

BELLARMINE UNIVERSITY  
IN VERITATIS AMORE

DONNA AND ALLAN LANSING SCHOOL OF NURSING & HEALTH SCIENCES

## Accelerated Second Degree Bachelor of Health Science in Respiratory Therapy

The Respiratory Therapy Department offers a one-year, accelerated second degree program for the individual who holds a bachelors degree in another field. In one year, qualified individuals can earn a second degree and begin an exciting career as a respiratory therapist. Respiratory therapists are healthcare professionals who evaluate and treat persons of all ages having lung and heart disorders.

The responsibilities of the therapist include: pulmonary function assessment, diagnostic testing, administering oxygen and aerosolized drugs, breathing retraining and pulmonary rehabilitation, acute care management of patients requiring ventilatory support, and emergency care. Respiratory therapists find careers in multiple settings including the hospital, home care and rehabilitation.

While in the program, students complete 55 semester hours in residence at Bellarmine complying with the university policy to complete a minimum of 36 semester hours, including at least 12 upper level semester hours in the degree major. The technical standards for the program include minimum standards of observation, motor function, behavioral-social capabilities and communication. A list of the technical standards may be obtained from the Respiratory Therapy Department in Miles Hall, 317.

### PROGRAM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Complete and sign the application.
- Submit a \$25 application fee (unless a Bellarmine University alumni/a).
- Candidates must hold a minimum of a bachelor's degree.
- Cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5.
- Provide a written statement explaining why you want to become a Respiratory Therapist.
- Successful completion of required prerequisite courses for the Respiratory Therapy program. Prerequisite course(s) may be taken at Bellarmine University.
- If your undergraduate degree is from an international institution, you were born outside the United States, or English is your second language, you will be required to submit an official TOEFLiBT (internet-based test) score and receive a total score of 83 or higher and 26 or higher on the speaking test. We will also consider an equivalent score on the IELTS or MELAB tests. The Admission, Progression and Graduation Committee reserves the right to require a TOEFL score from any applicant.
- Final official transcript(s) from each college or university attended should be mailed to the Office of Graduate Admission and not be marked "Issued to Student".
- If any transcripts or undergraduate degree(s) are from an international institution you must provide an official copy of a third party course by course credential evaluation. The following organizations offer this service and information regarding processes and fees available at: [www.aacrao.org](http://www.aacrao.org), [www.wes.org](http://www.wes.org) and [www.ece.org](http://www.ece.org). The Office of Graduate Admission reserves the right to request a certified copy of the original transcript(s).
- A personal interview, if requested, by the Respiratory Therapy Admission Committee.
- Provide one letter of recommendation from a faculty member and/or supervisor who knows you. A recommendation form is included in the packet.

## INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS

Please complete the items under Procedure for Admission and submit the following:

U.S. law requires financial statements from a bank or other financial institution certifying the student's ability to fund the cost of attendance for one academic year minus the amount of any scholarship dollars received. Figures should be in U.S. dollars and must be certified as an official document by the bank or financial institution. A sponsor may be used if the sponsor attaches a signed affidavit stating that he/she will financially support the student until completion of a degree at Bellarmine University. If a sponsor is used, the sponsor's bank statement should accompany the letter. The amount that would need to be shown is \$47,427. These amounts include tuition and fees associated with the program and an average cost for living expenses, books, supplies, health insurance, transportation and personal expenses for two semesters.

## TUITION AND FEE INFORMATION

### Tuition for 2011-2012

55 credit hours for a total of \$30,000

### Fees for 2011-2012

\$45 per class for full-time students

The three semester professional program approximate costs for tuition and fees is \$30,765.

### Funding Assistance

At Bellarmine, we recognize that the cost of private higher education is a major consideration for you, and we are committed to providing you with a high quality education at a reasonable cost. Our staff will work closely with you to explore all of the resources and funding options available. Our goal is to ensure that every student receives our best offer of financial assistance and that your affordable investment in a Bellarmine education is a reality. Qualified Accelerated Second Degree Respiratory Therapy students are eligible for federal student loans and may also choose to apply to local hospital scholarship-to-work programs. For more information on how to fund your Bellarmine education, please visit [www.bellarmino.edu/financialaid](http://www.bellarmino.edu/financialaid) and [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov). The Bellarmine school code is 001954.

## PROGRAM PREREQUISITES

Thirty hours consisting of the following:

- Anatomy and Physiology I and II (8)
- Microbiology (4)
- General College Chemistry (4)
- Physics (4)
- General Psychology (3)
- Ethics (3)
- Statistics (3-4)

## THE CURRICULUM

### Fall

<b>THEO 200</b>	Ultimate Questions (3)
<b>RTH 308/309</b>	RT Science I and Lab (4)
<b>RTH 311</b>	Clinical Assessment (3)
<b>RTH 340</b>	RT Clinical Education I (2)
<b>BIOL 300</b>	Pathophysiology (4)
<b>NURS 312</b>	Healthcare Research (3)

### Spring

<b>RTH 313/314</b>	RT Science II and Lab (5)
<b>RTH 321</b>	Cardiopulmonary Pathology (2)
<b>RTH 323</b>	Introduction to Pharmacology (3)
<b>RTH 350</b>	RT Clinical Education II (6)
<b>RTH 455</b>	Advanced Cardiac Life Support (2)

### Summer

<b>RTH 420</b>	Respiratory Therapy Science III (3)
<b>RTH 440</b>	Cardiopulmonary Monitoring (3)
<b>RTH 450</b>	Neonatal/Pediatric Respiratory Care (3)
<b>RTH 460</b>	RT Clinical Education III (3)
<b>RTH 485</b>	RT Clinical Education IV (3)
<b>RTH 490</b>	Seminar (3)

### ACCREDITATION

Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care  
1248 Harwood Road, Bedford, TX 76021-4244  
817.283.2835 | [www.coarc.com](http://www.coarc.com)

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Julie Armstrong-Binnix, Graduate Admission Officer  
502.272.8364, 800.274.4723 x.8364  
[julieab@bellarmine.edu](mailto:julieab@bellarmine.edu)

Office of Graduate Admission  
502.272.7200  
[gradadmissions@bellarmine.edu](mailto:gradadmissions@bellarmine.edu)

### MAIL MATERIALS TO

Bellarmino University  
Office of Graduate Admission  
2001 Newburg Road  
Louisville, Kentucky 40205

## **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

### **RTH 308/309 Respiratory Therapy Science I and Laboratory (3-1)**

This lecture course introduces the student to topics in basic respiratory care. Considered are the use of oxygen in the treatment of oxygenation disorders; humidity and aerosol therapy; deep breathing and incentive spirometry, and postural drainage therapy and suctioning in the treatment of disorders.

### **RTH 311 Clinical Assessment (3)**

This course focuses on health assessment of individuals across the life span and normal and abnormal pulmonary physiology. Students will develop skills for obtaining health histories and performing physical examinations. (2 hours class and 3 hours laboratory.)

### **RTH 313/314 Respiratory Therapy Science II and Laboratory (4-1)**

The course introduces bronchial hygiene therapies and mechanical ventilation. Arterial blood gas analysis principles and interpretation are considered in relationship to the topics of acute respiratory failure and mechanical ventilation. Laboratory sessions focus on pre-clinical practice motor skills.

### **RTH 321 Cardiopulmonary Pathology (2)**

Selected cardiac and pulmonary disease states are considered during this course. Etiology, pathology, disease progression, and treatment and prognosis are emphasized.

### **RTH 323 Introduction to Pharmacology (3)**

The course introduces facts and principles related to pharmacologic preparations, their administration routes, effects and biotransformation/elimination mechanisms. The peripheral nervous system and neuropharmacology are considered with an emphasis on topically administered pulmonary medications. Cardiovascular drugs are also considered.

### **RTH 340 Respiratory Therapy Clinical Education I (2)**

Respiratory therapy clinical practice is introduced by emphasizing patient care principles, e.g. vital signs, charting, body mechanics, and aseptic techniques. Supervised patient practice of the procedures introduced in Respiratory Therapy Science I follow.

### **RTH 350 Respiratory Therapy Clinical Education II (6)**

The clinical application of the procedures introduced in RT Science II is emphasized, as well as continued practice of skills gained in RTH Clinical Education I.

### **RTH 420 Respiratory Therapy Science III (3)**

Acute respiratory failure intervention is considered in this course as well as selected topics in pulmonary rehabilitation and pulmonary function testing.

### **RTH 440 Cardiopulmonary Monitoring (3)**

Detailed treatment of pressure, volume and flow scalars in mechanically ventilated patients; work of breathing and lung mechanics measurements; and end-tidal carbon dioxide monitoring. Also discussed are electrocardiography, Holter monitoring, and hemodynamic measurements.

### **RTH 450 Neonatal/Pediatric Respiratory Care (3)**

Fetal cardiopulmonary development, labor and delivery are discussed as well as factors placing infants at high-risk and the intervention required for moderately and severely depressed infants. Oxygen therapy and mechanical ventilation of the neonate and child are also considered.

### **RTH 455 Advanced Cardiac Life Support (2)**

This lecture/laboratory course introduces the student to Advanced Cardiac Life Support. Considered are the management of cardiopulmonary arrest, treatment of cardiac arrhythmias, clinical issues in ACLS, and pharmacologic treatment modalities. Upon course completion, student will be eligible to become an ACLS provider.

### **RTH 460 Respiratory Therapy Clinical Education III (3)**

Continued practice of clinical skills gained in Clinical Education I and II.

### **RTH 485 Respiratory Therapy Clinical Education IV (3)**

The clinical application of the procedures introduced in Respiratory Therapy Science III is emphasized as well as continued practice of those skills gained in Clinical education I, II, and III.

### **RTH 490 Seminar (3)**

Selected clinical topics in review of the literature and case presentation format.



# Accelerated Second Degree Bachelor of Health Science in Respiratory Therapy

This application is for:  Fall of 20 \_\_\_\_

## PERSONAL DATA

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
LAST FIRST MIDDLE MAIDEN

Preferred Name \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY STATE/PROVINCE COUNTRY

Permanent Address \_\_\_\_\_  
STREET ADDRESS

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY COUNTY STATE/PROVINCE ZIP CODE COUNTRY

Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Number (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Extension \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Citizenship  U.S.  Permanent U.S. Resident  Non U.S. Citizen

If you are not a U.S. citizen, what is your country of citizenship? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your current country of residence? \_\_\_\_\_

Is English your first language?  Yes  No

If not, what is your first language? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you Hispanic or Latino?  Yes  No

In addition, select one or more of the following racial categories to describe yourself:

- American Indian or Alaskan Native  Asian  Black or African American  
 Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander  White

Will you be applying for aid with the Veterans Administration?  Yes  No

Where did you hear about Bellarmine's Accelerated Bachelor of Health Science in Respiratory Therapy program?

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## PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION

List jobs (part time or full time) which you have held.

EMPLOYER

DUTIES

DATES

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If you have been employed, list two supervisors who may be contacted for recommendations.

NAME

ADDRESS

PHONE

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## COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

List extracurricular or community activities in which you are involved.

ORGANIZATION / GROUP

OFFICE / LEADERSHIP POSITION HELD

DATES INVOLVED

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## HONORS AND AWARDS

List honors and/ or awards you have received.

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## BACKGROUND DATA

Have you ever been dismissed from a college or university for disciplinary reasons, or been sanctioned by a disciplinary board?    Yes    No

If yes, from where? \_\_\_\_\_

*A release will be mailed to you. You must sign and complete the form and mail it back to the Office of Admission at Bellarmine University one month prior to the first week of classes. This form will be mailed to the Dean of Students asking for an explanation of the sanction and circumstances.*

Have you ever been convicted of a misdemeanor felony?    Yes    No

*If you answered yes to either of the last two questions, please explain on a separate sheet of paper how you were held accountable (i.e., outcomes, sanctions), when the incident occurred and any additional information you wish to provide. Please note that we may need to request additional information.*

## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

I declare that the information provided on this form is true, correct and complete. Bellarmine University has my permission to verify information by obtaining documents as needed. I understand that providing false information may result in Bellarmine University revoking my status as an accepted or enrolled student. Also, I grant Bellarmine University or its appointee(s) permission to post my personal and academic information on Bellarmine's secured, password protected intranet and student portal.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Bellarmino University admits qualified students of any age, sex, sexual orientation, race, color, religion, or national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of age, sex, sexual orientation, race, disability, color, religion, or national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school administered programs. Bellarmine University is an Affirmative Action-Equal Opportunity employer.

# RECOMMENDATION FORM: Accelerated Second Degree Bachelor of Health Science in Respiratory Therapy

**APPLICANT:** Fill in your name and forward a copy to the respondent. Please provide a stamped, addressed envelope along with the form. One recommendation is required with your application.

I, undersigned, hereby waive all rights or privileges to inspect or challenge the content and comments appearing in this letter of evaluation.

**Name of Applicant** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**RESPONDENT:** The individual whose name appears above is applying for admission to the Bellarmine University Respiratory Therapy Program. Evaluations of the applicant's potential are required as part of the application procedure and this individual requests that you write on his/her behalf. A standard format is provided for your use, but you may choose to write a letter instead of using the form. It would be appreciated if you would respond as early as possible so that consideration of the application will not be delayed.

**Name of Respondent** \_\_\_\_\_ **Title** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Basis of Evaluation: (Check all that apply).**

- Student in class
- As an employee
- Personal friend
- As a co-worker
- Assistant to me in teaching or research
- Through discussions with the student
- Through discussions with other faculty
- Through examination of the student's record

Rate the student on the following in terms of his/her potential for further training and professional practice. Keep in mind that this rating should be relative to students you may have known who have aspired to a career in Respiratory Therapy and not necessarily relative to all students you have known. Use the following scale: 4-Outstanding, 3- Good, 2-Satisfactory, and 1-Unsatisfactory.

	4	3	2	1	DESCRIPTIVE COMMENTS
Intelligence					
Oral and Written Expression					
Character and Personality					
Personal and Social Maturity					
Interpersonal Relationships					
Motivation					
Initiative					
Work Habits					
Overall Rating					



Is there any reason to question the applicant's integrity?

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Is there any reason to question the applicant's emotional stability?

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How long and under what circumstances have you known the applicant?

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What are the outstanding characteristics (positive and negative) of the candidate?

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How well does the candidate get along with fellow students and the faculty?

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How does the applicant compare with other pre-professional students with similar career aspirations?

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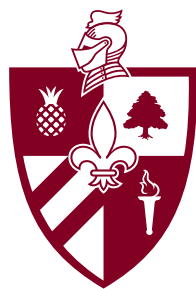
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What is your overall evaluation of the applicant?

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