
Health Information Technology

Associate in Applied Science (CIP: 510707)

NOTE: This program has specific entrance requirements, application, and standards of progress requirements. See the Admissions/Registration and Policies sections for additional information. The program course requirements are presented in sequence. Part-time students and others who cannot follow this sequence should check course descriptions in the catalog to determine prerequisites and, in addition, should consult their academic advisor regarding the order in which they take courses.

This program is designed for the student who desires a career in a health related field with little or no patient contact. The curriculum provides a solid background in various aspects of health record management. Key topic areas include: records management, collection and dissemination of health data, fraud and abuse, confidentiality and privacy, medical coding, informational governance, and statistical outcomes to name a few.

- Demonstrate understanding of the purpose of various disease/procedure indexes and registries
- Demonstrate health record management functions
- Demonstrate knowledge of basic management principles
- Demonstrate knowledge of the legal system in relation to health care records.

The graduate of this program will be eligible to take the National Credentialing Examination to become credentialed as a Registered Health Information Technician (RHIT). The graduate of this program will enjoy employment opportunities in a variety of positions such as: supervisor/management, coders, consultants, vendors, educators, and data analysts, disease registrars, and EHR specialists. The graduate may choose to seek employment in government agencies, health care facilities, medical offices, clinics, hospitals, nursing homes, home health agencies, education, vendors (health care related, as well as, software/hardware), and consulting.

Employment of Health Information Technicians is expected to increase by 15 percent through 2024—faster than the average for all occupations. This growth will be attributed to the rapid growth in the number of medical tests, treatments, and procedures which are being increasingly scrutinized by health insurance companies, regulators, courts, and consumers. Health Information Technicians are instrumental in the management of health information as providers strive to comply with Federal legislation mandating the use of electronic medical records. Health Information Technicians are a critical component of the health care team.

Students unable to complete the program on a full-time basis should consult the program director.

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The HIM/HI (degree level) program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM) Important information.

If you have ever been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor for any reason, State or National credentialing boards, licensing board and agencies which require criminal background checks on potential employees and students may deny you employment or placement in certain settings, even if you have completed all academic requirements. If you have been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor, please contact the appropriate Health Science Program Director.

First Year – Fall Semester			Cr.Hrs.
AHS	103	Medical Terminology	1
BIO	114	Anatomy and Physiology I	3
CIT	117	Microsoft Applications	3
ENG	101	College Composition I	3
		or	
ENG	115	Technical Writing**	
HIT	100	Health Data Management Systems	3
HIT	230	Medicolegal Aspects	3
			16
First Year – Spring Semester			Cr.Hrs.
AHS	108	Disease Process Applications	3
BIO	115	Anatomy and Physiology II	3
HIT	125	Medical Coding I	3
HIT	145	HIT Professional Practice Experience I	2
HIT	150	Health Record Documentation	2
MATH		Math Core**	3-4
			16-17
Second Year – Fall Semester			Cr.Hrs.
HIT	225	Health Information Systems	2
HIT	235	Medical Coding II	3
HIT	240	Quality Mgmt. & Perf. Improvement	3
HIT	251	Health Care Statistics	3
MGT	250	Principles of Management	3
			14
Second Year – Spring Semester			Cr.Hrs.
HIT	253	Health Care Reimbursement	1
HIT	260	Medical Coding III	2
HIT	263	HIT Seminar	1
HIT	265	HIT Professional Practice Experience II	4
SPCH	101	Interpersonal Communications**	3
		or	
SPCH	105	Fund. of Speech Communications	
SS		Social Science Core*	3
			14
Total Hours in Program – 60-61			
*Refer to <i>Core Requirements for the Associate in Applied Science Program</i> in the beginning of this section.			
** Students who plan to transfer to a four year institution should take ENG 101, Math 108 or 210, and SPCH 105.			
A minimum grade of a “C” is required in all courses to remain in the program and graduate.			