GREAT FALLS COLLEGE MSU
RESPIRATORY THERAPY PROGRAM

Student Information and Application Packet
(Applications are subject to change from year to year)

Applications are due **May 14, 2021**

Fall 2021
Respiratory Therapy Program Student Information and Application Packet

Dear Prospective Respiratory Therapy Student:

Thank you for your interest in the Great Falls College Montana State University Respiratory Therapy Program. You can make a lifelong career as a Respiratory Therapist. The job market and opportunities for RTs has never been better. You have picked a great time to advance your career as a healthcare professional in the field of Respiratory Therapy.

As a Respiratory Therapist, you will care for patients with diseases of the lungs and heart. They will range in age from premature infants to the elderly. You will have the opportunity to work in all areas of the hospital and will be a vital part of the lifesaving emergency response team. While most Respiratory Therapists work in acute care hospitals, a substantial number are employed in alternative care sites, such as nursing homes, physicians’ offices, home health agencies, specialized care hospitals, sleep labs and medical equipment supply companies.

The Great Falls College Respiratory Therapy Program accepts twenty-five students each year over several clinical sites. The small size creates the opportunity for faculty and preceptors to pay individual attention to each student. This class size is determined by available clinical opportunities. Limited enrollment creates a competitive student selection process. It is important for you to review and understand this process. Please refer to the Application Evaluation (page 14-15) located in this information packet.

Information about the program and application materials for the fall entry are enclosed. Please read these materials carefully.

For additional information or answers to specific questions, please contact the Health Science Program Assistant at 771-4350 or Brian Cayko, Program Faculty, at 771-4359.

Thank you for your interest in the Great Falls College Respiratory Therapy Program. Sincerely,

Brian Cayko, MBA, RRT, FAARC  
Director of Clinical Education

Leonard Bates, ME, RRT  
Respiratory Therapy Program Director

Last updated February 12, 2021 for Fall 2021 Intake
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Great Falls College MSU Associate of Applied Science Degree Respiratory Therapy

Program Description and Occupational Outlook:

The Respiratory Therapist functions as an integral member of the medical team working closely with Doctors, Surgeons, Anesthesiologists, Registered Nurses, and other medical personnel. Some of the responsibilities include life support, mechanical ventilation, code response team, intubations, arterial blood gasses, neonatal intensive care, pediatrics, pulmonary function, sleep disorders, aerosol and oxygen therapy. Patient diseases like COPD, Asthma, Lung Cancer, Cystic Fibrosis, Respiratory Distress Syndrome and Pulmonary Fibrosis are just a few of the pathologies RTs treat. During the Covid-19 pandemic of 2019-2021 Respiratory Therapists were acknowledged as mandatory front line experts working to treat and save lives of the patients contracting this virus.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (https://www.bls.gov) employment of is expected to grow 19% between 2019 and 2029, much faster than the average for all occupations, as the population ages and lung disease patient cases increase.

In Montana, the median hourly pay for a respiratory therapist is approximately $28 per hour. The following wage information for Montana is according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Montana Department of Labor & Industry.

Median Wage: $28.09 per hour / $58,420 yearly
Expected Mt growth: 30% increase

There is also opportunity to earn additional hourly pay with on-call schedules, overtime, shift differentials for nights & weekends and holiday pay. A Respiratory Therapist works in all areas of healthcare including contracts as a ‘traveler’ that works short term contracts all over the country for premium pay and with your lodging expenses paid for.

Educational Program:
The Respiratory Therapy program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care. Graduates of this program are eligible to take the National Board for Respiratory Care’s Certification and the Registered Respiratory Therapist Examination.

After completion of prerequisite coursework, the Respiratory Therapy program is four consecutive semesters. The program is competency-based and has the goal of preparing graduates with the knowledge, skills, and values to work as a Respiratory Therapist.

This program utilizes distance (remote) online classroom learning as well as clinical laboratory and patient care practice. It is rigorous, fast-paced and challenging. There are many tests, quizzes, assignments, experiences and competencies. Students find it necessary to spend substantial study time outside of the online classroom, lab and clinic environments. Generally, for every credit hour, you will spend at least 4 hours in preparation &/or in the completion of assignments. For example, in a 3 credit course you should expect to devote 12 hours per week working on course material. Clinical course time, i.e. time spent at the training hospital, will vary from semester to semester but in general you should expect 8 hour clinical days several days a week that can range anywhere from 6 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. and on occasion an overnight shift.

Program Expenses:
Respiratory Therapy Students are required to purchase personal equipment and supplies, textbooks, online access to course material and other required online access programs required for course completion and clinical record keeping, uniforms, lab fees, and transportation to clinical sites are all the students responsibility to provide. Students should begin planning early for financial aid to meet their educational expenses. Approximate program costs can be found in the current catalog online at http://catalog.gfcmsu.edu/academicprograms/respiratory-care/#estimatedcosttext
Admission to the Great Falls College MSU

Students must be admitted to the College and in good academic standing prior to the submission of the Respiratory Therapy Program Application. Applications will not be reviewed until applicants have been admitted to Great Falls College MSU and official transcripts have been reviewed by the Registrar.

Acceptance to Great Falls College MSU requires a completed admissions application file, which may be obtained by visiting the campus, calling the College (406) 268-3700 or applying online at: http://admissions.gfcmsu.edu/apply.html

Eligibility for Admission into the Respiratory Therapy Program

All eligibility forms and documents are enclosed in the Respiratory Therapy Program Information and Application Packet.

To be eligible to apply for admission into the Respiratory Therapy Program, applicants must:

• Be admitted to Great Falls College MSU and currently in good academic standing
• Completed all prerequisite course work with a minimum grade of “C-” in each course and a minimum cumulative GPA in prerequisite course work of 2.0.
• Prerequisite coursework can be taken at other accredited institutions but it is the applicant’s responsibility to confirm those courses are equivalent to the program’s prerequisites and are transferable to this institution.

Equal Opportunity Policy

Great Falls College MSU is committed to the provision of equal opportunity for education, employment, and participation in all College programs and activities without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, creed, service in the uniformed services (as defined in state and federal law), veteran status, gender, age, political ideas, marital or family status, physical or mental disability, genetic information, gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation. The College's Equal Opportunity Officer is the Chief Student Affairs & Human Resources Officer, 2100 16th Avenue South, Great Falls, MT 59405. Telephone: 406-771-4300

Student Health Insurance

Program students entering the clinic setting are strongly advised to carry their own medical health insurance. Students will be financially responsible for their health care if they become ill or injured in the clinical setting.

Student Health Insurance Option (Subject to change)

All GFC MSU students enrolled for 6 or more credits are required to have health insurance. For students without coverage, GFC MSU offers a program developed especially for students by Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Montana. This plan provides coverage for injuries and illnesses on or off campus. Please contact Student Central 406-771-4324 for more information. Please see http://students.gfcmsu.edu/insurance.html for more information.

Notification of Acceptance

Students will be notified of acceptance into the Program by June 21, 2021. Accepted students will be required to provide proof of Healthcare Provider CPR certification and immunizations at the beginning of the fall semester. You are also required to use the GFC MSU Background and Drug Screen service provider to provide these two items. A full list of these requirements can be found at http://www.edu/webs/respiratorycare/index.html and clicking on “Steps to Apply.” Accepted students must attend the Respiratory Therapy program orientation and Health Science division orientation. Both are mandatory and available online. These will be due during the week prior to the start of fall classes and times will be sent to you in your acceptance letter.

Health Sciences Division Policy: Student Background Checks

• To promote patient safety and decrease institutional liability, most clinical agencies require students to have cleared a background check and drug screening before they will permit the students in the lab and clinical setting. To meet these requirements, the College requires that the check/screening be done prior to placement in any clinical agency.
• Background checks/drug screenings are done at the student’s expense. Students with background checks that reveal a finding will be evaluated individually to determine whether they will be eligible for clinical placement and state licensure for their respective degree program.
• Information about how to obtain the appropriate background check and drug testing is provided in the acceptance letter.

Program Admission Process

The Respiratory Therapy Program Admissions Committee reviews application packets and uses established admissions criteria to rank applicants for admission. The Application Evaluation form (page 14-15) used by the committee is enclosed. Criteria for selection emphasize academic performance in prerequisite course work and previous education.

The priority deadline for applications to the Respiratory Therapy Program is **May 14, 2021**.
Completed Program Application Packets may be hand delivered to Health Science Program Assistant at the College or mailed to the College.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact Information</th>
<th>Mailing address:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health Science Program Assistant</td>
<td>Respiratory Therapy Admissions Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room R 227</td>
<td>Attention: Respiratory Therapy Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>406.771.4350</td>
<td>Great Falls College MSU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2100 16th Avenue South</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Great Falls, MT 59405</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• Please send all application items as a completed packet. Items sent separately and at random are easily lost or misfiled. We are not responsible for any late, lost or misfiled information. Please only send required documentation as other supplemental items will be discarded.

• **Priority Application Due Date: May 14, 2021**

• It is the applicant’s responsibility to ensure that all requirements are met by the established deadline. Deadlines, guidelines, and policies apply equally to all students; thus, there can be no exceptions.
• Great Falls College MSU’s Respiratory Therapy Program does not maintain a waiting list. Applicants must reapply each year.

APPLICATION SCORING:

• For applicants, who have taken courses multiple times; the most recent verifiable grade will be used for scoring/GPA calculations.
• Points and GPAs will be calculated by the Registrar’s Office and grade points will be calculated using the current catalog criteria, which includes +/- weighing. Plus or minus is equivalent to the following:

  
  \[
  \begin{align*}
  (A) & = 4 & (A-) & = 3.7 & (B+) & = 3.3 & (C+) & = 2.3 \\
  (A- ) & = 3.7 & (B) & = 3 & (C) & = 2 & (C-) & = 1.7 \\
  (B-) & = 2.7 & & & & & \\
  \end{align*}
  \]

• For students, who have been awarded credit for successful performance in subject examinations of the CLEP or DSST programs, the credits will be accepted, however there is no grade for calculation for scoring or GPA. In this situation, the total points will convert to percentages for ranking.
• For students, who have been awarded credit for successful performance in subject examinations of the AP program, the credits will be accepted for scores of 3, 4 or 5, however there is no grade for calculation for scoring or GPA. In this situation, the total points will convert to percentages for ranking.
• For students, who have been awarded credit for Prior Learning Assessment, the credits will be accepted for Passing (P) grades, however there is no grade for calculation for scoring or GPA. In this situation, the total points will convert to percentages for ranking.
• For students, who have additional educational attainment, the Registrar’s Office will verify degrees awarded from official transcripts.
Respiratory Therapy Curriculum

Prerequisite courses
A background in related instruction and basic science is essential to succeed in the Respiratory Therapy program. The following courses must be completed or be in progress prior to admission into the Respiratory Therapy Program. Grades in prerequisite courses are a major factor in ranking applications for admissions.

- These courses must be completed with a “C-” or better before official acceptance into the Respiratory Therapy Program.

### Required Prerequisite Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOH 201</td>
<td>Human Anat Phys I/ Lab (# 301) ’”*:</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOH 211</td>
<td>Human Anat Phys II &amp; Lab(#311) ’”*:</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: UM Western students may substitute BIOH 160, BIOH 285 & BIOH 379 for GFC MSU. BIOH 201 & BIOH 211. All 4 classes are required and must have a grade of C or higher (not C-) within the last 5 years of application.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WRT 101</th>
<th>College Writing I ’”*:</th>
<th>3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Select one of the following:

- M 121  | College Algebra ’”*:                            | 3       |
- M 140  | College Math for Healthcare ’”*:                | 3       |
- M 151  | Pre calculus ’”*:                               | 4       |
- M 161  | Survey of Calculus ’”*:                         | 4       |
- M 171  | Calculus I ’”*:                                 | 4       |

| STAT 216 | Introduction to Statistics ’”*:                | 4       |

NOTE: For transfer students, M 115 Probability and Linear Math will be accepted.

Total: 14-15

** Placement in course(s) is determined by placement assessment.
+ A grade of C- or above is required for graduation.

### Recommended Prerequisite course, not required

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOM 250</td>
<td>Microbiology for Hlth Sci w/ Lab Basic</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHMS 144</td>
<td>Medical Terminology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHMY 121</td>
<td>Intro to General Chemistry with lab</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Science courses must be completed within five (5) years of and other courses must be completed within 15 years of applying to the Respiratory Therapy Program.

### Transferable Courses

General education coursework taken at other accredited education institutions may be designated as equivalent courses for Great Falls College MSU. For a current listing of approved equivalent courses, visit the Transfer Guide under Student Information at [https://prodmyinfo.montana.edu/pls/gfagent/hwzkxfer.p_selstate](https://prodmyinfo.montana.edu/pls/gfagent/hwzkxfer.p_selstate). Transfer work must be from regionally accredited institutions.

The transferring student must initiate the request for evaluation of credit during the admission process by furnishing an official transcript from the transferring institution(s) and the necessary materials, including copies of the appropriate catalog descriptions or course syllabi, to Registrar. Official transcripts must be sent directly by the issuing institution to the following address:

**Registrar’s Office**

**Great Falls College MSU**

**2100 16th Ave S**

**Great Falls, MT 59405**
### Respiratory Therapy Program Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>First Year</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHRC 150</td>
<td>Respiratory Care Lab I *,+</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHRC 152</td>
<td>Respiratory Care *,+</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHRC 155</td>
<td>Respiratory Physiology *,+</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHRC 170</td>
<td>Respir Care Tech &amp; Proced I *,+</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHRC 254</td>
<td>Pulmonary Assessment *,+</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spring</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHRC 140</td>
<td>Respiratory Care Clinic I *,+</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHRC 171</td>
<td>Resp Care Tech &amp; Proced II *,+</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHRC 180</td>
<td>Ventilator Management *,+</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHRC 250</td>
<td>Respiratory Care Lab II *,+</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHRC 262</td>
<td>Neonatal Respiratory Care *,+</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>16</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Second Year</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fall</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHRC 240</td>
<td>Respiratory Care Clinic III *,+</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHRC 245</td>
<td>Resp Care Clinical Seminar I *,+</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHRC 251</td>
<td>Hemodynamic Monitoring *,+</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHRC 274</td>
<td>Pulmonary Diseases *,+</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECP 212</td>
<td>Advanced Cardiac Life Support *,+</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>14</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spring</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHRC 241</td>
<td>Respiratory Care Clinic IV *,+</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHRC 246</td>
<td>Resp Care Clinical Seminar II *,+</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHRC 264</td>
<td>Respiratory Care In Att Sites *,+</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECP 241</td>
<td>Pediatric Advanced Life Supprt *,+</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HTH 120</td>
<td>IV Therapy for HC Providers *,+</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Select one of the following:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMX 115</td>
<td>Intro to Interpersonal Communc *</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYX 100</td>
<td>Introduction to Psychology *</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYX 230</td>
<td>Developmental Psychology *</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>13</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL PROGRAM CREDITS: 72-73**

Students must earn a minimum grade of “C-” in all required courses to continue in the program.
GREAT FALLS COLLEGE MSU
RESPIRATORY THERAPY PROGRAM
(This & all of the following sheets must be turned in completed & together.)
APPLICATION PACKET COVER & CHECK-OFF SHEET

NAME ____________________________

ADDRESS ____________________________________________

CITY ____________________________ STATE ____________ ZIP ____________

TELEPHONE (Home) ____________________________ (Other) ____________________________

E-Mail ADDRESS ____________________________________________

GFC MSU STUDENT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: ____________________________________________

Check-off List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>√</th>
<th>Item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Completed Admissions File.</strong> A completed admissions file includes a completed application, copies of high school/GED/HiSET transcripts or diplomas, proof of 2 MMRs, and completion of placement testing or submit official college transcript(s) verifying placement. Complete admissions files will be verified by the Registrar’s Office and applicants with incomplete files will not be admitted to the program. Students are encouraged to check with the Admissions Office to confirm that their admissions file is complete.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>In Good Academic Standing</strong> All students must be in good academic standing which means they are not on academic probation OR academic probation continued, OR academic suspension. Good academic standing will be verified by the registrar and any applicants who are not in good academic standing will not be admitted to the program. Students are encouraged to check with the Registrar’s or Admissions Office to confirm that they are in good academic standing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Application Packet Cover &amp; Check-off sheet [this page,9]</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Signed Technical Standards Form (page 10 &amp; 11)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Signed Distance Expectancy Form (page 12 &amp; 13)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Application Evaluation (page 14-15)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Official Transcripts for all completed post-secondary education and prerequisite courses completed at another institution – By May 14, 2021</strong> <em>(Send transcripts to Registrar- No need to include in packet)</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Important Note:**
The program specific professional organization may not allow you to take the national exam following the completion of this program. Acceptance for taking national exams or granting of a state license, *if you have a felony conviction*, is approved or denied by the professional organization or the state board on an individual basis. If you have a felony conviction, contact the appropriate organization for further information before making an application to the program.

Respiratory Therapy:
National Board for Respiratory Care [http://www.nbrc.org/](http://www.nbrc.org/) and

Last updated February 12, 2021 for Fall 2021 Intake
The following statements are given to provide the student with a description of the type of physical/technical standards necessary to complete the Respiratory Therapy Program. These standards are not measured as a requirement for Program admission. However, the student is encouraged to consider the physical and mental requirements of the Program and to make an appointment with the Program Director to discuss concerns or requests for accommodation for his/her disability. Students with documented needs for accommodations are to meet with Great Falls College MSU’s Disability Services office.

In order to successfully complete the Respiratory Therapy Program, students must demonstrate their competency in carrying out tasks necessary for safe and effective practice in the field including routine part of the classroom, laboratory, or clinical education.

**Observation/Sensory-Motor**
- Accurately identify and assess heart, breath, abdominal, and other sounds of the human body & use of stethoscope
- Accurately assess normal and abnormal color changes in the skin and observe pupil changes
- Accurately differentiate colors and recognize patient odors including color codes on supplies, medications, and equipment.
- Detect and respond appropriately to activation/warning signals on equipment) including auditory and visual signals)
- Detect significant environmental odors, distinguish fine print on various medication labels
- Observe and assess conditions of a patient accurately, at a distance and close at hand, and observe non-verbal communication when performing assessments and interventions or administering medications
- Observe and participate in all demonstrations and experiments in the basic sciences including computer-assisted instruction. Observe digital or waveform readings
- Perceive signs of disease and/or infection as manifested through physical examination including visual images of the body surfaces, palpable changes in various organs and tissues, and auditory information (patient voice, heart sounds, bowel and lung sounds). Read gradients/calibrations on a syringe

**Communication**
- Accurately document treatment information
- Communicate accurately and effectively in English with other students, faculty, staff, patients, families and other professionals in a culturally sensitive manner
- Communicate effectively in classroom presentations, seminars, simulation, practicum sites, practicum conferences, and online-formats
- Convey or exchange accurate information in a clear and efficient manner to obtain a health history, identify problems presented, and explain alternative solutions
- Effectively communicate with and respond appropriately to other healthcare professionals’ questions, requests, and directions in classroom, lab and clinical settings
- Process and communication information on the patient’s status including changes in mood, activity and posture, and non-verbal communications with accuracy in a timely manner to members of the health care team

**Psychomotor**
- Adjust and operate diagnostic or therapeutic devices by manipulating knobs, dials, and keyboards
- Answer patient call lights or intercom system to determine patient needs. Assemble medical equipment and supplies
- Conduct laboratory and diagnostic tests and carry out physical assessments
- Coordinate fine and gross muscular movements to treat patients in emergency situations
- Accurately manipulate fine objects such as needles, syringes, and other fine medical instruments.
- Engage in patient care delivery in all settings and deliver care to all patient populations including but not limited to children, adolescents, adults, individuals with disabilities, medically compromised patients and vulnerable adults
- Execute physical movements required to provide general care and treatment to all patients in all health care settings from a variety of positions such as standing, sitting, bending, or stooping. Perform a variety of tasks at varying heights requiring physical agility. Maintain balance in multiple positions. Move within confined spaces.
Correctly perform aseptic procedures such as disinfection of medical equipment, sterilization of medical instruments, management of sharps, and maintenance of proper protocols for management of bloodborne pathogens.

Accurately palpate patient to determine differences in sizes and shapes, detect veins and arteries, and identify and palpate body landmarks.

Accurately perform chart reviews and continuous assessment of patient’s status using available technology.

Move and position heavy and/or large equipment

Operate equipment typically found in the health care environment including Ventilators, Oxygen equipment, IV pumps, cardiac monitors, humidifiers and electric and manual blood pressure equipment, safe handling equipment

Perform basic life support, ventilation/compression (including CPR and AED), and other basic life support functions

Perform inspection, palpation, auscultation, percussion, and other diagnostic maneuvers

Perform or assist with procedures, treatments, and medication administration

Respond to emergencies precisely, consistently, accurately, and quickly

Safely assist a patient transfer. Ex. from bed to chair, bed to stretcher, chair to bed as needed

Transport patients in wheelchairs as necessary. Turn/reposition bedfast patient

Intellectual-Conceptual, Integrative, and Quantitative

- Accurately perform mathematical calculations and calculate medication dosages & IV rates from instructions given
- Analyze, collect, and synthesize data to reach diagnostic and therapeutic judgments and to develop an appropriate plan of care. Demonstrate factual, conceptual, procedural, and metacognitive knowledge
- Effectively perform chart reviews and continuous assessment of the patient’s status
- Effectively prioritize multiple tasks.
- Effectively take and record doctors’ orders, patient histories, and subjective/objective findings
- Exercise good judgment in patient assessment. Maintain accurate clinical records on patient care
- Manage the demands of time constraints and frequent interruptions
- Measure, calculate, reason, analyze, integrate, synthesize and problem solve in the context of the level and the focus of their curricular program. Perform data entry tasks using available technology.
- Perform universal precautions against contamination
- Provide all aspects of patient care including medication administration and treatments according to nursing unit guidelines
- Provide clear expression of personal ideas and feelings, demonstrations of bidirectional feedback, and sensitivity to persons with ideas and experiences that different from their own. Provide in-depth rationale for plan of care
- Use and interpret information from assessment techniques/maneuvers such as those involved in assessing respiratory and cardiac function, blood pressure, blood sugar, neurological status, etc.
- Use and interpret information related to physiologic phenomena generated from diagnostic tools (sphygmomanometer, otoscope, ophthalmoscope) during a comprehensive examination of a patient

Behavioral and Social Attributes

- Abide by the professional standards of practice defined by the discipline
- Demonstrate compassion, sensitivity, and concern for others
- Demonstrate understanding and adherence to professional standards of nursing
- Function effectively under physically taxing workloads including in times of physical and mental stress
- Function effectively under stress and to adapt to an environment that may change rapidly without warning and/or in unpredictable ways
- Maintain appropriate professional decorum in high stress situations and when exposed to unusual sights and smells
- Maintain confidentiality with regard to all phases of work

I have read the above requirements and understand that my inability to comply with these may result in my failure to successfully complete the program I have chosen.

Signature ___________________________ Date: ___________________________
Distance or hybrid learning is used at Great Falls College MSU in the Respiratory Therapy Program. In this delivery method, there is a combination of online learning activities where one or more types of technologies are used to deliver instruction to students who are separated from the instructor in space and time.

- All “traditional” types of course content including lectures, quizzes and exams will be available in module style content online asynchronously. You are required to work through this material according to the course schedule but it is available to you 24/7. This is designed to allow flexibility in your learning time yet hold you accountable for consuming the content and doing the work.
- You will be required to attend weekly live online sessions with your faculty and other students. These live sessions will be “zoom” type of meetings and will be used as Q&A’s, content review, program updates & reminders as necessary. The actual times of these sessions will vary.
- Clinical and laboratory attendance is required according to the schedule setup by the Director of Clinical Education, program faculty and your local clinical site. The days, hours and locations of these sessions will vary but an advance schedule will be provided to allow you to plan accordingly. Full details of clinical and lab sessions will be provided once you are in the program but in general you should expect to be in a lab session at your local clinic around 3 hours per week and in a clinical session 2-3 days a week with varying times. Labs begin the first semester and Clinical the second semester.
- The Local (clinical component) and Online (classwork components) of this program allow for you to become a Respiratory Therapist where you live and offers flexibility in learning times to accommodate busy lives. However, this type of learning requires a great level of self-control, motivation and dedication to your studies and your schedule. Make no mistake, this is a FULL-TIME commitment and you should expect to spend at minimum 40 hours per week working on coursework and clinical sessions and in most cases more.
- Distance Education in respiratory therapy can be a daunting undertaking and we want you to be successful in your endeavors here with Great Falls College MSU. In addition to the amount of time you are investing, participating in this distance program means that you also have to take the initiative to establish connections with the community for your clinical locations. You must be able to be resilient in an environment that requires you to self-advocate, be vocal about your needs, and to be self-motivated to arrange what you need to succeed.

(Continued on next page.....)
The face-to-face component of the program is utilized for the lab and clinical courses, where the students must be in a clinical facility with an identified preceptor. Additionally, due to the distance nature of the program, reliable and high quality technology and computer competency is necessary. Students in this program:

- MUST have reliable computer
- MUST have easily accessible and reliable high-speed internet.
- MUST be quickly adaptable to technology
- MUST have a wireless mobile device with network and GPS functionality

Distance education adds an additional level of complexity to an already challenging program.

Make sure you are able to dedicate ample time yourself to your academic success. It is recommended that you not work and have the full support of your family and employer during the program.

Selecting a Clinical Site

Great Falls College MSU has existing agreements with regional clinical facilities that you may work with. Please rank in order of preference, if you are willing to be placed at multiple spots. “1” being the most desirable and so on.) The program has a capacity of 25 students per year and clinical spots vary per location and per year. Acceptance into the program depends on application rank and availability of clinical locations.

_____ Great Falls, MT (12 student cap)    _____Bozeman, MT (6 student cap)
_____ Billings, MT (16 student cap)      _____Kalispell, MT (6 student cap)

In addition, you may attend labs and clinical in other communities either in part or full depending on that facilities’ ability to provide the level of competency required by the program. For example, a student living in Butte, Lewistown, Helena, Anaconda, Sidney, Wolf Point, Glendive or any other community may be able to complete portions of their clinical courses locally but will require travel and lodging to attend a regional medical facility to complete adult and neonatal critical care training and specialty care rotations.

Keep in mind that it is the responsibility of the student to make the contact and provide contact information for their local clinical site PRIOR to submitting this application and prior to gaining acceptance to the program. Final approval of distance clinical sites is at the discretion of the Great Falls College Respiratory Therapy Program.

By signing this page, I confirm that I have read and agree with the standards and expectations as presented on pages 12-13 of this packet:

Printed Name:_________________________ Signature:_________________________ Date:_________________________
GREAT FALLS COLLEGE MSU RESPIRATORY THERAPY PROGRAM
APPLICATION EVALUATION FORM (page 1)

Applicant Name: _______________________________ GFC MSU ID: __________________

1. **Clinical Site Identification:**

Identified Clinical Site: _______________________________________________________________

Have you spoken to the Director/Manager of Respiratory Therapy at this site? YES / NO

Name of site RT Director: __________________________ Email: __________________________ Phone: ______________________

Is this clinical site willing to host you as a Respiratory Therapy Student for the 2-yr length of the program? YES / NO

Is this site able to provide (circle all that apply):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Floor Care</th>
<th>Adult ICU</th>
<th>Adult Cardiac Surgery</th>
<th>Neonatal ICU</th>
<th>Mechanical Ventilation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ABGs</td>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
<td>ER</td>
<td>PFT</td>
<td>Sleep</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the manager you talked to has other local suggestions, please list those here:

_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________

If the local site you indicated cannot provide any of these areas, please indicate below (Circle) which regional site listed you will attend for those areas:

- Great Falls
- Billings
- Bozeman
- Kalispell

---

**Eligibility Assessment:** (Place “Y” in blank to indicate requirement has been met)

- Admitted to Great Falls College MSU _____________
- In Good Academic Standing _____________
- Each Prerequisite course completed with minimum grade of “C-” _____________
- 2.0 Cumulative Prerequisite GPA _____________
### GREAT FALLS COLLEGE MSU RESPIRATORY THERAPY PROGRAM

**APPLICATION EVALUATION FORM page 2**

**Applicant Name:** _______________________________  **GFC MSU ID:** ____________

Please summarize your course work by completing the table below, with official transcripts on file with the Registrar if courses were taken at another institution. Science courses must be completed within 5 years of applying for RT Program and must include a lab component, other courses within 5 years of applying.

*Please include if class occurred face-to-face (you went on campus), or hybrid (a mix of on campus & online), or completely online. Information on the delivery method of the course is for data gathering purposes only and will not impact the scoring of your application.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prerequisite Course Number</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Institution where course was completed</th>
<th>Year course completed</th>
<th>*Delivery – online, hybrid or face-to-face</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Grade Value (grade scale, pg. 6)</th>
<th>Point Value (weight given to subject)</th>
<th>Total Points (grade x point value)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOH 201</td>
<td>Human A&amp;P I with Lab</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOH 211</td>
<td>Human A&amp;P II with Lab</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WRT 101</td>
<td>College Writing I</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH</td>
<td>Select one of the following:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>M 121 College Algebra &quot;-&quot;</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>M 140 College Math for Healthcare &quot;-&quot;</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>M 151 Precalculus &quot;-&quot;</td>
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<td></td>
<td>M 161 Survey of Calculus &quot;-&quot;</td>
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<td></td>
<td>M 171 Calculus I &quot;-&quot;</td>
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<td></td>
<td>STAT 216 Introduction to Statistics &quot;-&quot;</td>
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<td>NOTE: For transfer students, M 115 Probability and Linear Math will be accepted.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Prerequisite Subtotal:**

**ADDITIONAL POINTS** (Recommend but NOT REQUIRED having these prior to beginning program)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Institution where course was completed</th>
<th>Year course completed</th>
<th>*Delivery – online, hybrid or face-to-face</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Grade Value (grade scale, pg. 6)</th>
<th>Point Value (weight given to subject)</th>
<th>Total Points (grade x point value)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOM 250</td>
<td>Microbiology for Health Sciences with Lab</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHMS 144</td>
<td>Medical Terminology</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHMY 121</td>
<td>Intro to General Chemistry with lab</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Additional Points Subtotal:**

**PREVIOUS DEGREES** *(Maximum of 5 points - points awarded for one degree only)*

Verification required – official transcript with degree posted on file with Registrar

- Bachelor’s degree in Science/Health Field: list where and when:_________________________ 5
- Bachelor’s degree in Unrelated Field: list where and when:_________________________ 3
- Associate Degree in Science/Health Field: list where and when:_________________________ 3
- Associate Degree in Unrelated Field: list where and when:_________________________ 2
- Certificate in Accredited Health Field: list where and when:_________________________ 1

**Previous Degree Subtotal:**

**WORK EXPERIENCE** *(Maximum of 1 point)* Verification forms are required – see attached page 16

Clinical work experience in the healthcare field with direct patient care 1

**Work Experience Subtotal:**

**TOTAL POINTS:** (total 46 points possible)

In case of a tie, the tie-breaking criteria will go to the highest cumulative prerequisite GPA.
VERIFICATION OF PAID HEALTHCARE OCCUPATIONAL EMPLOYMENT
The Applicant can duplicate this form for additional employers/agencies.

Applicants to the Respiratory Therapy Program at Great Falls College MSU are granted additional points toward their application point total from prior or current employment in a Healthcare setting. The application process requires verification of paid work experience. Employers (either Supervisor or Human Resources representative) are asked to verify the applicant’s description of job duties and number of hours of patient care using this form.

INSTRUCTIONS:
Section I: Respiratory Program Applicant completes before having the form completed by the employer/agency.
Section II: The employer/agency official verifies information on form then seals form in envelope, signs across the flap and returns form to applicant. No printed job descriptions.

Section I
Applicant Name: ___________________________________________________________________________ Prior Name if applicable: ___________________________________________________________________________
Applicant Address: ___________________________________________________________________________
Facility Name and type: ______________________________________________________________________
Facility Address: ____________________________________________________________________________
Length of employment (mm/dd/yy): Start_________End_________ Total Hours Paid Healthcare work:_______
Position: ___________________________ Supervisor: ___________________________
Complete a detailed description of Job Duties:
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________

I understand the submission of false material in this Application Packet will be grounds for non-admission or, if discovered after admission, grounds for expulsion. Permission has been granted for Great Falls College MSU to verify the above information.
Applicant Signature: ________________________________________________________________________ Date: ______________________________________________________________________

Section II
Facility Name: ____________________________________________________________________________ Phone: ______________________________________________________________________
Supervisor of Applicant, please print: ______________________________________________________________________
Mailing Address: ____________________________________________________________________________ City __________________ State __________ Zip __________

I verify the information provided by the applicant to be accurate and true to the best of my knowledge.
Signature of Supervisor ___________________________ Date: ___________________________

It is the student’s responsibility to be sure that all parts of this form are complete.

Applicants may make copies of this form if they have paid healthcare work experience at more than one facility.