



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

(International Students)

Q: Does CoARC accredit programs outside the United States and its Territories?

A: There are no CoARC-accredited respiratory therapy programs outside the United States and Puerto Rico. The CoARC accredits only respiratory care programs offered by, or located within institutions chartered by and physically located within the United States and its territories, and where students are geographically located within the United States and its territories for their education.

Q: I already have a respiratory therapy degree from an institution outside the U.S. Would that allow me to take the credentialing exams in the U.S.?

A: To gain eligibility to take the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC) examinations, you must be a graduate of a CoARC-accredited program, regardless of your previous education and/or experience. Every institution retains the right to determine what credits and degrees it will accept. It is up to an individual institution/program to determine which, if any, of your previous education might be transferrable. Transferability of credits depends on a number of factors, including accreditation, curriculum compatibility, and grades. You may wish to contact a college or university with an accredited respiratory therapy program in the United States to explore the possibility of receiving transfer credit for course work completed in your country of origin. Additionally, you may wish to investigate gaining admittance to a respiratory therapy education program with advanced standing. You would need to contact specific programs and discuss all of this with each of them. Refer to our [Find an Accredited Program](#) link. You can search by state or name. If you find a program that you are interested in, you need to contact that program directly to discuss admission, transfer, and completion requirements.

Q: What are the eligibility requirements for the NBRC examinations?

A: Please review online at www.nbrc.org the NBRC Candidate Handbook and Applications brochure that includes an application and outlines the admission policies required to attempt the Therapist Multiple Choice (TMC) Examination. Any questions about eligibility for the NBRC examinations must be directed to the NBRC. Their website is www.nbrc.org.