

RESPIRATORY THERAPY - FAQ

- 1 **Is there a website with information?**
<http://dacc.nmsu.edu/academics/programs/respiratory-therapy/index.html>
- 2 **Who can I talk to about the program?**
Vince Duran, Program Director, DAHL 191H/(575) 527-7731/vduran@dacc.nmsu.edu
Anthony Chasco, Dir. Clinical Ed, DAHL 191G/(575) 527-7731/ajchasco@dacc.nmsu.edu
- 3 **In a nutshell, what does a student need in order to apply?**
In order to be considered for the Respiratory Therapy Program, applicants must submit a completed application. Go to <https://dacc.nmsu.edu/academics/programs/respiratory-technology/index.html> for information.
- 4 **How does repeating prerequisites apply to this program?**
 - a. If a student earns a grade of F in a prerequisite course and repeats the course, how is the new grade used toward consideration of acceptance into the program? Does the new grade replace the previous grade or is it averaged in with the F? What if the student repeats the course a second time?
Students are not encouraged to repeat prerequisites for the Respiratory Therapy Program.
 - b. If a student earns a grade of D in a prerequisite course and repeats the course, how is the new grade used toward consideration of acceptance into the program? Does the new grade replace the previous grade or is it averaged in with the D? What if the student repeats the course a second time?
Students are not encouraged to repeat prerequisites for the Respiratory Therapy Program.
 - c. If a student earns a grade of C in a prerequisite course and repeats the course, how is the new grade used toward consideration of acceptance into the program? Does the new grade replace the previous grade or is it averaged in with the C? What if the student repeats the course a second time?
Students are not encouraged to repeat prerequisites for the Respiratory Therapy Program.
 - d. Is there a cap on the number of times a student can repeat a course before the student will no longer be considered?
If they do, only a cap of two is accepted and then they will no longer be considered.
- e. Do any prerequisites or other courses have a time expiration? (Example: BIOL 225/2210 must be repeated if taken more than 7 years prior to admission into the program.) If so, what are these courses and how do the new grade(s) work into the selection process?
Anatomy and microbiology courses would have a 7 year expiration.
Chemistry has a 3-year expiration.
- f. How is transfer credit treated? Do you use the grade from the transcript where they previously attended and consider those grades or just take into consideration the CR, CD, or GR?
The Program Director would want to see transfer credit transcripts from previous institutions.
- g. Are students selected based on their prerequisite GPA alone, or a combination of their prerequisite and cumulative GPA?
Students are selected on cumulative GPA, science GPA, and an interview. (GPAs do not give enough information on a student. An interview helps select well-rounded students.)
- 5 **How does exercising the Adjusted Credit Option (ACO), affect student's application?**
Some selective admission programs add or deduct points for exercising the ACO. This program does not. Students and advisors should, however be aware of the overall consequences of exercising the ACO. The policy is outlined under the Academic Regulations section of the current DACC catalog.
- 6 **What kind of a salary do graduates earn?**
\$18 - \$30 locally, higher elsewhere. In a majority of cases, continuing employment in the field is contingent upon successful completion of both the Certified Respiratory Therapist (CRT) exam, as well as the Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) exam. The RRT designation serves as the only credential recognized to obtain a Respiratory license for New Mexico.
- 7 **What grades are needed in order to graduate?**
Respiratory Therapy majors must earn a C or better in all Respiratory Therapy and related courses in order to remain in the program.

8 Are there any special exams that may be taken upon completion of the program?

Students completing the program are eligible for the examinations given by the National Board for Respiratory Care and state licensure in New Mexico. Students are required to take two national board exams. The program pays for the students to take them one time.

9 Does having a felony/misdemeanor prevent students from applying?

Closed to those with a criminal record. Students who are accepted into the program will be required to undergo a criminal history screening and a 10-panel drug screen. Background check and fingerprinting through the designated college affiliate (adverse findings may disqualify a student from continuing in the program).

10 Is there an application deadline?

May 1

11 How many students apply? How many are admitted?

22 admitted/average number of students applying 48

12 What is the average GPA of students accepted?

Fall 2020 cohort range was 3.8-2.7

13 Is the program accredited?

Accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC); www.coarc.com; 264 Precision Blvd., Telford, TN 37690

14 Are there additional program costs?

See department

15 Are there any special proficiencies students need to have?

None specified