# Cardiopulmonary Sciences, AS to BS

The Bachelor of Science (BS) in Cardiopulmonary Sciences is a program designed for cardiovascular technologists and respiratory care professionals who want to advance their education.

Applicants should hold one of the following credentials:

* Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) from the National Board for Respiratory Care
* Registered Cardiovascular Invasive Specialist (RCIS) or other registry level credentials from Cardiovascular Credentialing International
* Registered Diagnostic Cardiac Sonographer (RDCS) from the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers.

On this foundation of skill, the proposed program will result in additional growth for professionals within the specialized area of Cardiopulmonary Sciences.

The program will provide cardiopulmonary professionals with a well-rounded general education in the arts and sciences as well as an advanced understanding in the Cardiopulmonary Sciences. The Cardiopulmonary Sciences BS provides career advancement for entry-level health profession practitioners. Students will develop management and leadership skills and gain a broader-based knowledge of healthcare delivery skills. The program offers a diverse population of students with innovative educational experiences and opportunities to meet the healthcare needs of the community they serve. The program provides a career and educational pathway for cardiovascular technologists and respiratory care professionals who have earned an Associate of Science degree in a related area or who hold comparable certification and licensure to treat patients.

# Program Highlights:

The BS in Cardiopulmonary Sciences program includes courses in professional issues, advanced pharmacology, diagnosis and intervention, patient management, research, legal and ethical aspects of healthcare, pathophysiology, leadership, and community health. Courses are offered in a blend of online and traditional formats to accommodate students’ various schedules and learning preferences. Students may select from an array of electives to complement their learning. Courses are offered for full-time and part-time students. The program also provides an excellent basis for continued formal education at the graduate level in the medical, public health, and education disciplines.

# Career Opportunities:

Cardiopulmonary professionals will be able to further promote the expansion of services in their communities, such as diagnosis and treatment of cardiopulmonary and sleep disorders, health promotion and disease prevention, patient education, pulmonary rehabilitation, disease-specific case management, and life support outside of the intensive care unit. Changes in health care policy, regulation, and reimbursements have required professionals to adopt these expanded roles, work more independently in settings across the continuum of care, and collaborate as partners on the healthcare delivery team.

# Admission Requirements:

1. Applicants must submit an application to the BS Program and be accepted to Florida SouthWestern State College. Official transcripts from all previously attended colleges or universities must be sent directly to the Office of the Registrar.
2. Applicants must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale.

Applicants must possess licensure, certification, or registration from the profession in which the applicant is practicing. Applicants should hold one of the following credentials:

* + Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) from the National Board for Respiratory Care
  + Registered Cardiovascular Invasive Specialist (RCIS) or other registry level credentials from Cardiovascular Credentialing International
  + Registered Diagnostic Cardiac Sonographer (RDCS) from the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers.

# General Education:

Each state university and Florida College System institution shall establish a general education curriculum, which shall require thirty-six (36) semester hours of communication, mathematics, social sciences, humanities, and natural sciences for students working toward an associate in arts or baccalaureate degree.

After a state university or Florida College System institution has published its general education curriculum, the integrity of that curriculum shall be recognized by the other public postsecondary institutions. Once a student has been certified by such an institution on the official transcript as having completed satisfactorily its prescribed general education curriculum, regardless of whether the associate in arts degree is conferred, no other public postsecondary institution to which he or she may transfer shall require any further such general education courses.

If a student does not complete the general education curriculum prior to transfer, the general education requirement becomes the responsibility of the new institution, consistent with Section 1007.24, F.S.

Students who have completed a General Education curriculum from a college or university outside the State of Florida will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis to determine which courses will meet the Florida SouthWestern State College 36 hour General Education Requirements.  Students must have earned equivalent credit hours in each of the five General Education areas: communication, mathematics, social sciences, humanities, and natural sciences.

# Career Ladder Degree Articulation Agreement:

The Career Ladder agreement integrates specific associate in science degree programs with identified baccalaureate degree programs statewide. The Bachelor of Science in Cardiopulmonary Sciences at Florida SouthWestern State College is an AS to BS degree completion program. A transfer of 30 credits towards the BS degree will be granted to students who hold the required associate degree and professional credentials outlined above.

# Transient Student Enrollment in Upper Division Coursework:

Transient students must obtain prior approval to enroll in Upper Division Cardiopulmonary Sciences Core coursework. Transient students are currently enrolled college students who register for courses at another institution on a temporary basis (e.g., university students attending summer semester at a state college). In order to take courses at another institution, students must receive approval from their home institution. The application will initiate your request and be routed to the appropriate personnel. Students initiate this process using Florida Virtual Campus at [www.FloridaShines.org](http://www.FloridaShines.org).

# Priority Application Deadlines:

Fall Semester Start – Application due by **August 1**

Spring Semester Start – Application due by **December 1**

Summer Semester Start – Application due by **April 1 Academic and Graduation Requirements:**

1. Students must achieve a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or higher.
2. Students must earn a grade of “C” or higher in each Upper Division Cardiopulmonary Sciences course. Students must satisfactorily complete 120 credit hours as outlined in the Cardiopulmonary Sciences BS Program of Study.
3. To satisfy residency requirements, a minimum of 30 credit hours must be completed at Florida SouthWestern State College.
4. Students must complete all General Education coursework and foreign language competence.
5. Students must complete an Application for Graduation through the Office of the Registrar and enroll for GRD 4000 the semester in which they intend to graduate. Students must apply for graduation by the published deadline to be assured of final clearance for graduation, timely receipt of diploma, and participation in the graduation ceremony.

**CARDIOPULMONARY SCIENCES, BS DEGREE PROGRAM OF STUDY (120 Credits)**

**General Education Curriculum 36 Credits**

**Elective Courses (Any 1000-4000 courses) 21 Credits**

**Upper Division, BS Degree 33 Credits**

**Career Ladder Articulation\* 30 Credits**

*\*Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) from the National Board for Respiratory Care*

*\*Registered Cardiovascular Invasive Specialist (RCIS) or other registry level credentials from Cardiovascular Credentialing International*

*\*Registered Diagnostic Cardiac Sonographer (RDCS) from the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers.*



**Program Specific Requirements:** The following coursework must be completed to meet the *Florida Common Prerequisites* for the Cardiopulmonary Sciences baccalaureate degree and may be fulfilled within General Education, Elective, or Lower Division studies.

BSC 1005C General Biology **or** 4 credits

BSC 1010 Biological Science I and BSC 1010L Biological Science I Laboratory

BSC 1085C or BSC 1093C Anatomy and Physiology I 4 credits

BSC 1086C or BSC 1094C Anatomy and Physiology II 4 credits

MCB 2010C Microbiology 4 credits

SPC 1017 Fundamentals of Speech Communication **or** 3 credits

SPC 2608 Introduction to Public Speaking







**Upper Division, BS Cardiopulmonary Core Courses:**

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| HSC 4159 Advanced Medical Pharmacology | 3 credits |
| HSC 4555 Pathophysiological Mechanisms | 3 credits |
| HSC 4652 Health Care Ethics | 3 credits |
| RET 4050 Research Methods | 3 credits |
| RET 4445 Cardiopulmonary Diagnostics | 3 credits |
| RET 4505 Chest Medicine | 3 credits |
| RET 4524 Education in Community and Acute Healthcare Environments | 3 credits |
| RET 4536 Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation | 3 credits |
| RET 4715 Advanced Neonatal Medicine | 3 credits |
| RET 4933 Selected Topics in Cardiopulmonary Sciences | 3 credits |
| **Select One of the Courses Below:**  HSA 3113 Contemporary Issues in Health Care  HSA 3430 Health Care Economics  HSA 4184 Management Strategies of Healthcare Organizations  MAN 3301 Human Resources Management  RET 4034 Problems in Patient Management  Any 3000 or 4000 Course with a HSA or HSC prefix | 3 credits |

**Information is available online at:** [**www.fsw.edu/academics/**](http://www.fsw.edu/academics/) **and on the School of Health Professions Home page at:** [**www.fsw.edu/sohp**](http://www.fsw.edu/sohp)