Respiratory therapists are licensed health professionals who provide care to patients with cardiopulmonary disorders such as asthma, emphysema, prematurity, and trauma. Therapists work in a variety of settings including intensive care units, emergency departments, cardiopulmonary diagnostic and sleep disorder laboratories, community hospitals, clinics, and home care. They perform cardiopulmonary diagnostic tests, administer medications, monitor cardiopulmonary status, perform CPR, and apply ventilatory life support technology.

**Career Areas/Job Titles:**

**Health Professions**
- Respiratory Therapist
- Critical Care Specialist
- Rehabilitation Specialist
- Home Health Care Technician
- Neonatal/Pediatric Specialist

**Science and Technology**
- Pulmonary Laboratory Technologist
- Sleep Laboratory Technologist
- Education
- Professor
- Health Instructor
- Pulmonary Disease Educator

**Non-Profit/Advocacy**
- Public Health Educator

*Some careers may require licensure, certification, or further education. Talk to an advisor about specific requirements.*

**Transferable Skills:**

- Basic Computer Skills
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Human Anatomy
- Physics
- Interviewing
- Listening Skills
- Provide/Respond to Feedback
- Speaking Effectively
- Use Technology Effectively
- Written Communication
- Counseling Skills
- Cultural Understanding
- Motivating Others
- Teaching/Instructioning Others
- Teamwork
- Conceptualizing
- Defining Needs
- Developing Evaluation Strategies
- Gathering Information
- Identifying Problems
- Research Skills
- Adaptability/Flexibility
- Attention to Detail
- Judgment & Decision Making
- Managing Time/Stress
- Coaching/Mentoring
- Delegating Tasks
- Organization Skills
- Prioritizing Tasks
- Multi-tasking
- Quantitative Reasoning
- Analytical/Critical Thinking
- Problem Solving
- *Licensure Obtained Upon Grad*

*This is not an extensive list of transferable skills. See larger list of skills you might develop here: [http://ccss.osu.edu](http://ccss.osu.edu)*

**Professional Links:**

- American Association for Respiratory Care: [http://www.aarc.org/](http://www.aarc.org/)
- The National Board for Respiratory Care: [http://www.nbrc.org/](http://www.nbrc.org/)
- Coalition for Baccalaureate and Graduate Education in Respiratory Therapy: [http://www.cobgrte.org/](http://www.cobgrte.org/)
- American Respiratory Care Foundation: [http://www.arcfoundation.org/](http://www.arcfoundation.org/)