) or a higher-level Math

BIO 168 – Anatomy & Physiology I (4 credit hours)

Applicants are **not required** to complete the following courses before submitting a MAR Checklist, **but these courses are awarded points** in the competitive selection process. These courses, which require a grade of “C” or better, meet program degree requirements:

BIO 169 – Anatomy & Physiology 2 (4 credit hours)

BIO 275 – Microbiology (4 credit hours)

ENG 111 – Writing and Inquiry (3 credit hours)

ENG 112 – Writing/Research in the Disciplines (3 credit hours) - Preferred
OR

ENG 114 – Professional Research and Reporting (3 credit hours)

Humanities/Fine Arts Elective (3 credit hours)

Social/Behavioral Sciences Elective (3 credit hours)

2025 FALL RESPIRATORY THERAPY PROGRAM
MAR CHECKLIST

MAR Checklist Submission Deadline – May 31, 2025, at 11:59pm EST

Name: _____ **Student ID#:** _____

Admission requirements are subject to change without notice. Students must ensure all materials have been submitted before the deadline and as directed by the packet.

1. Complete the **CVCC Application** with “Respiratory Therapy” as the intended major.
2. Submit official **High School/High School Equivalency Transcript**.
3. Submit ALL official, sealed **College Transcripts** in a sealed envelope from every school attended (except CVCC). If additional coursework is completed after submission of transcripts, an official updated transcript must be submitted to CVCC to ensure all transfer credit is awarded.
4. Attend the mandatory CVCC Respiratory Therapy **Information Session**.
5. Met **GPA** Requirement of 2.80.
6. Complete **MAT 143** – Quantitative Literacy (or higher-level Math) with a grade of “C” or higher.
7. Complete **BIO 168** – Anatomy and Physiology I with a grade of “C” or higher.
8. **Submit the completed MAR Checklist before the deadline.**