

Respiratory Therapists

Entry wages (2014): \$23.89 per hour or \$49,691.00 annually

Projected growth (2015-2025): Faster than average at 21.3% in Tarrant County

What will you do?

Respiratory Therapists work to assess, treat and care for patients with acute and chronic breathing disorders under the direction of a physician.

Where will you work?

They work in hospitals, rehabilitation facilities, clinics, physician's offices, home care locations, sleep labs, and diagnostic and research labs.

What Experience do you need?

Respiratory Therapist is a Middle Skill level occupation requiring an Associate's degree. Supervisor level positions and hospital intensive care specialties, a RRT credential is mostly required by employers.

What type of Job Training do I need?

You can be either a Certified Respiratory Therapist (CRT) or a Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) through the [National Board for Respiratory Care](http://www.nbrc.org) (NBRC) certification and credentialing exams. This is widely supported by employers when hiring someone and it's recognized by the Texas Medical Board (TMB) when accepting your application for licensing/renewals. The state licensing department TMB, will only accept certifications/credentials from NBRC for an application and license renewal. Only accredited Associate of Applied Science in Respiratory Care education programs are allowed for NBRC exam certification. Proof of CRT/RRT certification is required when applying for your state license. The Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care accredits education programs nationwide and is accepted by the TMB when applying for license. Specialty credentials offered by NBRC can make you more marketable to employers after your initial certification. These credentials are Adult Critical Care Specialty (ACCS), Certified Pulmonary Function Technologist (CPFT), Registered Pulmonary Technologist (RPFT), Neonatal/Pediatric Specialty (NPS), and Sleep Disorders Specialty (SDS).

Completion of continuing education courses are required when renewing your license.



29-1126.00 – Respiratory Therapists (ONET Code)

What else should I know?

Employers are able to verify your license/registry status through TMB before offering employment. As well as your certifications on NBRC. For complete listing of convictions and deferred adjudications, see: <http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/HS/htm/HS.250.htm> Sec. 250.006. CONVICTIONS BARRING EMPLOYMENT.

Approved Tarrant County Training Programs

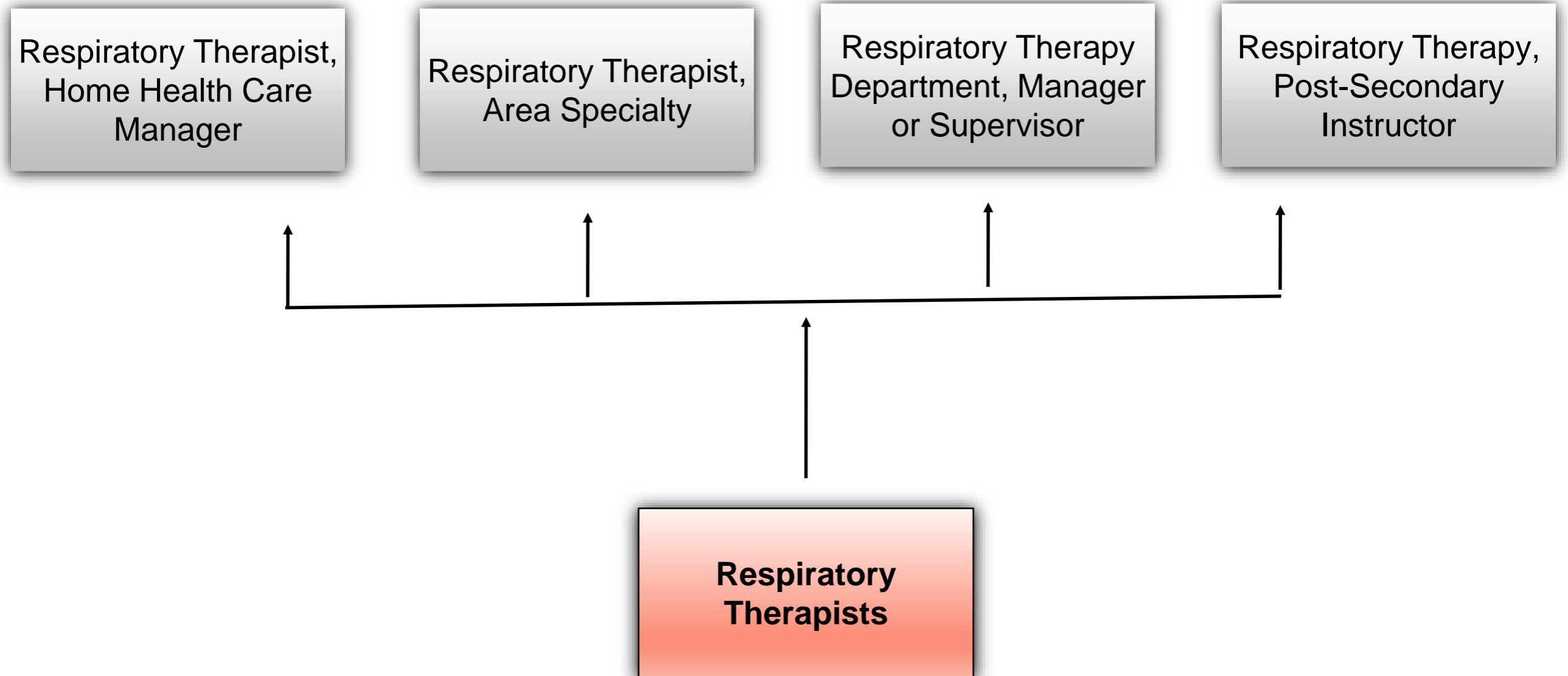
Provider	Program Name	Hours (Contact/Credit)	Cost	Pell Eligible
Tarrant County College	Respiratory Care	2320/72	\$7,675.00	Yes

The cost of training reflected on this page is set by the training provider and does not reflect Tarrant County WIOA funding amounts. All services are subject to availability and funding.

*This information is subject to change. See a Workforce Center Career Counselor for more information.



DRAFT Career Pathway Map – Respiratory Therapists Occupation



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