Respiratory care professionals work with patients with abnormalities and diseases of the cardiopulmonary system. The respiratory therapist sees a diverse group of patients ranging from newborn and pediatric patients to the adult and elderly. Diseases often requiring respiratory care include asthma, emphysema, chronic obstructive lung disease, pneumonia, cystic fibrosis, respiratory distress syndrome and conditions brought on by shock, trauma, or postoperative surgical conditions. Respiratory Therapists complete patient evaluation, treatment selection, and assess treatment outcomes as well as performing patient education and disease management.

Points of Pride

- Graduates are prepared to become Registered Respiratory Therapists with credentials that are recognized on a national level
- Small student to faculty ratio with a lab dedicated to respiratory care students
- Clinical opportunities at nationally recognized award winning medical facilities (The Cleveland Clinic, MetroHealth, University Hospitals, Mercy Health) in a wide variety of locations and specialty areas from Cleveland to Toledo
- Most employers offer flexible hours (prn, part-time, full-time), creative scheduling, and shift differentials
- Respiratory care program offered at BGSU Firelands and through the University Partnership at LCCC

The BGSU Firelands Respiratory Care Bachelor degree program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (www.coarc.com). The BGSU Firelands program number is 200339 and the LCCC satellite program number is 300009. Program student/graduate outcomes can be found at https://www.coarc.com/Students/Programmatic-Outcome-Data.aspx. Programmatic outcomes are performance indicators that reflect the extent to which the goals of the program are achieved and by which program effectiveness is documented. Programmatic outcomes data reported on the CoARC website include: 3-year time period being reported; CRT credentialing success; RRT credentialing success; Achievement of the high cut score on the TMC Exam (beginning 2020); Retention; Job placement; Overall Graduate Satisfaction; Overall Employer Satisfaction; Total number of program enrollees; Total number of program graduates; Maximum Annual Enrollment.

The projected annual salary for respiratory therapists is over $60,000 per year while the need for respiratory therapists is expected to grow by up to 21%. Job outlook exceeds the national average.

Employment opportunities include:
- Hospitals
- Long-term care
- Home care
- Emergency care
- Higher education instruction

Specialty areas of employment:
- Newborn and pediatric critical care
- Cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation
- Pulmonary function testing
- Disease management
- Sleep laboratories

Read more about the BSRC program at firelands.bgsu.edu/majors-programs/respiratory-care

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