Department Mission

The mission of the Department of Respiratory Care is directed toward advancing critical-thinking skills, developing competent professionals and preparing graduates for cardiopulmonary, polysomnography and leadership roles in various healthcare delivery systems. The curriculum is structured to encourage a lifelong habit of research advancement, continuing education and professional skill growth. The vision of the Department of Respiratory Care is to produce quality graduates who meet the expectations of the communities of interest served by the program, to establish and maintain an excellent national reputation, and to be a leader in innovative educational endeavors in the profession.

The Respiratory Care faculty are truly excited about offering a post-professional master's degree to registered respiratory therapists in an effort to advance their knowledge, skills and careers in clinical practice, education, management and research.

– Dr. Chris Russian, Ph.D., RRT-NPS, RST

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The MSRC graduate will be a leader in acute care, specialty clinics, pulmonary rehabilitation, home care and academic settings.

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health.txstate.edu/rc
Why choose Texas State?
The Department of Respiratory Care operates two research labs, three teaching labs and a four-bed sleep lab that is fully accredited to diagnose and treat patients suffering from sleep disorders. Students have access to internationally recognized faculty and the most up-to-date equipment to complement learning and research opportunities.

The department owns state-of-the-art equipment to conduct benchtop and clinical research on pulmonary function and mechanics, ventilator assessment, oxygen delivery, asthma management, aerosol deposition and sleep diagnostics.

Course Work
The 36-credit-hour non-thesis program consists of a 24-credit-hour core curriculum plus a 12-credit-hour concentration in leadership or polysomnography. The core curriculum focuses on cardiopulmonary physiology, clinical practice guidelines/protocols, research methods/designs, patient education, academic leadership, and diagnostics/therapeutics. The leadership concentration focuses on financial theory, healthcare law, organizational behavior/theory, and financial management while the polysomnography concentration provides advanced study on sleep physiology, instrumentation, sleep staging, and diagnostics/therapeutics. The core and leadership courses are taught online. The polysomnography courses are delivered in a hybrid format requiring face-to-face contact in a sleep clinic and campus laboratory. Full-time students can complete the program in four semesters.

Faculty
Faculty research interests provide students with a range of expertise. Clinical/technical interests include sleep disorders, ventilator machines, and anatomic flow dynamics of upper airways; other key research areas are more professional in nature, such as leadership and learning styles, best practices in distance education, stress management and role ambiguity, and evidence-based practice in the clinical settings, helping students achieve a holistic, well-rounded education.

Career Options
» faculty member in an academic institution
» director of clinical education in a respiratory care program
» program director of a respiratory care program
» director/manager in a hospital respiratory care department or sleep lab
» clinical specialist in a healthcare/equipment company
» research scientist
» research project manager
» clinical educator for a hospital or respiratory care company
» bedside clinician as a respiratory therapist or sleep technologist

Important Deadlines*
Admissions
Fall: June 15
Spring: October 15
Summer: April 15
Applications will continue to be considered on a space-available basis after the deadline.

Funding: Scholarships, Fellowships and Assistantships
The deadlines to apply for scholarship, fellowship and assistantship consideration may be earlier. View our web page for more details: gradcollege.txstate.edu/funding

How to Apply
For information regarding admission requirements and submission instructions, please visit:
gradcollege.txstate.edu/apply

*International applicants can view specific deadlines and requirements at:
gradcollege.txstate.edu/international

For information on deadlines, admission requirements and funding, visit:
gradcollege.txstate.edu/programs/respiratory-care