Missouri Society for Respiratory Care

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MSRC Supportive Statement of Respiratory Therapy Programs

The Missouri Society of Respiratory Care supports producing more Respiratory Therapists in the state of Missouri in areas that are underserved. There are currently eight Respiratory Therapy schools in the state of Missouri. The rationale for support of an increase in Respiratory Therapy Schools include:

- Central Missouri area Health Care Facilities such as Lake Regional, PRMC, Texas County and many others report they have barriers to hiring Respiratory Therapists, as there is not a school in their area.
- Current growth rate from the BLS shows we will need an additional 960 therapists between 2018 and 2029. That is approx. 106 additional therapists every year. (This is growth, not related to loss).
- Current loss rate from retirement based on the AARC survey demonstrates that we will lose 1675 therapists between 2014 and 2027 (50% retirement rate). That results in 902 between 2020-2027, or 129 per year.
 - o This equates to Respiratory Therapy programs across the state will need to produce an average of 235 therapists per year to meet project needs (106 growth, 129 loss). Given that the current production rate is 114 therapists per year (three avg of the 8 program), the state will be short 124 therapists per year at the current rate.

References

- 1) AARC Resource Survey https://www.aarc.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/aarc-hr-study-rt.pdf
- 2) BLS projections of MO RT change http://www.projectionscentral.com/Projections/LongTerm
- 3) BLS projection of RT in the US https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/respiratory-therapists.htm
- 4) Average RT MO students (2016-2018) CoARC 2019 Annual RCS Outcomes for Entry into RC Practice and SDS Certificate Programs *Based on 2019 Annual Report of Current S

Respectfully,

Missouri Society for Respiratory Care, Board of Directors