

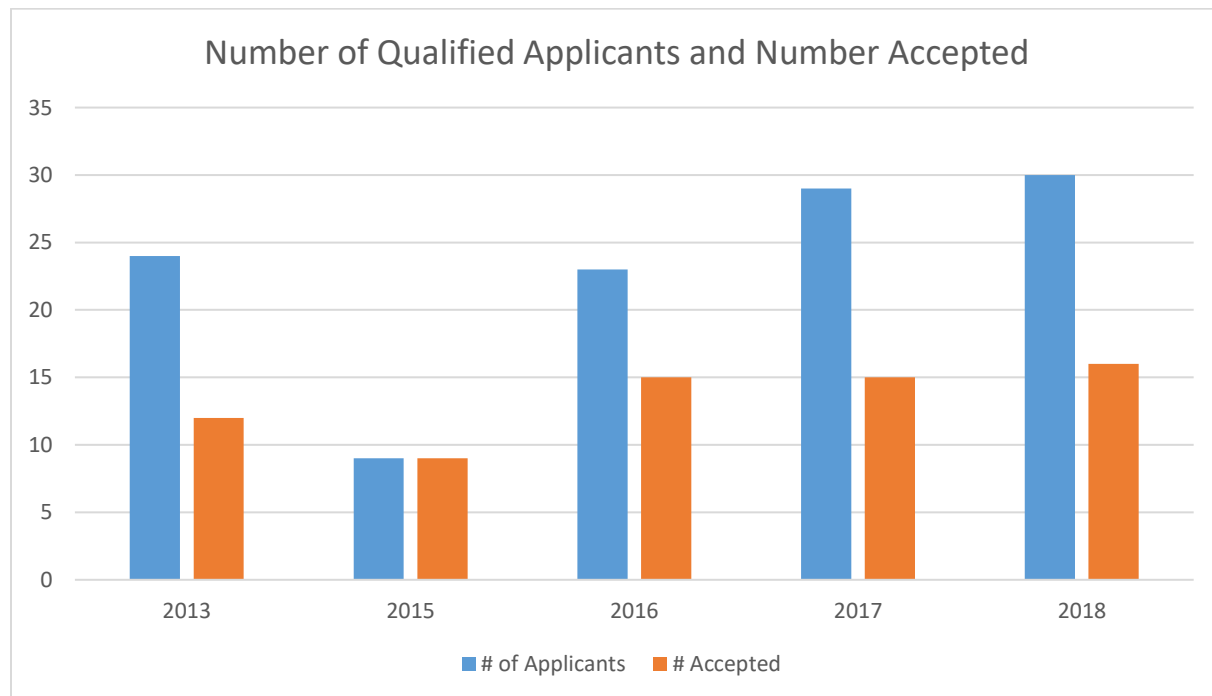
Dixie State University
Associate of Applied Science in Respiratory Therapy
Differential Tuition

Section I: Request

The Dixie State University (DSU) Respiratory Therapy Program receives a small operating budget beyond payment of faculty salaries and benefits. The program is dependent on lab and course fees for all other expenses. It is proposed that lab and course fees be discontinued and program differential tuition be implemented. This tuition will cover part of the salary and benefits for one administrative personnel, in conjunction with other programs in the department. It will cover all student lab supplies, oxygen and equipment. It will cover capital equipment, maintenance, repair and replacement. It will cover all department expenses including all office supplies, copies, accreditation fees, site visit fees and all department computers. It will cover student tracking of required background checks, drug testing and vaccinations, clinical shifts and student skill proficiencies. The program proposes a differential of \$63.00 per credit hour be added to the standard DSU tuition.

Section II: Student and Market Demand for the Program

The Respiratory Program accepts 16 students per year. There are four programs in Northern Utah. DSU has the only program serving residents of the southern part of the state. The program consistently has more applicants than openings. DSU respiratory graduates consistently find employment in the area and outside of the area. Post graduate surveys indicate that six months post-graduation, all students have found employment.



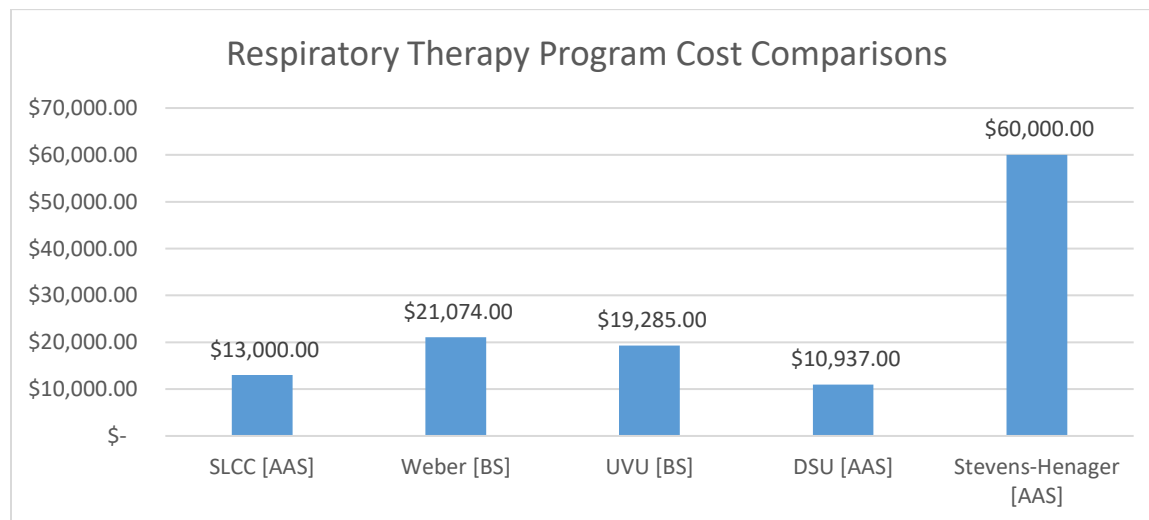
Section III: Impact of Differential Tuition Rates on Student Access and Retention:

Differential tuition must be planned carefully in order for the DSU Respiratory program to remain competitive with other institutions. It must be rolled out and explained adequately in order for students to make informed decisions regarding which school to attend. Students will need to be taught how to compare differential tuition to other institutions' base tuition, course and program fees and required purchases. If this is not understood by students, a decrease in applications and enrollment in prerequisite course may decrease. The DSU Dental Hygiene program currently charges differential tuition and they have not seen a decrease in applicants.

Section IV: Tuition Rates of Comparable Programs at Other Institutions:

DSU base tuition and fees are lower than other institutions. Even with the proposed differential tuition, DSU and SLCC will be the most economical programs in the state. There are three programs sponsored at public institutions in the state. Program costs at the one private program in the state are much higher. SLCC has the most comparable program to DSU's in the region. Weber State and UVU are BS degree programs. DSU is in the planning stage for offering a BS degree. We plan to offer this new degree in the fall of 2020. DSU Respiratory is proposing \$63.00 per credit differential tuition. Under the current model, fees equal \$20.00 per credit. This constitutes a \$43.00 per credit increase.

Our equipment is aging and technology is changing. Without this increase we will not be able to remain competitive in teaching current practice.



*Data retrieved online; base tuition and fees are estimates of total costs.

Section V: Potential Earnings Capacity of Program Graduates:

New graduates from the Respiratory program usually start between \$25.00 and \$30.00 per hour depending on location. The starting salary in many other states is higher. A full time entry level therapist can expect between \$45,000.00 and \$55,000.00 per year.

Section VI: Societal Importance of the Program:

The DSU Respiratory program is one of the premier programs in the nation. Students always score above national averages on National Board examinations. We have received the excellence in credentialing award from COARC for the past three years in a row. This award is given to the top 5% of programs in the nation. The program is an integral part of the respiratory care delivery in the area. There is currently a shortage of respiratory therapists nationwide. Intermountain healthcare currently has 36 openings in the Salt Lake area.