



Respiratory Care Practitioner

CLASS TITLE	CLASS CODE	SALARY GROUP	SALARY RANGE
RESPIRATORY CARE PRACTITIONER I	4428	B21	\$54,278 - \$87,046
RESPIRATORY CARE PRACTITIONER II	4429	B22	\$57,614 - \$93,138

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Performs respiratory therapy work by providing respiratory care, including initiating and conducting therapeutic procedures such as the application of oxygen and compressed air, as well as instructing patients on proper breathing techniques.

EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED

Provides pressure breathing treatments using ventilators and various oxygen and aerosol devices and administers oxygen and ultrasonic mists as ordered.

Provides instruction on abdominal breathing exercises and breathing techniques.

Provides technical assistance in artificial ventilation and tracheostomy care and in conducting pulmonary function tests.

Performs respiratory physiotherapy techniques, including postural drainage and percussion.

Monitors patients' responses to therapy by reviewing vital signs and measuring and analyzing arterial blood gases and blood chemistry changes.

Interprets breathing sounds and applies endotracheal suction.

Monitors patients undergoing treatment and evaluates patients' progress.

Consults with physicians and other medical staff regarding patients' condition and status.

Prepares reports and maintains records.

Maintains, repairs, and sets up respiratory therapy equipment and ensures that proper adjustments are made.

Assists in performing emergency resuscitation, including artificial ventilation and external cardiac compression.

Performs related work as assigned.

DESCRIPTION OF LEVELS

Examples of work and descriptions are meant to progress through the levels. For example, an employee at a level II may also perform work listed within the previous levels.

Note: *Factors that may distinguish between journey and senior levels include the degree of independence in performing the work, the complexity of the work, the scope of the responsibility, and the employee's related experience or certifications. Other factors may include complexity of assigned case load, specialization of practice, and type of practice setting. Journey-level employees may independently perform the full range of work identified within its current level and may assist others performing work of greater complexity. Senior-level employee may perform the full range of work identified in the level preceding their own, and/or may coordinate that work for others.*

RESPIRATORY CARE PRACTITIONER I: Performs complex (journey-level) respiratory therapy work. Works under general supervision, with moderate latitude for the use of initiative and independent judgment.

RESPIRATORY CARE PRACTITIONER II (Added 9-1-2025): Performs highly complex (senior-level) respiratory therapy work. Works under limited supervision, with moderate latitude for the use of initiative and independent judgment. Employees at this level may:

- Educate individuals, caregivers, and staff on respiratory care practices.
- Coordinate the scheduling of treatments and equipment use.
- Participate in quality assurance and quality enhancement activities.

GENERAL QUALIFICATION GUIDELINES

EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION

Experience in respiratory therapy work. Graduation from an accredited college or university with major coursework in respiratory care is generally preferred. Experience and education may be substituted for one another.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES

For all levels

- Knowledge of respiratory therapy principles and techniques.
- Skill in the operation, maintenance, and repair of respiratory therapy equipment; and in the operation of a computer and applicable software.
- Ability to provide respiratory therapy care, to prepare reports, to maintain records, and to communicate effectively.

Additional for Respiratory Care Practitioner II

- Ability to provide guidance to others.

REGISTRATION, CERTIFICATION, OR LICENSURE

Must be licensed as a respiratory care practitioner by the State of Texas.