Professional Registration and Licensure

Students admitted into the respiratory therapy program should note that while the University of Manitoba, College of Rehabilitation Sciences may admit students to its course of studies, the right to practice as a respiratory therapist is granted only through the appropriate authority of the province concerned, through a process of licensure.

Many provinces and states have licensure and many require their licensed practitioners to be “Registered Respiratory Therapists.”

Students are highly encouraged to become student members of both provincial and national professional associations. Certain aspects of the educational program will be directed toward developing in the student an understanding and appreciation of professional practice issues.

National Certification Examination

New graduate Respiratory Therapists are eligible to apply to write the national certification examination in respiratory therapy. University of Manitoba students will be provided with information from the Canadian Board for Respiratory Care (CBRC), the body which administers the examination, during the course of their studies. Generally, the national examination takes place early in July and January.

The examination itself consists of two parts, a theory-based written examination, and a clinically-oriented written examination. The examinations are composite in nature and questions are developed based on a national competency profile. For more information about the national certification examination in Respiratory Therapy, please see the CBRC website at cbrc.ca/index.html

Successful candidates meet the credentialing requirement of the provincial regulatory bodies/national credentialing body and earn the Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) credential. For more information about professional licensure, please see the National Alliance of Respiratory Therapy Regulatory Bodies (NARTRB) website at nartrb.ca/eng/home.php