

HIM CODING SPECIALIST CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS

TOTAL CREDIT HOURS REQUIRED FOR CERTIFICATE: 30

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS: 13 CREDITS

CREDITS

ENGL 111	Method of Written Communication	3
BIOL 111	Anatomy & Physiology I	4
BIOL 112	Anatomy & Physiology II	4
CIOS 105	Computer Literacy	3

HIM CODING SPECIALIST: 17 CREDITS

CREDITS

HIM 135	Medical Terminology	3
HIM 190	CPT Coding	3
HIM 210	ICD-9-CM Coding	3
HIM 211	ICD-10-CM/PCS Coding*	3
HIM 215	Billing and Reimbursement	2
HIM 260	Data Quality and Reimbursement	2
HIM 272	Pathophysiology	4

*Students graduating after October 1, 2013 must be prepared to take the national credentialing examination using ICD-10-CM/PCS

UAS is an AA/EO employer and educational institution

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, this material is available in alternate formats upon request.

WHAT IS CODING?

Coding is the translation of narration into numerical codes. For example, a health care provider lists diagnoses and procedures and these—for billing, research, statistical, and administrative purposes—must be translated into numerical codes.

The two dominant coding systems are: ICD-9-CM (International Classification of Diseases, 9th Edition, Clinical Modification) and CPT-4 (Current Procedural Terminology, 4th Edition). ICD-10-CM/PCS will be offered beginning Spring term 2011.

EMPLOYMENT:

At present, the demand for entry-level coders is extremely high especially in acute care facilities. In addition, medical clinics, veterinary hospitals, long term care facilities, behavioral health facilities, and health care corporations also provide job opportunities. The HIM Coding Specialist Certificate will prepare graduates for positions in this dynamic and fast growing profession.

CERTIFICATION:

The national professional association (American Health Information Management Association) offers two certification exams for coders (Certified Coding Specialist and Physician Based Certified Coding Specialist). It is highly recommended that recent graduates of both the HIM program and the Coding Specialist Certificate acquire a minimum of three years experience prior to writing these non-entry based exams.

PREREQUISITES:

Admission to either the HIM associate degree program or the HIM Coding Specialist Certificate program are required before a student can enroll in coding courses. For students preparing for a national exam who want some additional academic preparation, the coding classes are available.

We ask that at least one-half of Anatomy & Physiology (BIOL 111 or equivalent) be completed, with medical terminology as a co-requisite, before enrolling in coding courses. HIM 210 ICD-9-CM and HIM 211 ICD-10-CM/PCS Coding requires BIOL 111, BIOL 112 (or concurrent) and HIM 272 Pathophysiology.

GRADES:

A passing grade of C in GERs and major requirements is required for HIM students admitted from Fall 2009 onward.

www.uas.alaska.edu/career_ed/him/certificate.html

HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

HIM

CODING SPECIALIST CERTIFICATE



DISTANCE DELIVERED

UAS UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA
SOUTHEAST

learn • engage • change

TOTAL CREDIT HOURS REQUIRED FOR CERTIFICATE: 30

HIM CODING SPECIALIST CERTIFICATE • COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

HIM 135 Medical Terminology 3 cr.

Designed to provide students with a basic understanding of the language used within healthcare settings. It gives students a foundation for communication with health care professionals and lay people. Focus is on terminology of body systems related to symptomatology, diseases and treatment. Evaluation by means of assignments, tests and a comprehensive final examination.

Prerequisite: Regular admission status;

Co-requisite: placement at ENGL 110 or higher

HIM 190 CPT Coding 3 cr.

Review of alternative classification systems. Major emphasis on HCPCS/CPT-4 ambulatory care coding. Clinical lab at an ambulatory care setting required. Brief overview of Ambulatory Patient Classifications (APCs) and Resource Based Relative Values (RBRVs). Evaluation based on class participation, site visit, completion of unit assignments, tests and final examination.

Prerequisites: Medical Terminology or concurrent; Anatomy & Physiology and admission to HIM program or departmental permission

HIM 210 ICD-9-CM Coding 3 cr.

Introduction to International Classification of Diseases Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification (for use in the U.S.A.). Use of integrated learning materials. Instruction in coding diagnoses and procedures, sequencing, and coding conventions. Review of complications and co-morbidities.

Clinical Lab: Students will complete required lab at an acute care clinical site which will provide an overview of DRGs, interface between business office and HIM, optimizing reimbursement, coding quality studies, and working with physicians for DRG management. Introduction to coding software. Evaluation by means of class participation, unit and lab assignments, tests and/or final exam.

Prerequisites: Medical Terminology; Anatomy & Physiology and admission to HIM program or departmental permission

HIM 211 ICD-10-CM/PCS Coding 3 cr.

An introduction to International Classification of Diseases (U.S.). Introduces coding of diagnoses and procedures, sequencing, coding conventions, and software. Professional practice experience: Students complete activities that provide an overview of Diagnostic Related Groups (DRG). Topics include the interface between business office and health information management to optimize reimbursement, coding quality studies, and working with physicians for DRG management. Provides practice in analyzing medical records to identify data elements to be coded.

Prerequisite: HIM 272 and admission to HIM program or departmental permission

HIM 215 Billing and Reimbursement 2 cr.

Focus is on issues of billing and reimbursement for health care facilities. Includes an overview of the role of the health insurance specialist; third party payers such as Medicare, Medicaid, workers compensation and disability, Tricare and commercial insurance claims. Legal and regulatory considerations and ambulatory ICD-9 are covered. Students will complete a project focused on coding and reimbursement issues.

Prerequisite: HIM 190 and admission to HIM program or departmental permission

HIM 260 Data Quality & Reimbursement 2 cr.

A continuation of HIM 210 with in-depth focus on coding issues. Introduction to data quality issues including coding validation, data accuracy, coding guidelines and training, and reimbursement issues including Diagnostic Related Groups (DRGs), Ambulatory Patient Classifications (APCs); Resource Based Relative Value Scales (RBRVs). Impact of coding accuracy and correct DRG assignment on financial stability of facility. Overview of specialist credentials: CCS and CCS-P.

Prerequisite: HIM 210 (Students with required prerequisites, not enrolled in either the HIM degree or coding specialist certificate will be admitted on a space available basis only)

HIM 272 Pathophysiology 4 cr.

Introduces basic concepts underlying various pathological processes. Students draw on their knowledge of normal anatomy and physiology to understand how pathogenesis of disease occurs. Discussion of diseases, diagnostic process, appropriate testing, and various treatment options. Introduction to drug terminology, administration, toxicity, vocabulary, standards and references. May not meet requirements for nursing programs.

Prerequisite: BIOL S111 and S112.

Corequisite: HIM/HS S135 or permission

For more information on the
HIM Coding Specialist Certificate,
contact:

University of Alaska Southeast
Sitka Campus
1332 Seward Avenue
Sitka, Alaska 99835

1-800-478-6653 ext. 9473
or 907-747-9473

www.uas.alaska.edu/sitka

UAS UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA
SOUTHEAST

learn • engage • change