Accelerate your future in healthcare with an Undergraduate Certificate in Medical Billing and Coding

COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Earn a certificate in Medical Billing and Coding

The employment outlook is bright for qualified Medical Billing and Coding workers,¹ the health care professionals in charge of processing patient data such as treatment records and insurance claims. In fact, employment in this field has been projected to grow 22% from 2012 to 2022, almost double the average rate for all occupations.² There are several reasons for this growth. The demand for health care services is expected to increase substantially as the nation ages. At the same time, many organizations are still in the process of converting to electronic medical records (EMRs) and will be challenged to keep up. In addition, the current coding system used nationwide is being updated, and many current medical coders have indicated that they might retire instead of learning the new system.³

Prepare to pass the CCA exam

Many employers require professional certification for medical coding and billing positions. The Undergraduate Certificate in Medical Billing and Coding program at DeVry University is designed to prepare students for the nationally accepted standard of achievement in the field, the Certified Coding Associate (CCA) exam. This exam covers such topics as health records and data content; health information requirements and standards; clinical classification systems; reimbursement methodologies; information and communication technologies; and privacy, confidentiality, legal, and ethical issues.⁴

Employment of HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNICIANS is projected to grow 22% from 2012 to 2022 much faster than the average for all occupations²
Program Coursework for Undergraduate Certificate in Medical Billing and Coding

Medical Billing and Coding professionals play an important role in healthcare today. They are tasked with coding a patient’s diagnosis along with a request for payment from the patient’s insurance company. The health care industry depends on skilled, qualified medical insurance billers and coders to accurately record, register and track each patient’s account.

The goal of this coursework is to equip students with the knowledge, skills and abilities needed to function as an entry-level coding specialist within settings such as hospitals and physician practices.

AHIMA-recommended course of study

Prior to taking the CCA exam, the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) recommends that candidates have at least 6 months of on-the-job coding experience or complete an approved coding training or certificate program. The program should include anatomy and physiology, medical terminology, basic ICD diagnostic/procedural and basic CPT coding – all of which are included in DeVry University’s Medical Billing and Coding Undergraduate Certificate program.  

Coursework for Undergraduate Certificate in Medical Billing and Coding

This 10-course online program (35 total credit hours), consisting of online classes and labs, runs according to the regular DeVry University academic session schedule. Going to school full time, this certificate can be earned in as little as three semesters.

Basic Medical Terminology
Terminology for conditions of the human body and medical procedures.

Current Procedural Terminology Coding
Coding procedures performed by healthcare providers using CPT and HCPCS II level codes.

Fundamentals of Human Anatomy and Physiology
A survey of all major systems of the human body.

Fundamentals of Pathophysiology
A foundational knowledge of disease, medical terminology, anatomy and physiology.

Health Information Processes
Content and format of records; retention and storage requirements; indexes and registries; and forms design.

Health Insurance and Reimbursement
Healthcare reimbursement and payment methodologies and systems (capitation, PPS & RBRVS); insurance products; third-party and prospective payment systems; managed care organizations.

International Classification of Diseases Coding I & II
Two-course sequence on the most current classification systems used to code diagnoses and procedures.

Introduction to Health Services and Information Systems
The importance of financial and quality management, safety and security in health information.

Pharmacology and Medical Treatment
The uses for commonly prescribed pharmaceutical treatments.

Prepare for your future

Earn the credentials for success

DeVry’s Undergraduate Certificate in Medical Billing and Coding program is designed to produce certificants who are able to:

- Demonstrate understanding of inpatient and outpatient coding guidelines.
- Apply knowledge of health records and data content.
- Explain reimbursement processes and methodologies.
- Relate compliance topics to coding functions.
- Describe various information technologies used to perform coding functions.
- Recognize, and be sensitive to, issues of confidentiality and privacy.

“The CCA credential distinguishes coders by exhibiting commitment and demonstrating coding competencies across all settings, including both hospitals and physician practices.”

– American Health Information Management Association

5 American Health Information Management Association, retrieved from http://www.ahima.org/certification/cca on September 11, 2014
6 American Health Information Management Association, retrieved from http://www.ahima.org/certification/cca on September 15, 2014