

# Health Information Technology

## Associate in Applied Science in Allied Health & Life Science

### Program Description:

The health information technician is the professional responsible for maintaining components of health information systems in a manner consistent with the medical, administrative, ethical, legal, accreditation, and regulatory requirements of the health care delivery system. In all types of facilities, and in various locations within a facility, the technician possesses the technical knowledge and skill necessary to process, maintain, compile, and report data for reimbursement, facility planning, marketing, risk management, quality assessment, and research; to abstract and code clinical data using appropriate classification systems; and to analyze health records according to standards. The health information technician may be responsible for functional supervision of the various components of the health information system.

Within the 67 credit hours students must earn for the associate degree, 29 credit hours of health information technology classes are required. This includes 5 credit hours of directed practice where the students will practice their skills in a health information setting.

### Career Outlook:

Job prospects should be very good. Employment of medical records and health information technicians is expected to grow much faster than the average for all occupations through 2012, due to rapid growth in the number of medical tests, treatments, and procedures that will be increasingly scrutinized by third-party payers, regulators, courts, and consumers ([www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov)).

### Salary Forecast:

Median annual earnings of medical records and health information technicians were \$25,590 in 2004. The middle 50 percent earned between \$20,650 and \$32,990. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$17,720, and the highest 10 percent earned more than \$41,760. Median annual earnings in the industries employing the largest numbers of medical records and health information technicians in 2004 were as follows:

General medical and surgical hospitals	\$26,640	Outpatient care centers	\$23,870
Nursing care facilities	\$26,330	Offices of physicians	\$22,130

(Information obtained from *Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2006-2007*)

You may also contact the American Health Information Association at (312) 787-2672 or [www.ahima.org](http://www.ahima.org).

### Admission Requirements:

1. Completion of the first year of course work with a grade point average of 2.5 or above with a grade of at least C in all courses.
2. Completion of a minimum of 20 hours of observation in a health information management department of a health care facility.
3. Applications will be accepted from January 1 of each year for the upcoming fall semester. Admission to the program will be granted starting in May. This is a limited enrollment program.
4. Students seeking admission into the Health Information Technology program must arrange an appointment with the program faculty prior to submitting the application packet. This is to ensure that students receive current information regarding the program admission requirements and the criteria for selection. Application packets are available at the Allied Health and Life Science3s Division, Cabell hall room 304 or call (304) 696- 6270 for more information.
5. Prior to admission to the Health Information Technology program and/or clinical internships, students may be required to document that they have successfully passed a criminal background check and drug screen. For more information concerning the Allied Health criminal background check and drug screen procedure, please contact the Dean of Allied Health and Life Sciences at (304)696-6270

### Employment Opportunities:

- Acute care facilities
- Long-term care facilities
- Insurance companies
- Rehabilitation centers
- Physicians' offices
- Medical transcription
- Ambulatory care facilities
- State and local health departments
- Sales representatives for health information supplies
- Professional billing companies
- Attorneys' offices

## Major Code - CH10

<b>FIRST YEAR</b>	
<b>Fall Semester</b> AH 151 Medical Terminology (EDGE) .....3 ENL 111 Written Communication .....3 MAT 150 Applied Professional Mathematics .....3 SS 215 Lifespan Psychology .....3 Approved Elective.....3 <b>TOTAL CREDITS.....15</b>	<b>Spring Semester</b> AH 204 Legal and Ethical Issues in Occupations .....3 BIOL 258 Principles of Anatomy & Physiology .....4 COM 112 Oral Communication .....3 IT 101 Fundamentals of Computers (EDGE) .....3  <b>TOTAL CREDITS.....13</b>
<b>SECOND YEAR<sup>1,2</sup></b>	
<b>Fall Semester (HIT Classes Offered in Fall Only)</b> AH 216 Basic Pharmacology <sup>3</sup> .....3 HIT 201 Health Information Technology I <sup>4</sup> .....3 HIT 201L Health Information Technology I Lab .....1 HIT 203 Basic ICD-9-CM Coding .....4 HIT 206 Hospital Rates & Percentages .....2 HIT 210 Computer Health Information Systems .....2 HIT 214 Directed Practice I <sup>5,6</sup> .....1 <b>TOTAL CREDITS.....16</b>	<b>Spring Semester (HIT Classes Offered in Spring Only)</b> MA 205 Medical Office Claims Procedure .....4 HIT 202 Health Information Technology II <sup>4</sup> .....3 HIT 202L Health Information Technology II Lab .....1 HIT 204 Advance Coding Concepts .....4 HIT 208 Quality Improvement in Healthcare .....2 HIT 215 Directed Practice II <sup>6,7</sup> .....2  <b>TOTAL CREDITS.....16</b>
<b>Summer Intersession</b> HIT 212 Health Information Technology <sup>8</sup> .....2	<b>Summer</b> HIT 218 Directed Practice III <sup>6,9</sup> .....2
<b>HOURS REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION: 64</b>	

### Earn A Degree Graduate Early (Edge):

This program provides students the opportunity to receive credit for their high school EDGE courses.

### Accreditation Information:

The Health Information Technology program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education ([www.cahiim.org](http://www.cahiim.org)).

Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM)  
 Accreditation Services  
 233 N. Michigan Ave, 21st Floor  
 Chicago, IL 60601-5800  
[www.cahiim.org](http://www.cahiim.org)

### Contact Information:

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1. Application Process for Health Information Technology: File a Marshall University application provided by the Office of Admission. File a Health Information Technology program application provided by the HIT program coordinator in the spring of the first year in the program prior to starting classes in the fall. Submit a complete HIT Observation Form verifying a minimum of 20 hours of observation.
2. Academic Policy for Health Information Technology: Each HIT course must be completed with a grade of C or better. Students earning a grade of less than C in an HIT course must repeat the course. Evidence of a current satisfactory health record must be submitted prior to participation in the Directed Practice Experience. Students are responsible for transportation to and from the Directed Practice sites.
3. AH 216 has a prerequisite of AH 151.
4. HIT 201 and HIT 202 have respective co-requisites of HIT 201L and HIT 202L.
5. HIT 214 has a co-requisite of HIT 201.
6. HIT 214, 215 and 218 should be taken in sequence.
7. HIT 215 has a co-requisite of HIT 202.
8. HIT 212 has a prerequisite of HIT 201, 201L, 202, 202L, 203, 204, 206, 208, and 210.
9. HIT 218 has prerequisite of HIT 215.