



TWO DEGREES, ONE PATH

TRANSFER PATHWAY GUIDE 2025-2026

Associate in Applied Science in Respiratory Care To
Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Care Completion Program

Overview

Completion of the following curriculum will satisfy the requirements for the Associate in Applied Science (AAS) in Respiratory Care degree at a Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) institution and leads to the Bachelor of Science (BS) in Respiratory Care degree at Northern Kentucky University (NKU).

Applying to the KCTCS2NKU Program

Students can apply to participate in the pathway program by completing the online application on the NKU transfer webpage. Students must be enrolled in at least six credit hours at their KCTCS institution, enrolled in an associate degree program, plan to transfer to NKU, and maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA at their KCTCS institution.

Degree Requirements for KCTCS

1) Minimum cumulative GPA 2.0, 2) minimum of 25 percent of credit hours required for the degree earned at the institution awarding the degree, and 3) demonstration of digital literacy.

Admission Requirements for NKU

Students completing an associate degree with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher will be accepted into NKU. In addition, students must meet the admissions requirements for the Respiratory Care Completion Program listed below.

- Students must be a graduate of a CoARC accredited program.
- Have a GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale for all transferable college work.
- Have a current Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) credential from the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC). Credits can be earned for specific NKU courses for students with credentials such as ACCS, NPS, RPFT, and SDS. Additional information is given at the end of this document.

- Meet all eligibility requirements for admission into NKU.
- Students who have not completed the General Education requirements will be required to take additional general education courses at NKU.
- All academic work must be evaluated by NKU Admissions Office and the Respiratory Care Program Director.

This major is completed online. Courses are offered in seven-week formats. Tuition for online accelerated programs differs from face-to-face tuition. Scholarship pricing is available to KCTCS students who choose to enroll in the fully online program. Visit our website for more information about the [Respiratory Care Completion Accelerated Online program](#).

Applicants whose native language is other than English must demonstrate an established level of English proficiency by taking the Internet-based TOEFL. Please see English Proficiency below for more information.

Degree Requirements for NKU

To earn a bachelor's degree at NKU, students must complete a minimum of 120 credit hours with at least 45 credit hours numbered 300 and above. In addition, at least 25% of the credit hours required for the degree and the last 30 credit hours must be completed at NKU. Students must have an overall GPA of 2.0 and meet all requirements for the major. A minor is not required for this major.

General Transfer Information

Students must complete the online application to NKU. There is no application fee for students who are transferring from a KCTCS institution.

KCTCS Scholars Award: Students who are KY residents transferring directly from a KCTCS institution with at least 36 hours from that institution and minimum GPA of 3.0, were never enrolled as a degree-seeking student at NKU, and will be enrolled in at least 12 credit hours both fall and spring semester are eligible for a limited number of \$2,500 annual scholarships (\$1,250 per fall and spring). Students must gain admission to NKU by June 15 for fall and November 1 for spring to be eligible for a possible scholarship. Online accelerated programs are not eligible for the KCTCS Scholars Award.

**KCTCS AAS IN RESPIRATORY CARE TO
NKU BS IN RESPIRATORY CARE COMPLETION PROGRAM CHECKLIST**

Kentucky Community and Technical College System

Category 1: KCTCS General Education Requirements

KCTCS Course	Course or Category	Credits	NKU Course	Completed
ENG 101	Writing I	3	ENG 101	
COM 181	Basic Public Speaking	3	CMST 101	
MAT 110 or MAT 146 or MAT 150	Applied Mathematics or Contemporary College Mathematics or College Algebra	3	MAT 100G MAT 115 (MAT 102 or MAT 103) + MAT 100T	
TBS XXX	Social/Behavioral Science	3	TBD XXX	
TBS XXX	Heritage/Humanities	3	TBD XXX	
BIO 137	Human Anatomy and Physiology I	4	BIO 208/208L	
BIO 139	Human Anatomy and Physiology II	4	BIO 209/209L	
	Subtotal General Education Courses	23		

TBS XXX means to be selected by KCTCS student.

TBD XXX means to be determined by NKU based on course selected.

A grade of A or B in MAT 150 equates to MAT 103 + MAT 100T. Grade of C or D in MAT 150 equates to MAT 102 + MAT 100T.

Category 2: KCTCS AAS Requirements for Respiratory Care

KCTCS Course	Course or Category	Credits	NKU Course	Completed
DIL XXX	Digital Literacy	0-3		
RCP 110	Cardiopulmonary Anatomy & Physiology	3	RSP 235	
RCP 120 or RCP 122	Theory & Principles of Respiratory Care or Fundamentals of Respiratory Care (BCTC)	4 (4)	RSP 201/201L	
RCP 125 or RCP 140	Evaluation and Treatment of Patients with Cardiopulmonary Issues or Cardiopulmonary Assessment (BCTC)	4 (2)	RSP 331	
RCP 130 or HST 121	Pharmacology	3 (2)	HSC 105	
RCP 150 or HST 101 or	Clinical Practice I OR Basic Skills I** OR	2 (3)	RSP 286 HSC 101	

KCTCS Course	Course or Category	Credits	NKU Course	Completed
RCP 121	Respiratory Care Practice I (BCTC)	(1)	RSP 286	
RCP 175 or RCP 176	Clinical Practice II OR Respiratory Care Practice II (BCTC)	3 (2)	RSP 296	
RCP 180 and RCP 190 or RCP 185 and RCP 195	Ventilatory Support and Advanced Ventilatory Support or Intro to Mechanical Ventilation and Patient-Ventilator System Management (BCTC)	3 2 (2) (4)	RSP 220 RSP 200T (RCP 190 + RCP 204 = RSP 310 + RSP 300T) RSP 220 RSP 310	
RCP 200 or RCP 201	Clinical Practice III OR Respiratory Care Practice III (BCTC)	3 (2)	RSP 386	
RCP 204 and RCP 214 or RCP 240 and RCP 245	Emergency and Special Procedures and Advanced Diagnostic Procedures or Advanced Cardiopulmonary Evaluation and Advanced Cardiac Life Support (BCTC)	3 3 (3) (2)	RSP 200T + RSP 331 (RCP 190 + RCP 204 = RSP 310 + RSP 300T) or RSP 331 + RSP 310	
RCP 210 or HST 122	Cardiopulmonary Pathophysiology OR Clinical Pathophysiology	3	RSP 350	
RCP 212	Neonatal/Pediatric Respiratory Care	3	RSP 362	
RCP 225 or RCP 226	Clinical Practice IV OR Respiratory Care Clinical Practice IV (BCTC)	3 (4)	RSP 396	
RCP 228	Preventive and Long Term Respiratory Care	2	RSP 300T	
RCP 250 or RCP 251	Clinical Practice V OR Respiratory Care Practice V (BCTC)	3 (4)	RSP 486	
TBS XXX	Elective (BCTC requires RCP 260)	0-1	TBD XXX (RCP 260 = RSP 480; RCP 251 + RCP 260 = RSP 480 + RSP 200 T)	
	Total Associate Degree Credit Hours	68-70		

Northern Kentucky University

Category 3: NKU Additional General Education Requirements

NKU Course	Course	Credits	KCTCS Course	Taken at KCTCS
ENG 102	Advanced College Writing	3	ENG 102	
TBS XXX	Cultural Pluralism	3	TBD XXX	
TBS XXX	Individual & Society	3	TBD XXX	
TBS XXX	Culture & Creativity	3	TBD XXX	
TBS XXX	Global Viewpoints	3	TBD XXX	
	Subtotal General Education Courses	15		

TBS XXX means to be selected.

Note: Students can take these additional general education courses once they transfer to NKU or while at their KCTCS institution in order to satisfy general education requirements at NKU. The KCTCS Heritage and Humanities course will likely transfer as a Culture and Creativity credit and the Social/Behavioral course will likely be an Individual and Society course, but discuss your choice with an advisor to know for sure which NKU general education category it will fulfill.

Category 4: NKU Major Requirements for the BS in Respiratory Care Completion Program

NKU Course	Course	Credits	KCTCS Course	Taken at KCTCS
HHS 500	Teaching & Learning in Healthcare Education	3		
RSP 430	Advanced Pathophysiology	3		
RSP 441	Evidence-based Practice in Resp Care	3		
RSP 445	Health Assessment and Promotion	3		
RSP 460	Advanced Respiratory Critical Care	3		
RSP 484	Accelerated Respiratory Care Capstone	1.5		
RSP 484	Accelerated Respiratory Care Capstone	1.5		
HIN 355	Foundations of Health Informatics	3		
HSC 410	Healthcare Management	3		
HSC 421	Healthcare Research	3		
Select 1: HSC 413 HSC 480 HSC 510 LDR 315	Select one healthcare/leadership elective: Aging in Today's Society Global Perspectives in Health Care Trends and Cultural Issues in Healthcare Leading People in Organizations	3		
	Subtotal Major Credit Hours at NKU	30		
	Subtotal Major Credit Hours KCTCS	0		
	Total Major Credit Hours	30		

Category 5: Additional Requirements at NKU

NKU Course	Course	Credits	KCTCS Course	Taken at KCTCS
	Subtotal Elective (300/400 level) Hours	5-7		
	Total Baccalaureate Degree Credit Hours	120		

National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC)

Students who have taken and received a passing score on a certification examination from the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC), as determined by the Department of Allied Health, will receive credit for equivalent NKU courses. Please note: Students will need to complete 30 credit hours at NKU regardless of credits.

The chart below lists the examinations, prerequisites, minimum score, the equivalent NKU courses and the maximum number of hours.

EXAMINATION	PREREQUISITE	EQUIVALENT NKU COURSES	TOTAL SEMESTER CREDITS
NBRC - Adult Critical Care Specialty (RRT-ACCS)	NBRC - Registered Respiratory Care (RRT)	RSP 460 Advanced Respiratory Critical Care	3

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