

**OFFICIAL TITLE, SERIES, AND GRADE:  
RESPIRATORY THERAPIST, GS-0651-08**

**Summary of Major Duties**

The incumbent of the position is responsible for independently administering complex respiratory therapy treatment to critically ill patients. Performs physical assessment of patient cardiopulmonary status including physical exam, auscultation, non-invasive monitoring and patient history. Assists during medical emergencies, including cardiopulmonary arrest, to ensure adequate airway is maintained using suction equipment, artificial airways and bag-valve-masks. Supervises the activities of other Respiratory Therapists or Technicians.

**Minimum Qualifications**

One year of specialized experience equivalent to at least GS-07 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.