



## **RESPIRATORY CARE & CARDIOVASCULAR TECHNOLOGY**

### **Information, Curriculum and Application Packet**

#### **HEALTH PROFESSIONS**

Thank you for your interest in the Cardiopulmonary Technologies Programs at Edison State College. Applications for admission into these Associate in Science Degree Programs are accepted on a year round basis. The Respiratory Care and the Cardiovascular Technology Programs are limited admissions programs and will select only students who meet the academic and prescribed clinical admission requirements outlined in this information packet.

This packet includes answers to commonly asked questions, a term-by-term layout of each program and an application that can be used for either of the Cardiopulmonary Technologies Programs. In addition to reviewing this informational packet, potential applicants and students are also strongly encouraged to review the Edison State College Catalog available on line at [www.edison.edu](http://www.edison.edu) and the web pages for the Respiratory and Cardiovascular Technology Programs.

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Both programs are accredited. The Cardiovascular Technology Program is accredited in invasive cardiology by *The Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs* ([www.CAAHEP.org](http://www.CAAHEP.org)) based on the recommendation of the *Joint Review Committee on Education in Cardiovascular Technology*. The Respiratory Care Program is accredited by *The Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs* ([www.CAAHEP.org](http://www.CAAHEP.org)) based on the recommendation of the *Committee on Accreditation in Respiratory Care*.

For further information, please contact the Health Professions Program Advisor at (239) 985-8316 and reference your question(s) to the information sheet/admission criteria for the programs.

CARDIOPULMONARY TECHNOLOGIES PROGRAMS in CARDIOVASCULAR AND  
RESPIRATORY CARE -- TWO YEAR ASSOCIATE DEGREES  
INFORMATION SHEET

- 1) What will the program prepare me to do?

The graduate is immediately employable as either a registry eligible Respiratory Therapist or a registry eligible Invasive Cardiovascular Technologist.

- 2) What are the duties of a Respiratory Therapist

Under medical direction, a Respiratory Therapist administers oxygen and other medical gases, aerosolized medications, breathing treatments with various types of pressurized breathing equipment, performs basic life support or cardiopulmonary resuscitation, manages life support equipment including mechanical ventilators, performs special diagnostic procedures such as pulmonary function testing, cardiac output determination, arterial blood gas puncture and analysis, and assists with special therapeutic procedures such as bronchoscopy, intra-aortic balloon pump monitoring, pulmonary artery catheterization and hyperbaric oxygen administration. The Respiratory Therapist is typically employed within the traditional acute care hospital setting, in skilled nursing centers, in neonatal and pediatric intensive care, in physician office settings, rehabilitation centers, and by Respiratory home care Agencies.

- 3) What are the duties of a Cardiovascular Technologist?

This program is designed to lead to a career in Invasive Cardiology. An Invasive Cardiovascular Technologist (CVT) will typically work in the cardiovascular catheterization laboratories (cath labs) in hospitals, clinics or cardiology practices. The Invasive Cardiovascular Technologist is employed in cardiac catheterization laboratories (cath labs). Our specialty of invasive cardiology will prepare the graduate to function in multiple facets in the cardiac catheterization laboratory. Working with a Cardiologist they perform sophisticated tests in order to diagnose and quantify cardiovascular disorders including; coronary artery disease, cardiac valve disease, overall cardiac function, disorders of the heart's electrical conduction system and or vascular disease. Cardiovascular Technologists perform diagnostic cardiovascular catheterization studies on patients including coronary arteriography, hemodynamic monitoring and analysis, and electrophysiology studies. They also assist the cardiologist in interventional repair procedures including coronary angioplasty, rotablator procedures, intra-coronary stenting, pacemaker insertion and radiofrequency ablation.

An elective is available within the program for cardiac ultrasound or Echocardiography. This elective provides students with a foundation in echocardiography, but does not provide students with comprehensive knowledge and skills for a career in that field. Counseling for specialized experience in Echocardiography is available on a post graduate basis.

- 4) When are students admitted to the programs?

In the Fall semester which begins in August of each academic year.

- 5) Is there limited (selected) admission to the programs?

Yes, due to the limitations of clinical training space. In addition, there are times when application volume is heavy and students are selected as outlined on the last page of this package.

- 6) What are the criteria for admission to the program?

#### **ADMISSION CRITERIA**

An applicant may be admitted to either of the Cardiovascular Technology or Respiratory Care Programs based on the following criteria.

##### Interested applicants should:

- a) Possess a high school or equivalency diploma/GED.
- b) Be at least eighteen (18) years old by the first day of class.
- c) Complete admission requirements to Edison State College. (Please refer to College catalog.)
- d) Complete all Department of Learning Assistance (DLA) courses, if required.
- e) Complete a Cardiopulmonary Technologies Program application form.  
This form should be received in the program office by June 1<sup>st</sup>. A \$15 application fee will be assessed at the time of the Records Check Appointment. Please pay the Cashier and bring the receipt to the Records Check appointment. These appointments are commonly scheduled between May 1 and July 1 each year. Applicants will receive a letter in May indicating the time of the Records Check appointment.

In the event that the number of qualified applicants exceeds available clinical training space, individuals will be selected for admission based upon their point system ranking. Applicants with the highest GPA and general education course completion, will be ranked first. Please refer to the last page of this package.

The program strongly suggests that a visit to a Respiratory Care Department or Cardiovascular Catheterization Lab be scheduled. Please contact the clinical coordinator for assistance at 239-985-8306.

- 7) How and when will I know if I have been admitted to the program?

Notification letters of the status of each applicant will be mailed no later than the first week of June in Round 1 and the first week in July in Round 2 directly from the program office. Admission is on a full-time basis. (Round 1 – Records Checks in May; Round 2 - Records Checks in June). Students notified of provisional acceptance into the Respiratory Care or CVT Programs, at Edison State College, who will be involved in direct patient care, during clinical rotations in a hospital or related medical facility, are required to complete the a ***Criminal History Background Check and may be required to complete drug testing for controlled substances.*** These processes must be completed **before** acceptance to the RC or CVT Programs can be **final**.

8) What part does the Criminal Background Check play for my final admission to either Program?

Each applicant is required to inform the Program Coordinator, in writing, of any criminal charges on his/her record in any state or national jurisdiction upon submission of an application for enrollment to the program. This information needs to include an explanation of circumstances for possible review by an admissions committee.

Applicants, notified of **provisional acceptance** into the Cardiovascular Technology or Respiratory Care Program, are required to complete and send a Request for Civilian Criminal Records Inquiry to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE). This criminal background screening ensures consistency with the requirements of Chapter 435, Florida Statutes, by health care agencies with which Edison State College has clinical affiliation agreements. Background screening must be completed before final acceptance to the Cardiovascular Technology or Respiratory Care Program can be approved. The Request for Civilian Criminal Records Inquiry requires payment of a processing fee of \$24 to the FDLE at the applicant's expense. The criminal background check report(s) must be forwarded directly from FDLE to the Cardiovascular Technology or Respiratory Care Program.

**Applicants with criminal records are forewarned** that the Florida Department of Health-Division of Medical Quality Assurance requires any licensure applicant who has ever been convicted or found guilty of a felony, regardless of adjudication, to explain the circumstances. The same is true for other states with licensure statutes as well as national certification boards. These individuals will need to gain clearance from these agencies before they are allowed to take state licensure and national certification examinations that are usually required for employment.

**Criminal History Findings**

Any applicant or enrolled student who has been found guilty of, regardless of adjudication, or entered a plea of nolo contendere, or guilty to, any offense under the provisions of Florida Statutes or under similar statutes of another jurisdiction may be disqualified from admission or continued enrollment in the Cardiovascular Technology or Respiratory Care Program.

Those offenses are:

- Murder
- Manslaughter
- Vehicular homicide
- Killing of an unborn child by injury to the mother
- Assault, if the victim of the offense was a minor
- Aggravated assault
- Battery, if the victim of the offense was a minor
- Aggravated battery
- Kidnapping
- False imprisonment
- Sexual battery
- Prohibited acts of persons in familial or custody authority
- Lewd and lascivious behavior
- Arson
- Theft, robbery, and related crimes, if the offense is a felony
- Fraudulent sale of controlled substances, only if the offense was a felony
- Incest
- Abuse or neglect of a disabled adult or elderly person
- Exploitation of disabled adult or elderly person
- Aggravated child abuse
- Child abuse
- Negligent treatment of children
- Sexual performance by a child
- Alcohol or Drug offenses which were a felony, or if the offense involved a minor
- Offenses indicating unfitness to serve as a health care professional

**Upon notification of provisional acceptance into the CVT and /or Respiratory Care Program., each applicant will be provided with a detailed procedure for completing the Request for Civilian Criminal Records Inquiry.**

- 9) When are core course (CVT or RET prefix) classes normally scheduled?

Most Classes and labs are scheduled during the day. Classroom days are commonly from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.. Clinical days may range from 4 to 12 hours and occur between 5:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. depending on the program, semester and clinic site. Some clinical assignments may be scheduled in the evening. See the Program Director for a semester by semester example.

- 10) What is the length of each program?

Twenty-two months (six semesters), if the student takes a fulltime class load. There is more than one pathway for completion of these programs.

- 11) When can I sit for the Registry examinations?

The Cardiovascular graduate is eligible for the invasive registry exam offered by CCI (Cardiovascular Credentialing International) just prior to, or upon graduation. Upon successful completion of the invasive registry exam, graduates earn the RCIS (Registered Cardiovascular Invasive Specialist) credential.

Thirty days before graduation, Respiratory Care students are eligible to take the NBRC (National Board for Respiratory Care) entry level or CRT examination. After graduation and successful completion of the CRT exam, the graduate then takes the written advanced practitioner exam and the clinical simulation exam (RRT exams).

- 12) Will I be participating in a hospital or other health agencies as part of my course work?

Yes, clinical rotations begin in the second, Spring, semester (January). Clinical sites are located in the Naples, Ft. Myers, Cape Coral, Port Charlotte, and Punta Gorda areas. You will need an approved uniform, a name badge, and watch with a second hand. You may also need to purchase a stethoscope. Because students rotate through hospitals in a large geographic area, reliable transportation is a necessity.

Selected courses in the program have an insurance fee to cover liability and accidental injury insurance for you while you are in the clinic.

- 13) What courses could I take while waiting to be admitted to the program?

Any of the co-requisite course work listed in the college catalogue for each of the Cardiopulmonary Technology Programs with the exception of courses which have either a RET or a CVT prefix. These courses are taken after program admission. All RET and CVT courses are offered on Edison State College Lee County Campus; however, most of the general education courses are also available at the Charlotte County, Collier County, and LaBelle Center Campuses. Many of the General Education courses are available on-line.

**IMPORTANT!** (Please consult either of the Cardiopulmonary Technology program coordinators for additional advisement. Multiple options for completing the first 3 semesters of the programs are possible.)

- 14) Is an interview required?

No: however, you will be asked to speak with the Program Director of Cardiovascular Technology or Respiratory Care for a records check. In admission years when the applicant pool is large, you may be called for a second appointment to speak with a Selection Committee.

- 15) Are any of my previous college courses transferable to this program?

If you attended another college, formal transcripts must be sent to the college admissions office, for evaluation, at the time you apply for admission to the college. Admissions and Records offices are involved with transfer of the basic general education college courses such as English, Psychology, Mathematics, etc.

If you attended another Respiratory Therapy or Cardiovascular Technology program, these courses will be evaluated for transfer by the Cardiopulmonary Technology Department. In this case you must also provide the program with a copy of your transcripts. This copy does not need to be a secure, formal copy. The department will also require other documentation such as a letter of good standing from the program director indicating eligibility to continue in the program, course syllabi, or schedules to verify content, particularly for out-of-state students. Only courses in which you earned a grade of “C” or better are transferable.

- 16) Can I get credit for any previous experience in the practice of Respiratory Therapy and/or Cardiovascular Technology?

Yes, credit by examination and or demonstration of clinical competencies is available for selected (RET) (CVT) courses with documented evidence of related experience, in conjunction with Edison State College policy.

- 17) What is the cost of these programs?

Tuition is charged per credit hour taken. Florida residents pay \$74.82 per credit hour. Non-residents pay \$278.67 per credit hour. Laboratory courses have a \$30-\$35 course lab fee attached. There is an annual fee of \$32.50 for Cardiovascular Technology and \$26.50 for Respiratory Care for liability and accidental injury insurance. Tuition rates and fees are subject to review and change each academic year.

- 18) How many credit hours are required in each program?

There are 76 credit hours in Respiratory Care and 77 in Cardiovascular Technology which are required for the program. Additional costs include books, uniforms, and various testing fees. The college does not provide housing and the student is responsible for transportation to and from assigned hospitals or health agencies for clinical course work.

- 19) Can this curriculum be used to further advance my education towards a baccalaureate degree?

Yes, in selected senior institutions, depending upon their degree requirements. It is suggested that you contact the senior institution to which you wish to transfer for specifics. The Edison University Center is established to assist you with transfer options for a variety of colleges and universities. Edison State College is reviewing options for offering a B.S. degree in Cardiopulmonary Sciences

- 20) Must I take the courses in the sequence in which they are listed in the curriculum?

There are variations of order possible for the general education courses. Some of these courses require testing or pre-requisites. The RET and CVT prefixed courses must be taken in the order presented. Each core course must be passed with a grade of "C" or better before the student may advance in the program. All RET and CVT courses are offered only once a year during the semester they are shown in the curriculum. Advisement for course registration each semester is done through a designated respiratory care/cardiovascular technology program advisor.

- 21) Does the program offer a job placement service?

Yes. Although the program can not guarantee employment, we do offer assistance. The college has advisement on job placement; furthermore, a list of potential opportunities is kept in the Health Professions office.

- 22) What salary range can I expect as a graduate therapist or technologist?

A starting full-time Registered Respiratory Therapist/Registered Cardiovascular Technologist in the Southwest Florida area could expect to start between \$39,000 and \$54,000. Signing bonuses, on-call pay, or shift differential may also contribute to the annual salary at some institutions.

- 23) Do the CVT and Respiratory Care Programs keep a waiting list?

The programs do not keep a "waiting list." Individuals not accepted for a class may re-apply to the program for the next year, but are not given preference on that basis.

- 24) Are there specific Health, Physical Activity or Technical Requirements for Advancement into the Clinical phases of the CVT and RC Programs?

Yes. A completed medical health form and self assessment of Program Technical Standards must also be submitted and approved by the Program Coordinator prior to admission to clinical rotations. This health record will contain results from a physical examination and laboratory tests including immunization records. An updated health record verified by a licensed physician or designee must be submitted on a yearly basis before attending clinical courses.

**Cardiovascular Technology or Respiratory Care students who do not meet the standards of good physical and mental health, as required by clinical facilities for safe patient care, may reapply and be considered for application to the applicable program after resolution of the health problem.** Additionally, student drug screens, criminal history reports, and medical records, when submitted, will become the property of Edison State College, and will not be available for copying or for use to meet the requirements of outside employers or other agencies/persons. Students who are out of their program for six months or more must submit new records.

### **Appeal Process**

If a review of a criminal background check or a medical health report deems an applicant or student ineligible for admission or continuation in the Cardiovascular Technology or Respiratory Care Program, an appeal can be filed with the Health Professions Student Review Committee.

EDISON STATE COLLEGE  
APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO THE  
CARDIOPULMONARY TECHNOLOGIES PROGRAM  
HEALTH PROFESSIONS

Edison State College is an Equal Access Institution

1) Name \_\_\_\_\_

2) Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City)

(State)

(Zip Code)

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

3) Telephone Number(s) where we can reach you during normal business hours  
(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

4) Edison ID# @ \_\_\_\_\_

5) List any college courses in which you are currently enrolled:

a)

b)

c)

d)

6) If you have completed college courses, please attach a copy of all your transcripts. It is the applicant's responsibility to obtain and attach this information.

Application paperwork includes: Program application and unofficial copies of transcripts.

**(Remember: Official transcripts must be sent to the Registration office along with your Edison State College Application).**

7) Current employment:

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Immediate Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_

Your position \_\_\_\_\_

8) Briefly identify your past experience with health care: Documentation will need to be attached if you have experience directly related to Respiratory Care or Cardiovascular Technology.

9) **Current choice of major: a) Respiratory Care b) Cardiovascular Technology**

PLEASE NOTE: If you desire to be considered for both programs, you must submit a separate application for each program.



RESPIRATORY CARE PROGRAM  
ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (22 month sequence)

**Anatomy & Physiology I Pre-Requisite:**

BSC1080\* Human Biology-An Overview for Health Professionals 2

FRESHMAN YEAR - FALL TERM

\*\*MGF 1106 Math for Liberal Arts 3  
 CHM 2032 Chemistry for Health Sciences 3  
 CHM 2032L Chemistry Health Science Lab 1  
 \*BSC 1093C Anatomy & Physiology I and Lab 4  
 RET 1024 Intro to Cardiopulmonary Technology 3  
 15

FRESHMAN YEAR – SPRING TERM

HUM Humanities 3  
 BSC 1094C Anatomy & Physiology II and Lab 4  
 PSY/SYG Psychology or Sociology 3  
 ENC 1101 Composition I 3  
 RET 1007 Cardiopulmonary Pharmacology 1  
 RET 1275C Clinical Techniques 2  
 RET 1616C Cardiopulmonary Anatomy & Physiology 2  
 18

FRESHMAN YEAR – SUMMER A

MCB 2010C Microbiology 5  
 RET 1832L Freshman Clinical Practicum I 2  
 7

SOPHOMORE YEAR – FALL TERM

RET 2874L Clinic Practicum II 4  
 RET 2234C Respiratory Care Therapeutics 4  
 RET 2254C Respiratory Care Assessment 4  
 RET 2714 Neonatal/Pediatric Respiratory Care 3  
 15

SOPHOMORE YEAR – SPRING TERM

RET 2875L Clinic Practicum III 4  
 RET 2264C Mechanical Ventilation 4  
 RET 2295 Pulmonary Diseases 3  
 RET 2244 Applications in Critical Care 2  
 14

SOPHOMORE YEAR – SUMMER A

RET 2876L Clinic Practicum IV 5  
 RET 2930 Respiratory Care Practitioner as a Professional 2  
 7

**TOTAL CREDIT HOURS: 76**

\*\* MAT1033 or Testing may be a requirement for admission into MGF1106

CARDIOVASCULAR TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM  
ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (22 month sequence)

**Anatomy & Physiology I Pre-Requisite:**

BSC1080\* Human Biology-An Overview for Health Professionals 2

FRESHMAN YEAR - FALL TERM

\*\*MGF 1106 Mathematics for Liberal Arts 3  
 CHM 2032 Chemistry for Health Sciences 3  
 CHM 2032L Chemistry Health Science Lab 1  
 \*BSC 1093C Anatomy & Physiology I and Lab 4  
 RET 1024 Intro to Cardiopulmonary Technology 3  
 HUM Humanities Elective 3  
 17

FRESHMAN YEAR – SPRING TERM

PHY 1007 Physics for the Health Sciences 3  
 BSC 1094C Anatomy & Physiology II and Lab 4  
 PSY 2012 General Psychology 3  
 ENC 1101 Composition I 3  
 RET 1821L Freshman Clinical I 2  
 RET 1616C Cardiopulmonary Anatomy & Physiology 2  
 17

FRESHMAN YEAR – SUMMER A

MCB 2010C Microbiology 5  
 CVT 1200 Cardiovascular Pharmacology 2  
 7

SOPHOMORE YEAR – FALL TERM

CVT 2420C Invasive Cardiology I 4  
 CVT 2620C Non-Invasive Cardiology I 4  
 CVT 2840L Cardiovascular Practicum II 6  
 14

SOPHOMORE YEAR – SPRING TERM

CVT 2421C Invasive Cardiology II 4  
 CVT 2621C Non-Invasive Cardiology II Echocardiography 4 \* Elective Course  
 RET 2244 Critical Care Applications 2  
 CVT 2841L Cardiovascular Practicum III 6  
 12 (16\*)

SOPHOMORE YEAR – SUMMER A

CVT 2920 Cardiovascular Technologist as a Professional 2  
 CVT 2842L Cardiovascular Practicum IV 6  
 8

TOTAL CREDIT HOURS: 77

\* BCS1080 is a prerequisite for BSC 1093C and should be taken prior to the Fall semester.

\*\* MAT 1033 or Testing may be a prerequisite for admission into MGF 1106

**EDISON STATE COLLEGE  
RESPIRATORY CARE/CARDIOVASCULAR TECHNOLOGIES PROGRAM  
CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION**

Admission into the Respiratory Care/Cardiovascular Technologies Program is a simple process. Phase I evaluates applicants according to the number of points earned through: cumulative grade point average, math/science grade point average, and number of credit hours earned by the application deadline of June 1<sup>st</sup>. Courses not completed by the deadline are not considered. When needed, Phase II evaluates the affective skills of applicants using an interview format. Only those with the higher Phase I points are interviewed. Those with the highest total points from Phases I and II are placed in the program in rank order.

**Phase I: Maximum Points 56**

<b>Overall GPA*</b>		<b>Math/Science GPA*</b>		<b>Co-Requisites Completed</b>	<b>POINTS</b>	<b>Educational Experience Multiplier</b>	
<u>GPA</u>	<u>POINTS</u>	<u>GPA</u>	<u>POINTS</u>	<u>0.5 Pts Each</u>		<b>x Overall GPA Pts.</b>	
						<b>(Point Range: 0 - 6)</b>	
4.0-3.90	20	4.00-3.9	25	BSC 1080	_____		
				BSC1093C	_____		
3.89-3.8	19	3.89-3.8	24	BSC1094C	_____		
3.79-3.7	18	3.79-3.7	23	CHM2025/ CHM2032L	_____		
				ENC1101	_____	<u>Sem. Hrs.</u>	<u>Multiplier</u>
3.69-3.6	17	3.69-3.6	22	HUM. ELEC	_____	110+	0.30
3.59-3.5	16	3.59-3.5	21	MCB2010C	_____	100 - 109	0.29
3.49-3.4	15	3.49-3.4	20	MGF 1106	_____	90 - 99	0.28
3.39-3.3	14	3.39-3.3	19	PHY 1007	_____	80 - 89	0.27
3.29-3.2	13	3.29-3.2	18	PSY 2012	_____	70 - 79	0.26
3.19-3.1	12	3.19-3.1	17	or SOC 1000	_____	60 - 69	0.25
3.09-3.0	11	3.09-3.0	16			50 - 59	0.20
2.99-2.9	10	2.99-2.9	15			40 - 49	0.19
2.89-2.8	09	2.89-2.8	14			30 - 39	0.18
2.79-2.7	08	2.79-2.7	13			20 - 29	0.17
2.69-2.6	07	2.69-2.6	12			11 - 19	0.16
2.59-2.5	06	2.59-2.5	11				
2.49-2.4	05	2.49-2.4	10				
2.39-2.3	04	2.39-2.3	09				
2.29-2.2	03	2.29-2.2	08				
2.19-2.1	02	2.19-2.1	07				
2.09-2.0	01	2.09-2.0	06				
< 2.0	0	< 2.0	0				

**Phase II: Maximum Points 30**  
Affective Skills\*\*  
Interview 0 - 30 pts.

\*GPA points are based on high school transcript unless eleven or more college credits, with a minimum of seven credits in the math/science area, have been earned. If high school academic credit is more than ten years old, it is necessary that one demonstrate eleven credits of completed courses, including seven from the math/science area.

\*\*Interviews may be required after June 1<sup>st</sup> for the applicants with the most Phase I points. When deemed necessary, interviews are used to determine phase II points.

Overall GPA Points: \_\_\_\_\_  
Math/Sc. GPA Points: \_\_\_\_\_  
Co-Req. Points: \_\_\_\_\_  
Edu. Exper. Points: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phase I Sub Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Phase II Points: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phase I + II Points Earned: \_\_\_\_\_

RESLEE or CVLEE  
EDISON STATE COLLEGE  
Cardiopulmonary Technologies  
8099 College Parkway SW  
Fort Myers, FL 33919