

**OFFICIAL TITLE, SERIES, AND GRADE:  
RESPIRATORY THERAPIST/TECHNICIAN,  
GS-0651-07**

**Summary of Major Duties**

The incumbent of the position serves as a Respiratory Technician and is responsible for independently administering complex respiratory therapy treatment to critically ill patients. Sets up and adjusts ventilation devices for patient use. Assists during medical emergencies, including cardiopulmonary arrest, to ensure adequate airway is maintained. Performs arterial and venous puncture. Modifies therapy as appropriate based on patient response or discussion with physician.

**Minimum Qualifications**

One year of specialized experience equivalent at least to the GS-06 level in the Federal service. Qualifying specialized experience must have demonstrated knowledge of basic equipment used in respiratory therapy and included duties such as:  
Making regular rounds on hospital nursing units to review or collect clinical data to insure that the respiratory equipment is operating properly and in compliance with physicians' orders.  
Transporting, setting up, or testing the operation of and changing simple oxygen administering devices, e.g., masks and nasal cannulas with cylinder or centralized medical gas systems.  
Disassembling, cleaning, assembling, and sterilizing reusable respiratory equipment such as oxygen analyzers and regulators, including recognizing and reporting variations from expected results.  
Examples of qualifying experience include work as a practical nurse, nursing assistant, medical machine aide, medical technician, or respiratory therapy aide if the above duties were performed.

**Licensure Requirements:** Must possess a license to practice in a State, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or a territory of the United States. **Not applicable in the following states:** Alabama, Alaska, Colorado, Delaware, Hawaii, Michigan, Nevada, North Carolina, Vermont, and Wyoming.