

RESPIRATORY THERAPY



A **Diploma** Program Accredited by the Canadian **Medical** Association.



THE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
OF THE CARIBOO
KAMLOOPS, BRITISH COLUMBIA

About the Program

UCC is the only educational institution in B.C. to offer a career program in Respiratory Therapy. It is a three year diploma program, fully accredited by the Canadian Medical Association. The program consists of two years (eight-month sessions from September to April each year) of theory and didactic study. This is followed by 47 weeks of comprehensive study and clinical internship at accredited hospitals in B.C.

As one of the most comprehensive programs in Canada, we use the first two years to provide theory that is relevant to the clinical practice. This allows our students to focus completely on theoretical application and clinical instruction for patient care in the third year. Our clinical site co-ordinators and clinical instructors guide students in putting theory into practice, which we believe is one reason that our students are consistently of the best in Canada.

The clinical year will be spent in at least three of the following hospitals in British Columbia, all staffed by UCC site coordinators and clinical instructors:

- Royal Inland Hospital, Kamloops
- Royal Columbian Hospital, New Westminster
- Vancouver General Hospital
- B.C. Children's Hospital, Vancouver
- St. Paul's Hospital, Vancouver
- Greater Victoria Hospital Society

The clinical internship requires spending time in the lower mainland and on Vancouver Island, and applicants must be prepared to relocate as required.

Admission to the Program

The statement of Admissions policy at UCC is found in the General Information section of the College calendar. It is important to note that all Canadian applicants are given equal status when applying. Since there are a limited number of places available in this program, applications should be submitted early. Once the program is filled, a student may be placed on a waiting list but cannot be guaranteed acceptance.

Minimum Educational Requirements:

- B.C. Grade 12 graduation (or equivalent) C+ average
 - B.C. Algebra 12* (or equivalent), C+ minimum
 - B.C. Chemistry 12* (or equivalent), C+ minimum
 - B.C. Biology 12* (or equivalent), C+ minimum
 - B.C. Physics 11 (or equivalent), C+ minimum
 - B.C. English 12* (or equivalent), C minimum
- OR Level 3 on the Language Proficiency Index
OR Completion of English 050

*These credits must normally have been obtained within five years of application.

General Requirements

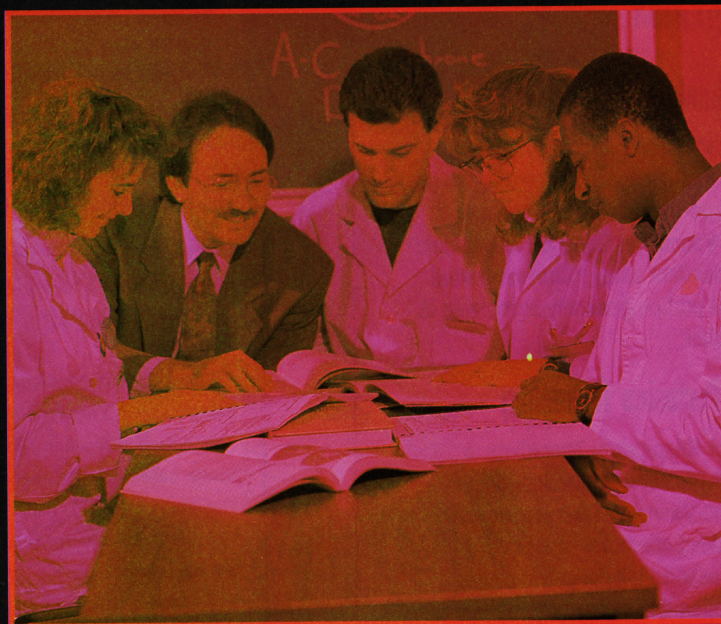
1. Successful medical
2. Complete immunization schedule
3. Interview with College counselor (optional)
4. Mandatory hospital tour, form to be signed by a clinical site coordinator or the department head.
5. CPR Level C

Employment Opportunities

While the majority of Respiratory Therapists will readily find employment in the hospital setting, a significant number of graduates are practicing in homecare, medical sales, education and research. The qualification of R.R.T. opens the door to international travel and employment opportunities around the world.

Respiratory therapists across Canada enjoy excellent salary and benefits packages. Some employers offer incentives to graduates willing to move and practice in their location.

The Respiratory Therapy program at UCC prepares students for professional and social encounters in the workplace. Our standard of excellence is proven by our graduates who have maintained top honours on the national board examinations and commonly achieved the highest average class score in Canada. At UCC we strive to promote an environment which allows students to achieve their full potential in every respect.



Outstanding Location

UCC is a comprehensive university college located in the interior city of Kamloops, B.C. (population 70,000). Situated on the South slope overlooking the North and South Thompson Rivers, the attractive 40 hectare campus is centrally located and features many new facilities

with more under construction. UCC offers on-campus student housing, indoor swimming pool, student activity centre, and a high degree of computer support for teaching the latest technologies in the Respiratory Therapy field. As a transportation crossroads, Kamloops is just

3 1/2 hours from Vancouver via the scenic Coquihalla freeway, a few hours away from the Rocky Mountains, and a one day drive east to Calgary or northwest to Edmonton. With an attractive climate, outstanding summer and winter recreation facilities, and high quality entertainment and cultural events, Kamloops is a pleasant place to live and learn.

Qualification for Success

Respiratory Therapy provides equal opportunity for men and women. In fact, both sexes are equally represented in the membership of the Canadian Society of Respiratory Therapists (CSRT). The rigorous routine of a hospital requires that the therapist prepare and complete treatment procedures with precision and within strict time limits. The ability to think independently, exercise good judgement, and communicate effectively, are all essential qualities for the Respiratory Therapist. Students should be seriously interested in medical technologies, and their application to respiratory care.

Start by Asking

Begin your career by taking the first and most important step...asking questions! Through your local Respiratory Therapy Department or College you could arrange to meet with with a Respiratory Therapist in your area to learn more about this career opportunity... or call us at UCC. To help you decide if this is the career for you, our Program Co-ordinator is available to answer your questions, and assist you in obtaining further information and making contacts in your area.

The University College of the Cariboo
Box 3010
Kamloops, BC
V2C 5N3
Telephone: (604) 828-5000
Les Matthews, R.R.T.(A), M.A.,
Program Co-ordinator: Extension 5434
UCC Admissions Office: Extension 5071

The Role of the Respiratory Therapist

Respiratory Therapy is "an allied health discipline devoted to the scientific applications of therapy in order to assist in the diagnosis, treatment, and promotion of the well-being of patients with respiratory and associated disorders, from premature infants to the adults." This allied health discipline has been the natural evolution of an emerging need to care for a substantial group of patients with diverse respiratory problems.

Respiratory Therapy is an integral part of total patient care. Since the role of the Respiratory Therapist is continually being updated and redefined, Therapists must have a philosophy of flexibility. The expanding scope of the practice requires Therapists to be knowledgeable in therapeutics, diagnostics, technology, education, administration and research. Above all, Respiratory Therapists must be able to employ this highly specific technical knowledge with a human touch.

In their daily practices, Therapists may be actively involved in cardiac arrests or responsible for application, adjustment, and monitoring of life-support systems. Testing and evaluating new medical technology has become routine in many Respiratory Therapy departments. Transport of high-risk patients is another important role of the Respiratory Therapist.

With their technical and therapeutic expertise, Registered Respiratory Therapists may provide education services to other health care professionals, medical students, respiratory therapy students, the general public, to patients and their families.

With advanced education, more respiratory personnel now conduct and/or assist in cardio-pulmonary research.

Therapists are responsible for the selection, operation, and general maintenance of complex patient-care apparatus.

As medical professionals, they combine technical skills with scientific information to the **benefit** of their patients.



Respiratory Therapists are allied health care professionals who plan and implement a variety of therapeutic and diagnostic procedures for patients suffering from a wide range of **heart** and **lung** disorders.

The Registered Respiratory Therapist

An R.R.T. is a graduate of an accredited educational program who has successfully passed the Canadian Board for Respiratory Care examination in Respiratory Therapy.

Consistent with the standard of excellence established in the field by UCC, post-diploma programs have been developed for R.R.Ts.

Post Diploma Programs

1. Anaesthesia Technology

This program is for Respiratory Therapists currently functioning in this capacity or wishing to do so. It was developed co-operatively with Victoria General Hospital and Vancouver General Hospital and is offered on an independent study, tutor-supported basis, with the clinical portion generally completed at Victoria General Hospital.

2. Cardio Vascular Perfusion Technology

This program, for Respiratory Therapists or similarly qualified individuals, was developed co-operatively by UCC and Vancouver General Hospital. Graduates become skilled operators of extra corporeal equipment used to take over the patient's cardiopulmonary function during surgery. The didactic portion is offered on an independent-study, tutor supported basis, while the clinical portion must be completed at VGH.

3. Bachelor of Health Science

The B.H.Sc. (Resp) degree is designed to allow diploma therapists to engage in studies that combine advanced diploma courses with academic studies in Health Care Issues, Liberal Arts, and Social Sciences. Contact Larry Prins, Chairperson of Allied Health Programs.

Continuing Education for RT's (CERT)

The University College of the Cariboo offers a comprehensive program of continuing education courses for respiratory therapists. These courses will benefit those therapists who wish to:

- Strengthen their theoretical knowledge
- Remain current with the rapid changes in respiratory therapy
- Present their students with complete and up-to-date information about the latest theories and techniques in the field
- Advance in their chosen profession
- Return to practice after an extended absence
- Attain credits through the CSRT CERT program

For further information on courses and fees contact Bryan Daly, UCC Coordinator for Continuing Education of Health Sciences at (604) 828-5433 or (604) 828-5403.

AN EXCITING CAREER OPTION IN RESPIRATORY CARE

As the largest single employer of Registered Respiratory Therapists in the country, ARS VitalAire is pleased to offer challenging careers in home care services and equipment sales across Canada.

The self directed therapists at ARS VitalAire are an integral part of the health care team. Our expertise allows us to provide therapy, diagnostics, education and the latest in respiratory equipment and allergy products.

ARS VitalAire continues to provide exciting employment opportunities to innovative, self-motivated individuals who desire to meet this career challenge.

For more information, call your local ARS VitalAire office.



ASSOCIATED RESPIRATORY SERVICES INC.