



State of New Mexico
Classification Description

RESPIRATORY THERAPIST

General Summary

Respiratory Therapists evaluate, treat and care for patients with breathing or other cardiopulmonary disorders. Practicing under the direction of a Physician, Respiratory Therapists assume primary responsibility for all respiratory care therapeutic treatments and diagnostic procedures. Positions in this job family are assigned responsibilities involving a specialized therapeutic respiratory treatments prescribed by professional staff in a state hospital or institution. Respiratory therapist use diagnostic tools and therapeutic treatments from neonate to geriatric patients to resume efficient breathing.

Respiratory Therapist I

Jobcode: HRET15

Pay Band: HD

FLSA Status: FLSA status may be determined to be different at the agency level based on the agency's utilization of the position.

Distinguishing Characteristics

Full performance level Respiratory Therapist proficient in the care of patients and therapeutic methods caring for patients who have trouble breathing due to chronic respiratory disease, acute respiratory and trauma, such as asthma or emphysema and providing emergency care to patients.

Recommended Education and Experience for Full Performance

Associate's Degree from a Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC) School, State licensure and standing as a Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT), Certified in BLS with ACLS, PALS, and NRP, and two (2) years of experience as it pertains to the essential duties and responsibilities of the classification.

Minimum Qualifications

Associate's Degree from a Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC) School, State licensure and standing as a Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT).

*Essential Duties and Responsibilities**

- Takes immediate steps to alleviate adverse conditions during treatments at own initiative and notifies attending physician as soon as possible in extreme cases.
- Provides technical advice to the medical staff when called upon and instructs nursing personnel in proper respiratory therapy techniques.
- Maintains respiratory therapy equipment, reports any failure of equipment and institutes measures for its immediate repair.
- Handles inventory control of respiratory therapy equipment.
- Keeps a file of manuals of operation and repair of all departmental equipment, a repair parts manual and an apparatus and parts order manual.
- May train and mentor respiratory technicians.
- Assists professional staff members in administering respiratory therapy procedures to non-critically ill patients.
- Consults on respiratory therapy problems and provides instruction and assistance to other staff on equipment and treatments.
- May be a member of rapid response and trauma teams.

RESPIRATORY THERAPIST

Respiratory Therapist II

Jobcode: HRET17

Pay Band: HE

FLSA Status: FLSA status may be determined to be different at the agency level based on the agency's utilization of the position.

Distinguishing Characteristics

Advanced level Respiratory Therapist charged with caring for the most complex respiratory therapy patients who have trouble breathing due to chronic respiratory disease, acute respiratory and trauma, such as asthma or emphysema and providing emergency care to patients.

Recommended Education and Experience for Full Performance

Associate's Degree from a Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC) School, State licensure and standing as a Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT), Certified in BLS with ACLS, PALS, and NRP, and four (4) years of experience as it pertains to the essential duties and responsibilities of the classification and one (1) year experience in critical care.

Minimum Qualifications

Associate's Degree from a Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC) School, State Licensure and standing as a Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) and two (2) years of experience as it pertains to the essential duties and responsibilities of the classification.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities*

- Obtains and analyzes physiological specimens.
- Interprets physiological data.
- Performs tests and studies of the cardiopulmonary system.
- Performs neurophysiological studies.
- Performs sleep disorder studies.
- Monitors and maintains medical gases and environmental control systems by repairing flowmeters, suction regulators, ventilators and blood gas machines.
- Initiates and monitors mechanical ventilator support.
- Assists in bronchoscopy procedures.
- Performs bronchopulmonary hygiene.
- Applies pharmacological agents related to respiratory care procedures.
- Provides cardiopulmonary rehabilitation and hemodynamic cardiovascular support.
- Assists professional staff members in administering respiratory therapy procedures to non-critically ill patients.
- Consults on respiratory therapy problems and provides instruction and assistance to other staff on equipment and treatments.

Respiratory Therapist Supervisor**

Jobcode: HRTS23

Pay Band: HG

FLSA Status: FLSA status may be determined to be different at the agency level based on the agency's utilization of the position.

RESPIRATORY THERAPIST

Distinguishing Characteristics

Working supervisor who assigns work and directly supervises Respiratory Therapists who provide treatment that prevents or lessens respiratory disabilities of patients.

Recommended Education and Experience for Full Performance

Associate's Degree from a Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC) School, State licensure and standing as a Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT), Certified in BLS with ACLS, PALS, and NRP, and six (6) years of experience as a Respiratory Therapist and one (1) year of supervisory experience as it pertains to the essential duties and responsibilities of the classification..

Minimum Qualifications

Associate's Degree from a Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC) School, State licensure and standing as a Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) and four (4) years of experience as a Respiratory Therapist.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities*

- Delivers work direction and clinical supervision to Respiratory Therapists and other subordinate staff.
- Performs a variety of tasks in support of a respiratory therapy program and works with the most complex respiratory therapy cases.
- Responsible for defined aspects of overall program implementation, coordination and evaluation.
- Makes recommendations for changes to improve respiratory therapy programs.
- Acts upon leave requests, conducts annual performance evaluations and recommends disciplinary action.
- Interviews and recommends the selection of applicants and conducts the training of personnel.
- May be a member of response teams.

Statutory Requirements: Statutory requirements for individual positions in this classification will vary based on each agency's utilization, essential functions and the recruitment needs at the time a vacancy is posted including. It is the hiring Agencies responsibility to ensure the appropriate licenses/certifications are obtained for each position.

Conditions of Employment: Conditions of employment for individual positions in this classification will vary based on each agency's utilization, essential functions and the recruitment needs at the time a vacancy is posted.

Working Conditions: Working Conditions for individual positions in this classification will vary based on each agency's utilization, essential functions and the recruitment needs at the time a vacancy is posted. All requirements are subject to possible modification to reasonably accommodate individuals with disabilities.

Established: 10/18/2019

Revised:

**Essential Duties and Responsibilities are intended to be cumulative for each progressively higher level of work. The omission of specific statements does not preclude management from assigning other duties which are reasonably within the scope of duties. Classification description subject to change. Please refer to SPO website (www.spo.state.nm.us) to ensure this represents the most current copy of the position.*

*** Supervisor must supervise two (2) or more full-time positions.*