

An individual must meet the qualifications/pre-requisites for entrance into the program prior to applying for Mercy Scholars.

After being accepted into a specified program, it is then the individual's responsibility to notify Human Resources of their interest in applying for Mercy Scholars.

As part of the selection process for Mercy Scholars, an application, acceptance letter into desired program from the college, previous official transcripts, & references are required. In addition, applicants must complete a job shadow experience, & assessment tool. Once all are completed an interview will be scheduled.

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**Respiratory Therapist:** The Respiratory Therapy program is designed to prepare students for employment in the treatment, management and care of patients with deficiencies and abnormalities associated with respiration. Graduates are prepared to work in hospitals, clinics, home care, and related health care institutions. Graduates are eligible to sit for the certification and registry examinations offered by the National Board for Respiratory Care to become Certified Respiratory Therapy Technicians (CRTT) and Registered Respiratory Therapists (RRT), and to be licensed by the Iowa Department of Public Health to be Respiratory Care Practitioners (RCP). Students are trained to: administer therapeutic gases or gas mixtures and aerosolized medication; perform chest physiotherapy; manage the care of patients on assisted or controlled ventilation; assess the patient's ventilatory status including pulmonary function studies and blood gas analysis; perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation, to operate equipment associated with the treatment of cardiorespiratory disorders; and to perform other tasks associated with the role of the respiratory therapist.

Students are provided with classroom and laboratory experiences emphasizing skill building and skill development including supervised clinical instruction in several area health care settings and institutions and individualized clinical instruction in identified and prescribes areas.

For additional information contact:

Hawkeye Community College, Health Sciences Department, Dr. John Sorenson,  
Associate Dean, 319-296-4013

**ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS** The applicant must be a high school graduate or equivalent. One year of high school algebra and one semester of high school chemistry or the equivalent is required. Helpful courses are biology, physics, mathematics, human relations, and communications. Students must have current CPR and First Aid certification throughout the clinical portion of the program. Applicants are required to meet basic skill competency in mathematics, reading and writing. A personal interview or program preview (orientation) session may be required.

Upon successful completion of the required courses, students will be awarded an Associate in Applied Science degree.

**Stated above is a suggested college only to obtain this degree. A Mercy Scholars applicant can choose any college they would like to, in order to, obtain this particular degree.**