



# Respiratory Therapy

Through this comprehensive program that uses theory and hands-on instruction, prepare for a career in hospital emergency rooms and intensive care units assisting in diagnosing and managing cardio-pulmonary disorders. Respiratory therapists do important work performing CPR, managing ventilators and providing oxygen therapy.

Respiratory Therapy is a diverse and specialized profession that assists physicians in diagnosing, treating and managing patients by providing such services as cardiopulmonary resuscitation, ventilator management, oxygen and aerosol therapy, patient assessment and evaluation, and diagnostic services including pulmonary function testing and blood analysis. Since 1970, SAIT has been providing students with the right combination of leading-edge theory and hands-on practice needed to succeed.

This comprehensive program features classroom study, lab and clinical simulation, and practicum rotations in acute and community care facilities. Students will complete practicum rotations in areas such as adult, pediatric and neonatal intensive care units, the emergency department, anesthesia, wards, home care, pulmonary function and blood gas labs.

As trained Respiratory Therapists, our instructors are well equipped to offer the latest insights into new technology and best practices in the field, including through SAIT's Centre for Advanced Patient Care Simulation - a simulation education facility that uses high fidelity human patient simulators that physiologically respond to medical treatment.

## Interprovincial Health Training Agreements

SAIT offers reserved seats in respiratory therapy for Saskatchewan students. Limited space available, applications prior to May 1.

## Is this the right fit for me?

Students who experience success in this program and profession:

- have higher secondary and/or post-secondary grades, and may have previously completed a post-secondary program
- are dedicated to spending approximately 60 hours per week completing classroom, laboratory, practicum, and independent study activities
- possess a strong command of the English language, with communication and interpersonal skills to match
- are compassionate and value caring for others
- have good organizational and problem-solving capacities, with the ability to adapt quickly in crisis situations
- work effectively both independently and as part of a team
- are professional, flexible, and enjoy working in diverse settings
- enjoy working in a high-energy, challenging environment, and are able to manage unpleasant and/or stressful situations
- are physically fit, including the ability to:
  - stand for extended periods of time and spend the majority of their working hours on their feet
  - work in difficult physical positions
  - climb several flights of stairs quickly
  - apply strong hand and finger dexterity and stamina, including good hand-eye coordination
  - help lift immobile patients

Prospective students are strongly encouraged to refer to the [ALIS website for career, learning, and employment information for Respiratory Therapy](#), as well as the [National Competency Framework](#) for the profession, to ensure that they are able to successfully demonstrate the skills required to achieve all the competency-based objectives for the program and profession.

## Accreditation

Graduates from the SAIT program must successfully challenge the Canadian Board of Respiratory Care (CBRC) examination to earn the right to practice Respiratory Therapy in Canada. Any graduate wishing to work in Alberta must be a member of CARTA and pay the \$425 membership fee and, if English is an additional language, provide proof of ELTPA of nine in all categories.

Graduates wishing to work outside of Alberta need to be registered with that province's provincial regulatory body for respiratory therapy. All graduates may become members of the Canadian Society of Respiratory Therapists (CSRT) by paying the \$185 membership fee, and this is a requirement in an unregulated province.

After graduates become members of a professional organization, they may register with the CBRC by paying the \$900 national

examination fee that will then allow them to challenge the national exam.

The Respiratory Therapy program delivered by SAIT is accredited by Accreditation Canada. The program also works closely with our Advisory Committee to ensure that our curriculum continues to exceed provincial and national accreditation standards.

## Credentials

After successfully completing this program, graduates will receive a SAIT Respiratory Therapy diploma.

# Admission requirements

## Application dates

- **Fall 2022 start (Alberta applicants):** applications are accepted from Oct 6, 2021 to March 1, 2022.
  - **Please note:** RT Profession Specific Entrance Assessments must be completed by end of day March 18, 2022. CASPer assessments must be completed by April 5, 2022.
- **Fall 2022 start (Saskatchewan applicants):** applications are accepted from Oct 6, 2021 to June 30, 2022.
  - **Please note:** Access to the RT Profession Specific Entrance Assessment will close end of day July 22, 2022.

\*This program does not accept international students.

## Program requirements

Completion of the following courses or equivalents:

- at least 70% in Math 30-1 or at least 75% in Math 30-2
- at least 70% in English Language Arts 30-1
- at least 70% in Chemistry 30
- at least 70% in Biology 30

### AND

- a mark of at least 50% on the scoring rubric for the School of Health and Public Safety's Entrance Testing Process.

### Entrance testing process

All applicants must demonstrate [English Language Proficiency](#) prior to admission, including students educated in Canada.

SAIT accepts [high school course equivalents](#) for admission. If you don't meet the requirements, consider [Academic Upgrading](#).

## English language requirement

All applicants who have English as an additional language must achieve the following passing scores in the Enhanced Language Training Placement Assessment (ELTPA) before a seat can be offered in the program:

- Speaking Benchmark level 9
- Listening Benchmark level 9
- Reading Benchmark level 9
- Writing Benchmark level 9

The language assessment can be completed through the [Immigrant Language Vocational Assessment Referral Centre](#). The waitlist is approximately three weeks to access the ELTPA and the assessment duration is approximately three hours.

In order to request and book your (ELTPA) appointment, please send the below information to [clarc@immigrantservicescalgary.ca](mailto:clarc@immigrantservicescalgary.ca). The date and time of exam (current) section can be blank until you have been provided with an appointment booking.

## Required information

- Legal last name
- Legal first name
- Date of birth
- Phone number
- Immigration status
- Previous assessment at ILVARC (yes or no)
- Date and time of exam (current)

You cannot take the ELTPA exam without a referral form from the Respiratory Therapy program. Once you are given an appointment (day and time), please send it with the above information to [Alana Crookes](#) and you will be provided with a referral form for your appointment. **Please include your SAIT student ID number in this email.**

Please note that the program does not accept International English Language Testing Systems (IELTS), Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), Michigan English Language Assessment Battery (MELAB) or Michener English Language Assessment (MELA) as equivalent to ELTPA.

## Direct entry: five-step process

**Step 1:** Read the program information to see the qualities needed for student success.

**Step 2:** Review the information related to the necessary components of the [School of Health and Public Safety Entrance Testing Process](#).

**Step 3:** Complete the School of Health and Public Safety Entrance Testing Process non-academic admission requirement. Ensure that you meet all of the academic admission requirements listed above.

**Step 4:** [Apply](#) to the Respiratory Therapy program and submit your [transcripts and/or anticipated final grades](#) prior to the application close date.

- Admission is offered on a first-qualified, first offered basis, until the program is full.

**Step 5:** Log in to [mySAIT.ca](#) to check your admission status. Find out how to monitor your [application status](#).

Failure to meet anticipated final grades will result in offers being rescinded.

## Communication during admission

Email is the primary source of communication during the admission process. Ensure your personal email account is managed appropriately to receive our emails, files and communications.

We recommend you add [hps.info@sait.ca](mailto:hps.info@sait.ca) domain to your safe senders' list or you risk missing critical email messages.

## Practicum requirements

The [School of Health and Public Safety](#) has many practica partners located within Alberta and across Canada. Practicum placements in Calgary are limited and students may be required to relocate outside of Calgary for practicum.

All students are required to return to SAIT campus for one week in each semester of the third year of the program, regardless of where they are placed for practicum.

Successful candidates will be informed of the allocation of their practicum placement by the program. There is no guarantee that students will be placed at their desired practicum location. Special considerations of personal circumstances will not be given in regards to assigning practicum placements. Students will be responsible for fees associated with practicum such as entrance requirements, relocation and travel costs.

In compliance with the practica agreements with our clinical partners, successful candidates will be requested to provide proof of the following requirements:

- Current Heart and Stroke Foundation Health Care Provider Level (C) CPR
- Updated immunization records
- Security clearance - Police Information Check including Vulnerable Sector Check
- N95 respiratory mask fitting
- Health and wellness status
- Neonatal Resuscitation Program offered by the Canadian Pediatric Society must be successfully completed and proof submitted to the program administration assistant before progressing to semester 5. The certification must be valid for the entire practicum year.

[Learn more](#)

## Costs 2022/23

### Domestic tuition and fees

Cost per credit: \$138

Year	Number of semesters	Tuition fees	SAIT fees	Saitsa fees*	Total
1	2	\$4,140	\$916	\$553	\$5,609
2	2	\$4,140	\$916	\$553	\$5,609
3	3	\$4,968	\$1,214	\$698.50	\$6,880.50

\*Maximum fee. Actual fees may be less and are based on the number of credits a student takes per semester and whether they opt-out of health and dental benefits.

## SAIT fees

- Campus athletic and recreation fee:
  - Year 1 & 2: \$196
  - Year 3: \$294
- Universal transit pass (Upass): \$320
- Student support fee:
  - Year 1 & 2: \$200
  - Year 3: \$300
- Student technology fee:
  - Year 1 & 2: \$200
  - Year 3: \$300

## Saitsa fees

### Student Association fee

- Maximum:
  - Year 1 & 2: \$291
  - Year 3: \$436.50

This is the maximum amount the student will pay. Actual fees may be less and are based on the number of credits the students take per semester.

## Health and dental fees

- Health plan: \$127
- Dental plan: \$135

Students with existing health and/or dental plans can opt-out. Please refer to [Saitsa's website](#) for information.

## Books and supplies\*

Books and supplies are approximately \$2,500 per full-time year.

Students are responsible for any additional expenses related to their practicum, including pre-practicum requirements as outlined by the program, and relocation costs to practicum sites outside of Calgary.

For an estimate of the costs associated with purchasing a computer that meets the program's hardware and software requirements, see our [computers and laptops page](#).

## Additional fees

- \$75 Comp Tracker fee for the first two years of the program and \$75 per semester in the third year.
- \$425 approx. annual dues to College and Association of Respiratory Therapists of Alberta (CARTA)
- Canadian Society of Respiratory Therapists (CSRT) annual dues are approximately \$100 for students and \$180 for regular members.
- Canadian Board of Respiratory Care (CBRC) exam fee is approximately \$900.
- There is a fee associated with obtaining a police information check including Vulnerable Sector Check and is payable to the Police or the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP)
- Students must have their immunizations reviewed by the SAIT Health Clinic. There is a \$75 charge to review vaccine history. Any vaccines to be administered will result in additional charges.
- There is a fee, approximately \$50-\$100, associated with an Electronic Student Permit Checking submission which is required for

clinical practicum placements, payable to Synergy Gateway through the Verified software platform.

Learn more about [tuition and financial aid](#).

\*Tuition, fees, books and supply costs are subject to change.