The respiratory care program prepares individuals to assist in developing respiratory care plans, administer respiratory care procedures, supervise personnel and equipment operation, maintain records, and consult with other health care team members. Includes instruction in the applied basic biomedical sciences; anatomy, physiology, and pathology of the respiratory system; clinical medicine; therapeutic procedures; clinical expressions; data collection and record-keeping; patient communication; equipment operation and maintenance; personnel supervision; and procedures for special population groups.¹ The Hartnell College Respiratory Care Practitioner (RCP) program is a defined group of prerequisite and corequisite courses, and a four-semester course of study consisting of classroom, high-fidelity simulation, skills laboratory, seminar, and clinical experiences. Clinical experiences are obtained in Monterey, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, and San Luis Obispo counties. Upon successful completion of program requirements, graduates are eligible to take the National Board of Respiratory Care’s Registry Examination (RRT, CRT, CSE). After passing, graduates may practice as respiratory care practitioners in a variety of acute and community-based settings. The Hartnell College RCP program holds provisional accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care.

¹ http://www.cacareerzone.org/majors/detail/51.0908