



WHAT IS RESPIRATORY THERAPY?

Respiratory therapists (RT) are in high demand and work in all areas within medical centers, from critical care facilities to emergency rooms. They also work in home care and rehabilitation clinics. RT's are both care givers and lab scientists. RT's perform therapies for our patients such as oxygen, inhaled medications, life support ventilators, CPR, and perform diagnostic respiratory tests as well. If you are a compassionate person who likes to help people and enjoys technology, then you will definitely enjoy becoming a Respiratory Therapist.

INTERESTS

(THINGS YOU LIKE TO DO)

- Monitoring
- Computer software
- Being a helper
- Interest in healthcare sector
- Caring for others
- Documenting/recording information
- Communication

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SKILLS

(THINGS YOU WILL LEARN & USE)

- Medical software
- Monitoring
- Communication
- Service orientation
- Social perceptiveness
- Complex problem solving
- Coordination
- Critical thinking
- Spreadsheet software
- Presentation software

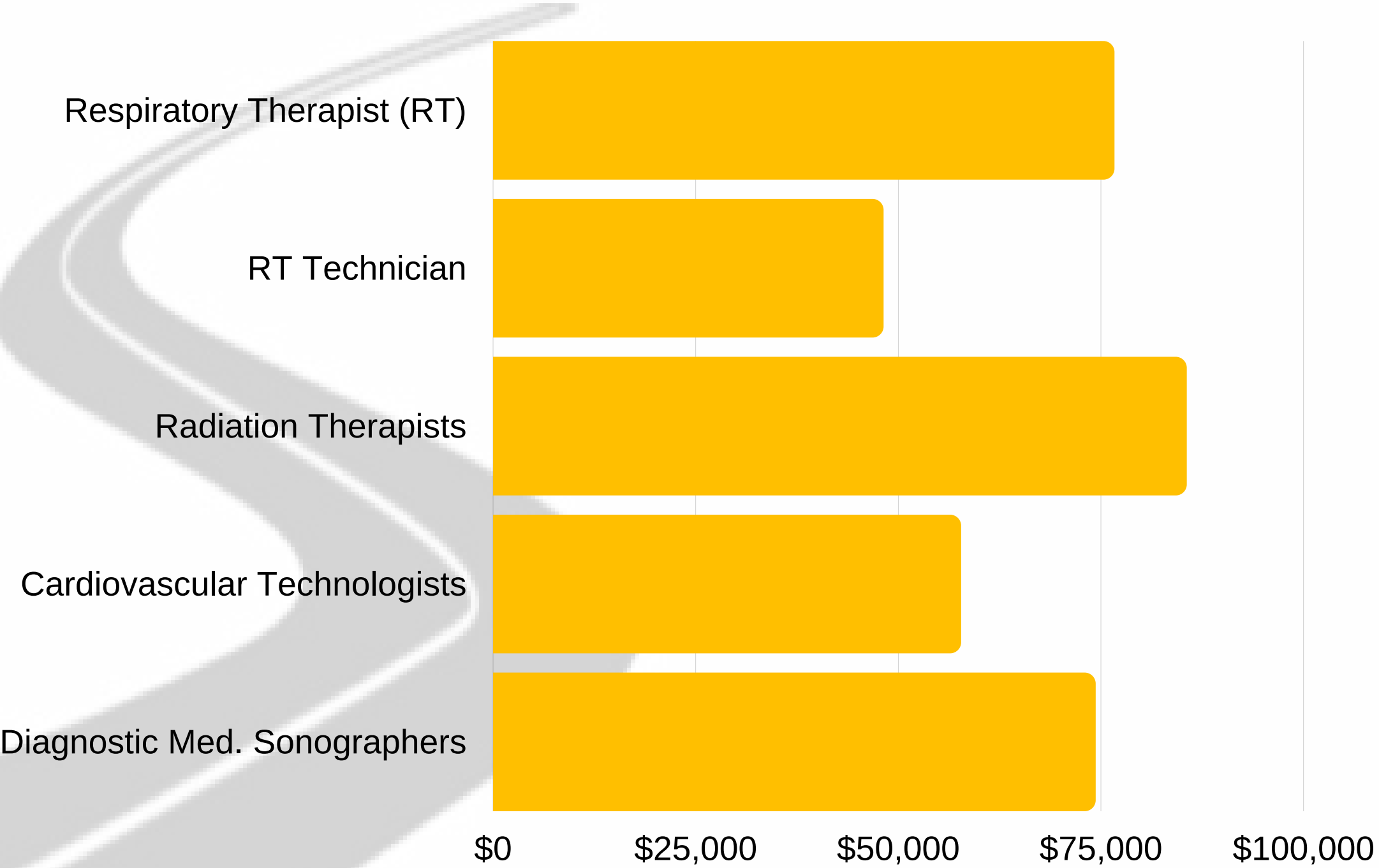
LAVC DEGREES & CERTIFICATES OFFERED

The Respiratory Therapy Program provides an Associates of Science and Certificate of Achievement degree and certificate:

- **Associate of Science (AS) in Respiratory Therapist**
 - Program requirements are divided into two phases. Any student may enroll in Phase I, with scheduled counseling recommended. Formal application must be made for admission to Phase II. The requirements for the Respiratory Therapist Program also meet the AS Degree major requirements. Please see the Respiratory Therapy Director for specific equipment requirements that students must provide and the estimated cost.
- **Certificate of Achievement (CA) in Respiratory Therapy**
 - While a certificate of achievement in RT issued by LAVC is recognition of completing all of the courses in the RT program it should be noted that this does not meet the requirements for the NBRC or the California Respiratory Care Board. The NBRC and the State California Respiratory Care Board require an Associate's of Science Degree in Respiratory Care in order to be eligible to take the national RRT Credential exams (TMC & CS) and to apply for a state Respiratory Care Practitioner License.



EARNINGS*



*Earnings can vary by occupation and experience. The following are median wages as of 2018 in California based on CaliforniaCareerZone.org

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- www.lavc.edu/transfer
- www.lavc.edu/transfer/majors/default.html
- <https://www.lavc.edu/restherapy/index.aspx>
- www.assist.org
- www.eureka.org
- www.cacareerzone.org
- www.onetonline.org
- <http://degrees.calstate.edu/>
- https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/files/undergraduate_majors_list.pdf

RELATED OCCUPATIONS

- Respiratory therapy technician
- Respiratory technician
- Radiation therapists
- Cardiovascular technologist and technician
- Diagnostic medical sonographers
- Health specialties teachers, postsecondary
- Medical equipment preparers



POTENTIAL EMPLOYERS

- Hospitals
- Medical centers
- Critical care facilities
- Emergency rooms
- Home care
- Rehabilitation facilities
- Clinics
- Lab scientists
- Laboratories

This general information is provided by the LAVC Career/Transfer Center. For specific information about majors and careers please make an appointment to see a counselor either online, in person at the Counseling Department (Student Services Annex) or by phone at (818) 947-2474.