Program Description
Respiratory Therapists are health care specialists who work with a variety of patients suffering from cardiopulmonary disorders. Working as part of the healthcare team, respiratory therapists assist in the evaluation, treatment, management, and rehabilitation of these disorders. Patients treated by respiratory therapists range from premature infants to the elderly. Therapists enjoy tremendous opportunity for diversity in their practices. Working in hospitals, diagnostic labs, clinics, and home care; respiratory therapist fill a vital role in our nation’s health care system.

The clinical experience is diverse, with opportunities for training in a variety of areas and hospitals in the region. Upon graduation, the student will receive an Associate in Applied Science degree in Respiratory Therapy. The graduate is then eligible to sit for the NBRC credentialing exams, which are required for licensure. Upon successful completion of the exams, the graduate will be awarded the credentials of Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT).

Program Outcomes
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 care practice as performed by registered therapists (RRT’s).

Qualified applicants should be aware that program class sizes are limited, which may delay acceptance into the program.

You may be required to complete additional (or less) coursework, dependent upon the results of your Computerized Placement Test (CPT) and/or previous coursework completed or certifications awarded.
Respiratory Therapy, AAS Degree - 78 credits
Program Area: Health (Fall 2021)

***REMEMBER TO REGISTER EARLY***

General Education courses that are required may be taken prior to entering the program, as long as the specific prerequisites for that course have been met. Please check with your advisor. All courses in the program need to be completed with a grade of “C” or better to progress into the next semester.

Pre-program Requirements
Successful entry into this program requires a specific level of skill in the areas of English, mathematics, and reading. Program entry will depend, in part, on meeting the prerequisites listed below.

English/Reading:
- Eligible for ENGL 1106 – College Composition I, or
- Completion of ENGL/READ 0950/0955 (or equivalent or higher). ENGL/READ 0950/0955 may not be taken concurrently with Semester I coursework.

Mathematics:
- Eligible for MATH 0970 - Intermediate Algebra, or
- Completion of MATH 0950/0955 (or equivalent or higher). MATH 0950/0955 may not be taken concurrently with Semester I coursework.

There are other ways to qualify. Visit Course Placement (lsc.edu/course-placement) to find out more.

NOTE: You will need a recent physical examination including current immunizations and a current negative Tuberculosis (TB) screening. Current certification in American Heart Association: BLS Healthcare Provider or American Red Cross: BLS/CPR for Healthcare Providers is required for all clinical courses. ALTH1430 will satisfy this requirement. Background Study approval is required from the State of Minnesota/or Wisconsin. A national criminal background study is required by some clinical sites. Students assigned to a clinical site requiring a criminal background study will be informed of this requirement prior to the start of the clinical experience.

Program Accreditation
The Respiratory Therapy Program at Lake Superior College is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care, (https://www.coarc.com/Students/Programmatic-Outcome-Data.aspx) 1248 Harwood Road, Bedford, TX 76021, 817-283-2835.

Program Articulation
See current articulation agreements.

For more information about the Respiratory Therapy AAS degree including course descriptions, course prerequisites, and potential career opportunities see the program website (https://degrees.lsc.edu/respiratory-therapist/) OR contact the professional advising team (advising@lsc.edu) at 218-733-7601 or the Director of Respiratory Therapy Cynthia Annable (cynthia.annable@lsc.edu) at 218-733-5925.

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All courses in diploma and/or certificate programs are acceptable for credit toward Lake Superior College degree programs as indicated on individual program planners. This is not a contract; Lake Superior College reserves the right to change the planner as necessary. This document is available in alternative formats upon request, by contacting Disability Services or (218) 733-7650 or MRS/TTY (800) 627-3529.