

# HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Associate of Applied Science (AAS) Degree

107 credits

## DEGREE AS AWARDED ON TRANSCRIPT

Associate of Applied Science, Health Information Technology

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Health Information Technology program prepares individuals in technical coursework, human relations, communications, mathematics and computer technology. The program employs a career ladder approach that includes the following certificates:

- Medical Insurance
- Medical Office Specialist
- Medical Billing Specialist
- Coding Competency

At the end of six academic quarters (approximately two years), students earn an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree in Health Information Technology. Students are eligible to take the RHIT (Registered Health Information Technician) national credential examination upon completion of the AAS degree. The Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM) accredits the Health Information Technology program.

Health information technicians collect, analyze, code, manage and maintain medical information regarding patients. Health information technicians must be highly organized and pay attention to detail, maintain patient medical information in a complete, accurate and secure manner while maintaining high ethical standards. Health information technicians work in a wide range of health care facilities including but not limited to hospitals, clinics, doctors' offices and nursing homes. In Oregon, the number of jobs for health information technicians is expected to grow much faster than the average for all occupations through the year 2020.

## COST OF PROGRAM

Total cost depends upon preparatory coursework and extent of completion within the program - certificate/degree.

- Additional costs estimated to be approximately \$2,500 include textbooks, technology fees, Directed Practice travel expense, OrHIMA Convention, criminal history check, etc.
- Students are strongly encouraged to have access to a home computer with high-speed internet access.

## PROGRAM PREPARATION AND PREREQUISITES

Successful students in this program have high-level communication skills, mathematics skills and an aptitude for science and technology. Prior to enrolling in HIT 103 students must pass AH 111, CIS 120 and WR 121 with a grade of "C" or better. Students entering the HIT program are required to have a criminal history check prior to enrolling in HIT 103. A student may be prevented from entering the program if there is a felony conviction on their record.

## MINIMUM GPA OR GRADE REQUIREMENTS

All courses must be completed with a "C" grade or better to advance to the second year and graduates must have an overall 2.0 GPA or higher.

## REGISTRATION INFORMATION

HIT is a cohort program, which begins each Fall. Students can complete non-HIT courses prior to entry into the cohort or concurrently. Courses are in sequence for first and second year. Students must complete all first-year courses before enrolling in second-year coursework.

## PROGRAM STANDARDS

All COCC students enrolled in the Health Information Technology program leading to the AAS degree must pass a criminal history check (CHC) as a condition of their acceptance into a medical or other facility for directed practice. Students who do not pass the CHC may not be eligible to complete training at affiliated practicum sites (this could also prevent graduation from the program) or to sit for the certification exam (RHIT).

Unethical or unprofessional conduct is cause for dismissal from the program, i.e., cheating, plagiarism. Breach of confidentiality is grounds for immediate dismissal.

## TRANSFER INFORMATION

This degree is designed primarily for students planning to enter their chosen career upon graduation. However, credits are transferrable per an articulation agreement with the University of Cincinnati for students choosing to pursue an online BS in Health Information Management.

## SKILLS REQUIREMENTS

### Communication

SP 111	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	4
WR 121	Academic Composition	4

### Mathematics

MTH 031	Health Care Math	3
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### Human Relations

SP 218	Interpersonal Communication	3
or BA 285	Business Human Relations	
or PSY 101	Applied Psychology	

All courses with an HIT prefix (except HIT 180 and HIT 184) require instructor approval.

## CORE REQUIREMENTS

HIT 103	Health Info Systems/Procedures	5
HIT 104	Health Data Content and Structure	5
HIT 131A	Document Management Technology (offered online)	3
HIT 180	HIPAA Management (offered online and face-to-face)	2
HIT 182	Introduction to Medical Coding	4
HIT 184	Advanced Pathophysiology	5
HIT 193	Directed Practice	2
HIT 201	Legal Aspects of Health Care	3
HIT 203	Health Care Delivery/Technology	3
HIT 205	Introduction/Medical Record Analysis	3
HIT 272	Health Information Management	5
HIT 281	Health Data Collection	3
HIT 282	Quality Improvement in Health Care	4
HIT 283	Coding Classification	6
HIT 284	Classification and Reimbursement Systems	4
HIT 285	Advanced Medical Coding	4
HIT 287	Leadership and Project Management	2
HIT 293	Directed Practice II	2
HIT 296	Ambulatory Data Systems	3

## OTHER REQUIRED COURSES

AH 111	Medical Terminology I	3
AH 112	Medical Terminology II	3
BI 231	Human Anatomy & Physiology I	4
BI 232	Human Anatomy & Physiology II	4
BI 233	Human Anatomy & Physiology III	4
CIS 120	Computer Concepts	4
HHP 252A	Fitness/First Aid	3