

VALENCIA COLLEGE

Associate in Science Degree in Respiratory Care

Admission Guide

Catalog Year 2025-2026

The Respiratory Care Program at Valencia College is a Limited-Access program. This guide outlines the admissions process, including program course requirements, application requirements, and the next steps after applying. The Respiratory Care Program equips students with the skills and experience needed to succeed as a Respiratory Therapist.

Admission Updates

Course Requirement Changes - Effective Fall 2025

Beginning Fall 2025, PSY 2012- General Psychology, will no longer be a graduation requirement. Please review the admission points below.

Application Deadline:

Application Open	Application Close	Program Start Term
September 1, 2025	September 30, 2025	Spring 2026
Once Per Year Admission		

Respiratory Care Program Location

Campus Location	Available Seats
West Campus	32

Complete Before Applying

Item	Details
Program Requirements	Confirm you meet all the program requirements outlined in this guide, including prerequisite classes, and required minimum GPA.
Valencia College General Admission	<p>Complete ALL the steps outlined in the Steps to Enrollment</p> <p>Applying to Valencia College (This is the General Admission Application and not the secondary Allied Health Application)</p> <p>Submit transcripts: Submit high school and college transcripts from all institutions attended. Transcripts must be posted to your Valencia record before applying. Students using AP/IB/CLEP scores for prerequisites must request official scores from collegeboard.org (AP/CLEP) or ibo.org (IB).</p> <p><i>* Transfer students who are not considered “first-time in college” do not need to submit a high school transcript.</i></p> <p>Placement Testing: Meet Valencia College entry testing requirements</p> <p>Student Success Coach: Meet with a Student Success Coach to ensure you’ve met all requirements.</p>
Confirm Eligibility	<p>You must be a U.S. Citizen, U.S. Permanent Resident, or International Student.</p> <p><i>*International Students:</i> In addition to the required background check for clinical compliance (post-acceptance), a second background check from your home country is required. For concerns regarding this requirement, contact the Health Sciences Compliance Office.</p> <p><i>*Individuals with DACA, Temporary Protection Status, Refugee, or Asylee status must complete the Employment Authorization Document (EAD) before applying.</i></p> <p>Graduates will need a Social Security Number for NCLEX-RN licensure.</p>
Age Requirement	Must be 18 or older by the <u>start</u> date of all Health Sciences Programs
Allied Health Info Session	Virtual or in-person information sessions are held each term to discuss the program requirements.
Core Performance Standards	Review the Core Performance Standards Requirement
Transfer Courses	Transfer courses may need to be reviewed for potential course substitution or equivalency. This must be completed <u>before</u> submitting the program application. Transfer courses with ‘S’ or ‘P’ grades need to be reviewed for eligibility by the Health Sciences team

Program Course Requirement

The following point system is used to select eligible students. Student selection is based on the total number of points earned, and overall GPA. All prerequisite courses must be completed by the application deadline with a grade of “C” or better. You may not repeat a course for grade forgiveness for which you previously earned a grade of A, B or C.

Minimum Overall GPA Requirement: 2.0

Number of Applicants Accepted: 32 students per year

Program Course Prerequisites The following courses are required to be eligible for selection.			
Courses	Title	CR	Points
BSC 2085C or BSC 2093C	Human Anatomy & Physiology I	4	A=10, B=8, C=6
PHY 1007C (MAC 1105 College Algebra is the prerequisite)	Physics with Medical Applications NOTE: Course can be in progress at the time of application	4	A=10, B=8, C=6
Mathematics	Core Math (MAC 1105 College Algebra is recommended)	3	A=3, B=2, C=1
Additional Points – Required for Graduation The following courses are required for graduation . Completion of these courses with a minimum grade of C prior to the application deadline will result in additional admission points to be a competitive applicant.			
BSC 2086C or BSC 2094C	Human Anatomy & Physiology II	4	A=10, B=8, C=6
MCB 2010C	Microbiology	4	A=10, B=8, C=6
ENC 1101	Freshman Composition I	3	A=3, B=2, C=1
Humanities	Core Humanities	3	A=3, B=2, C=1
POS 2041, AMH 2020 or AMH 2010 (AMH 2010 completed fall 2024 and beyond)	Civic Literacy	3	A=3, B=2, C=1
<u>Florida Civic Literacy Exam</u>	Earn a passing score (60%)		1
Additional Points – Not Required for Graduation The following courses are not required for graduation . Completion of these courses with a minimum grade of C prior to the application deadline will result in additional admission points to be a competitive applicant.			
HSC 1004 or SLS 1122	Introduction to Health Professions or New Student Experience	3	A=3, B=2, C=1
HSC 1531	Medical Terminology	3	A=3, B=2, C=1
PSY 2012	General Psychology (If completed before fall 2025. This is effective until summer 2026)	3	A=3, B=2, C=1
Alternate: Previous-year applicants placed on the Alternate List			3
Total Possible Points			65

How to Apply to the Respiratory Care Program

Steps to Apply	Description
Submit a <u>Secondary Respiratory Care Application</u> .	1. Submit a General Valencia College Application. (This must be completed first. (<i>Active students are not required to submit a General Admission Application.</i>) 2. Submit a Respiratory Care <u>Application</u>
Valencia Student Status	Your Valencia College Student Status must be “active” before submitting a secondary Health Science Program application
Log In to the Application	Use your MyVC username and password. You must complete the entire application. *Valencia College Employees – If you are using a @valenciacollege.edu email to apply, you must contact healthscienceapplications@valenciacollege.edu for support with the application. *If you receive an <i>error message</i> when applying, please contact healthscienceapplications@valenciacollege.edu for support with the application
Submit the Application	Pay the \$15 non-refundable application fee. The application is NOT complete until payment is received.

What Happens After You Apply

Application Review Process: The application reviews will occur over 4-6 weeks after the closing deadline. Admissions are based on a competitive points system.

Application Notification: Your application decision will be sent to your MyVC email. You must monitor your email for updates. You will receive one of the following responses below:

Response Type

Response Type	Description
Selected	Accepted into the Program. Must confirm acceptance
Alternate	May be offered a seat if one becomes available
Not Selected	Met program eligibility requirements, but not competitive for selection
Ineligible	Did not meet program eligibility requirements

Requirements If Selected for Admission

Mandatory Respiratory Care Orientation: All accepted students must attend the Mandatory Respiratory Care Orientation, which is held before the program begins.

Orientation Dates

Term Begins	Orientation Date
Spring 2026	November 2025

Clinical Compliance Requirements

Compliance requirements and deadlines will be discussed during Orientation. Students who are accepted into a Health Sciences Program must submit the items listed below:

Item	Description
Background Check	Level II Background Check
Drug Screening	10 Panel Drug Screening
Fingerprints	To ensure students meet clinical requirements
CPR Certification	American Heart Association (AHA) Basic Life Support (BLS) CPR Certification
Required Vaccinations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. COVID-19 or Exemption Form 2. Hepatitis B 3. Influenza (Flu)* 4. MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella) 5. Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis) 6. Tuberculosis (TB) screening* 7. Varicella (Chickenpox) <p>* Required Annually</p>

Contact Information

Question	Contact
Application Questions	healthscienceapplications@valenciacollege.edu
Compliance Questions	hscompliance@valenciacollege.edu
Health Science Website	https://valenciacollege.edu/health
Allied Health Info Session	https://valenciacollege.edu/HealthInfoSessions
Valencia College Application	https://valenciacollege.edu/apply-credit/
Secondary Respiratory Care App	https://valenciacollege.edu/apply-health
Equal Opportunity Institution	https://valenciacollege.edu/about/equal-opportunity-title-ix/

Estimated Program Cost

Item	Cost Range
CastleBranch	\$192.99
Uniforms	Up to \$200
Instructional Material	Up to \$800
Immunizations	Up to \$500

***Disclaimer:** Prices are subject to change. This cost does not include tuition

CORE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR ADMISSION AND PROGRESSION

Respiratory Care is a practice discipline with cognitive, sensory, affective, and psychomotor performance requirements. Based on these requirements, the following list of "Core Performance Standards" has been developed. Each standard has an example of an activity, or activities, that a student will be required to perform while enrolled in the Respiratory Care Program. These standards are a part of each Respiratory Care course and of the professional role.

For the Respiratory Care Program, a qualified individual with a disability is one who, with or without reasonable accommodations or modifications, meets the essential eligibility requirements for participation in the program. Valencia College: School of Health Sciences makes no preadmission inquiries concerning an applicant's disability status. Information related to an applicant's disabilities is not a part of the information reviewed by the Admission Committee.

These Performance Standards should be used to assist students in identifying the academic and clinical expectations for all students. Students needing reasonable accommodations to fulfill required program outcomes or clinical expectations are encouraged to contact the [Office for Students with Disabilities](#), to engage in an interactive process regarding their request. It is the student's responsibility to notify and register with the Office for Students with Disabilities to identify and receive reasonable accommodations. Reasonable accommodations are effective only after engaging in this process and are not retroactive. Determination is made on an individual basis as to whether any accommodations or modifications can be reasonably made. [Valencia is an Equal Opportunity Institution](#).

Core Performance Standards		
Criteria	Standard	Examples Of Required Activities
Critical Thinking	Ability to make sound clinical decisions under pressure.	Analyze assessment data, identify cause-effect relationships, respond to emergencies, and solve problems.
Interpersonal	Ability to work compassionately and effectively with diverse individuals.	Build rapport, manage stress, stay focused, and collaborate with patients and healthcare teams.
Communication	Clear verbal and written communication in English.	Explain care, document accurately, read medical records, and use electronic systems professionally.
Mobility	Ability to navigate and assist in clinical environments safely.	Move freely, reposition patients, and transport equipment without risk of injury.
Motor Skills	Fine and gross motor control to provide effective respiratory care.	Draw medications, operate equipment, and assist with positioning patients.
Hearing	Adequate hearing to ensure safe and responsive care.	Detect alarms, monitor patient sounds, and respond to verbal cues from a distance.
Visual	Visual acuity for safe patient observation and accurate documentation.	Assess patients, detect subtle physical changes, and read printed and electronic records.
Tactile	Tactile sensitivity for physical assessments and interventions.	Perform palpation, insert devices, and identify changes in skin condition or temperature.