

NORTHERN ESSEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE
CHECKLIST FOR
RESPIRATORY CARE PROGRAM APPLICANTS
Fall 2028 Admission

Dear Applicant:

You may wish to use this checklist to create a personal record of the documents/activities you have completed towards applying to the Respiratory Care Program.

Admission Information and Important Application Dates:

- Deadline to request criteria review is the last Monday in August, 8/30/27
- Program application will open on the 1st Monday in October at 9AM, 10/4/27
- After 10/4/27, applications will be reviewed and processed as they are received or until the cohort and waitlist have filled.

Admission to the Respiratory Care Program is competitive and seats are limited. After having met with a health program academic advisor to verify completion of all admission requirements, applicants will be provided access to the online application to be considered for admission. Seats fill quickly for program admission and the waitlist.

The information below reflects the MINIMUM standards and requirements to be considered for admission.

Academic Advising:

Individuals interested in applying to the Respiratory Care Program are encouraged to meet with an academic advisor to answer questions.

- ☐ **APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION** (if you are a new student or have not been enrolled for the previous three years) Major Choice: **General Studies: Health Specialization, Interest in Respiratory Care.**
- ☐ **Official transcript showing evidence of high school graduation, or the equivalent with passing GED/HiSet scores.**
- ☐ **Official college transcript(s)** if transfer credits are being requested. **GPA 2.0 or higher is required each course being requested.**
- ☐ Completion of the **Mandatory Respiratory Care Information Session** after January 1, 2027. For Information Session dates, go to [our website where all information sessions are listed.](#)
- ☐ **Prerequisite courses documented:**
Two college level science courses completed with a grade of 'C' or higher. One of the science courses must be in biology with lab, anatomy and physiology with a lab, chemistry with a lab, or physics with a lab. Science courses must be completed within the five (5) years prior to current admission cycle to be considered toward admission and program completion. **Suggested science courses for admission are BIO 115 – Physiologic Chemistry and BIO 121 – Anatomy and Physiology I.**
- ☐ **Completion of the Test of Essential Academic Skills for Allied Health Professionals (TEAS) within the last 5 years with minimum scores in each content area.** An applicant may take the TEAS test a maximum of three

times during an admission cycle (September to August). Should a retest be required, the TEAS test may not be retaken sooner than three months from the previous test for a total of three times. The most recent test results will be used for that admission cycle only.

TEAS Reading	<u>63%</u>
TEAS Mathematics	<u>60%</u>
TEAS Science	<u>44%</u>
TEAS English	<u>53%</u>

NOTE: *We do not combine TEAS scores from multiple tests.* The TEAS test used to meet the criteria can only be taken in-person at Northern Essex Community College on the Haverhill or Lawrence Campus. We no longer accept remotely proctored exams or tests completed at another college.

Applicants who have previously earned a Bachelor's Degree are exempt from taking the TEAS Exam.

NOTE: Applicants who hold either a current RST (Registered Sleep Technologist) credential OR the RPSGT (Registered Polysomnographic Technologist) credential are exempt from taking the TEAS Exam. Proof of the earned credential must be submitted during the application process.

IMPORTANT FINAL STEP:

- ☐ **Request for final review of criteria** – To be eligible to apply to the Respiratory Care program, all of the above criteria must be complete. To be considered for application to the Respiratory Care program for fall 2028, all prospective applicants must email healthprogramadmissions@necc.mass.edu.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAM INFORMATION**Program Capacity**

The Respiratory Care Program has a limited number of seats.

Wait List Status

The Respiratory Care Program Review Committee establishes a wait list for qualified applicants who are not initially accepted into the program. The wait list is approximately 50% of the program capacity. Applicants are called from the wait list on a space available basis. Applicants who are placed on the Wait List, and for whom a seat does not open during the current admission cycle, are given first option on admission for the following year.

If there are significant changes in the admission criteria, students on the wait list may be required to comply with the new criteria. This decision is at the sole discretion of the academic program faculty.

Transfer Credits

Transfer credits from other colleges/universities are awarded only for comparable courses that are completed with a grade of 'C' or higher.

Science courses must have been taken not more than five (5) years prior to the anticipated start date of the Respiratory Care Program to count as credits towards completing the program.

Health Requirements

Information regarding the College's health requirements will be sent to you upon your acceptance to the program.

Information about the Program's Technical Standards which describe the physical and behavioral characteristic required to successfully complete the program are available the [health forms at our website](http://www.necc.mass.edu/academics/courses-programs/areas/health/required-form/), which can be found at <http://www.necc.mass.edu/academics/courses-programs/areas/health/required-form/> and we encourage you to review these as soon as possible.

CPR Certification

All students in the Respiratory Care Program are required to hold CPR certification at the Health Care Provider level. Evidence of current certification is required before a student is allowed to participate in clinical education courses, and certification must be maintained throughout the program.

Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) and Sex Offender Record Information (SORI)

Students interested in participation in an academic program that involves working with children, the disabled, or the elderly, or a cooperative education experience or a program that includes a clinical affiliation with a private or public health care provider, may be required to undergo a Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) check, a Sex Offender Registry Information (SORI) check, and/or a Criminal History Record Information (CHRI) check. Students will need to provide a government issued photo identification and sign a release form allowing the college to view the student's CORI or SORI reports. Depending on the contents of a student's CORI or SORI reports, participation in an academic program or a cooperative education experience or a clinical or practicum affiliation related thereto, may be denied. CORI checks may be performed pursuant to Mass. General Laws, Chapter 6, Sections 172(C), and consistent with guidelines promulgated by the Executive Office for Health and Human Services, and/or the Commonwealth's Department of Public Health. SORI checks may be performed pursuant to Mass. General Laws, Chapter 6, Section 172(C). CHRI checks may be performed based on the NH Code of Administrative Rules and state statutes to include RSA 106-B:14 and RSA 106-B:7,1(b). For more information, contact Program Coordinator.

Clinical Affiliate Random Drug & Alcohol Screening Analysis Notification to Students

Please be advised that students enrolled in the following Health Professions programs will be required to undergo and pass a drug screening or a drug & alcohol screening analysis in order to be eligible for placement in a clinical

facility. Students who are assigned to clinical education experiences at the clinical facilities may be required to undergo and pass random drug screening or random drug & alcohol screening analysis in order to remain at that clinical facility. Students who either fail to pass, or refuse to submit to, or fail to report within the required time frame for a drug screening or a drug & alcohol screening analysis will be deemed ineligible for clinical placement, which may affect their status in the program. Health Programs in which Students are Subject to Drug Screening Analysis only: Dental Assisting, Paramedic Technology (EMT-P), Medical Assisting, Nursing Associate Degree, Healthcare Technician, Practical Nursing, Radiologic Technology, Computer Tomography. Health Programs in which Students are Subject to Drug & Alcohol Screening Analysis: Sleep Technologist, Respiratory Care. If you have any questions pertaining to this policy, please contact the Office of the Dean of Health Professions.

Information about Massachusetts Licensure

In order to practice respiratory care in Massachusetts, individuals must obtain a license, which according to law requires that individuals must: complete an accredited respiratory care program, apply to the Board, be of good moral character, pass a licensure examination, and pay the appropriate fee before licensure may be obtained. For further information about licensure as a respiratory therapist in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, please visit [their website](#).

Affirmative Action

For information on Affirmative Action Policy: <https://www.necc.mass.edu/employment/statement-non-discrimination/>

RESPIRATORY CARE PROGRAM**Test of Essential Academic Skills for Allied Health Professionals (TEAS)**

FACT SHEET

1. What is the Test of Essential Academic Skills for Allied Health Professionals used for Respiratory Care Program admission?

This test is an assessment of an applicant's scholastic aptitude. It is designed to predict an applicant's academic readiness prior to admission into the Respiratory Care Program. The specific test used by NECC is the Test of Essential Academic Skills V for Allied Health Professionals

2. Where can I take the test?

TEAS testing used to meet the criteria can be taken at Northern Essex Community College on either the Haverhill or Lawrence campus. **We no longer accept remotely proctored exams or tests completed at another college.**

3. What academic content areas will I be tested on?

The TEAS consists of four content areas: **Math, Reading, English and Science.**

The **Math** subtest covers whole numbers, metric conversion, fractions and decimals, algebraic equations, percentages and ratio/proportion.

The **Reading** subtest covers paragraph comprehension, passage comprehension, and inferences/conclusions.

The **English** subtest measures knowledge of punctuation, grammar, sentence structure, words and spelling.

The **Science** portion of the test covers scientific reasoning science knowledge, biology, chemistry, anatomy and physiology, basic physical principles and general science.

4. Are there essay questions on this test?

No. This is an on-line test, consisting of all multiple choice questions.

5. How long will it take for me to complete the TEAS?

This test will take approximately four hours. Each of the four content area tests must be completed within a specified time.

6. Is there a particular score I must achieve on the TEAS?

You must achieve the minimum scores in all content areas:

TEAS Reading	<u>63%</u>
TEAS Mathematics	<u>60%</u>
TEAS Science	<u>44%</u>
TEAS English	<u>53%</u>

7. Is there any way that I can prepare for the TEAS?

Yes. There are several options for TEAS test prep offered by ATI: <https://www.atitesting.com/teas>. There are a limited number of ATI TEAS Study Guides available through the Center for Health Professions for students currently enrolled in courses and pursuing a criteria-based program. The use of the study guides is limited to one month.

8. When will I take the TEAS?

The TEAS is administered on a regular basis. For more information, go to: [the ATI registration page](#).

9. Is there a fee to take the TEAS?

Yes. **There is a non-refundable fee of \$94.00***. Registration and payment for the test are done on-line. For more information, go to [our Health Profession Testing site](https://www.necc.mass.edu/admissions/testing-center/health-profession-testing/) which can be found at <https://www.necc.mass.edu/admissions/testing-center/health-profession-testing/>

***Note:** Fee subject to change

10. What should I bring with me on the testing date?

- **2 forms of identification including a picture ID.**
- Your ATI confirmation e-mail
- Your ATI username and password.

No water, food, calculators, beepers or cell phones are allowed. As room temperature varies, it is suggested that you dress in layers to accommodate the environment.

11. How will I know how I performed on the TEAS?

Results will be available immediately. Students can access their score reports by logging onto [the ATI website](#).

12. How often can I take the TEAS?

An applicant may take the TEAS test a maximum of three times during an admission cycle (September to August). Should a retest be required, the TEAS test may not be retaken sooner than three months from the previous test for a total of three times. The most recent test results will be used for that admission cycle only.

13. What happens if I miss the test?

If the testing session is missed, you will not be refunded