

**RESPIRATORY CARE PRACTITIONER – CERTIFIED RESPIRATORY  
THERAPY TECHNICIAN (CRTT)/REGISTERED RESPIRATORY THERAPIST (RRT)**

**Licensing Authority** Teri Mahoney  
Respiratory Care Examiners  
Iowa Department of Public Health  
Lucas State Office Bldg 5th Fl  
321 E 12th St  
Des Moines IA 50319-0075  
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**Legal Authority** Code of Iowa, Chapter 152B; Iowa Administrative Code, Chapters 260-261

**Job Description** Under qualified medical direction, respiratory care practitioners practice the therapy, management, rehabilitation, diagnostic evaluation, and care of patients with deficiencies and abnormalities affecting the cardiopulmonary (heart-lung) system. They may work with newborns, critical care, emergency procedures, and geriatrics. Practitioners may administer pharmacological, diagnostic, and therapeutic agents; observe and monitor patient responses and report changes which may implement changes in protocol or treatment; analyze blood gasses, respiratory secretions and pulmonary function testing; measure and monitor cardiac function as it relates to respiratory care; administer mechanical or environmental control mechanisms; and, provide the maintenance of artificial and natural airways.

**Education & Experience Required** Applicants must successfully complete a respiratory care education program from an accredited school/program for training respiratory therapists. They must also pass the National Board of Respiratory Care (NBRC) Examination or the State Clinical Examination administered by the NBRC. Out-of-state practitioners must meet Iowa requirements to obtain licensure in Iowa.

**Continuing Education** Thirty hours of continuing education are required biennially for license renewal.

**Examination** Applicants must pass the National Board for Respiratory Care examination for RRTs or for CRTTs.

**Fees** Application: \$75  
Duration: Two years  
Renewal: \$50  
Exam: Arranged by applicant, fee paid to the exam service

**SOC Code, Title, & Avg. Hourly Wage** 29-1126 - Respiratory Therapists (\$17.43)

**Number of Licenses Issued** Total number of licenses active as of December 31, 2001: 1,479

**For Additional Information** Iowa Department of Public Health Web site:  
<http://www.idph.state.ia.us/licensure>

American Association for Respiratory Care Inc  
11030 Ables Ln  
Dallas TX 75229

The National Board for Respiratory Care  
8310 Nieman Rd  
Lenexa KS 66214

Joint Review Committee for Respiratory Therapy Education  
1701 W Eules Blvd Ste 300  
Eules TX 76040