

MEDICAL BILLING SPECIALIST, SHORT-TERM CERTIFICATE



The Medical Billing Specialist Certificate is a short-term program established to prepare students for employment in physicians' offices, medical insurance companies, and outpatient billing services. Medical Billing Specialists provide patient billing services for physicians, dentists, physical therapists, and other healthcare providers. They are knowledgeable in ICD-10-CM, CPT-4 and HCPCS coding, medical terminology; processing insurance claims, appeals and denials; fraud and abuse; HIPAA and OIG Compliance; information and web technology; reimbursement practices, and much more.

This program is available to be completed 100% online.

Program contact: Learn more

This certificate will be automatically awarded when the certificate requirements are completed. If you do not want to receive the certificate, please notify the Office of the Registrar at RegistrarOffice@tri-c.edu.

Learn more about how certificate credits apply to the related degree and about related training programs.

Program Admission Requirements

Students who choose the major code S702 for Medical Billing Specialist Short-Term Certificate do not need to fill out an application for health careers. This is a self-paced program; therefore, after meeting the following admission requirements, the student may begin taking first semester courses.

- High School Diploma/GED.
- ENG-0995 Applied College Literacies or appropriate score on English Placement Test.
- MATH-0955 Beginning Algebra or appropriate score on Math Placement Test.
- Students are strongly encouraged to meet with an academic counselor to plan out program progression.

Other Information

- Number accepted per year is based on courses offered and number of openings available in the course each semester.
- 2.0 GPA required.
- Students must pass all courses with a grade of "C" or higher to be eligible for the certificate.

- HTEC-1060 Medical Terminology I and HTEC-2060 Medical Terminology II must be completed within two years of program completion if not using Medical Terminology in current work environment.
- HTEC-1050 Introduction to Medical Terminology *and* BIO-1050 Human Biology *and* BIO-105L Human Biology Laboratory may be substituted for HTEC-1060 Medical Terminology I and HTEC-2060 Medical Terminology II
- Coding courses expire after 12 months of completion of a program.

Program Learning Outcomes

This program is designed to prepare students to demonstrate the following learning outcomes:

1. Utilize oral and written skills to effectively communicate and interact with health care professionals, colleagues, administration and customers to enhance satisfaction.
2. Develop effective interpersonal skills to conduct yourself professionally among clients, colleagues, and other health care professionals.
3. Conduct yourself ethically and professionally according to the AHIMA code of ethics and standards of practice.
4. Use a variety of techniques to problem solve and arrive at best outcome.
5. Apply regulatory and accreditation standards to identify and support documentation compliance.
6. Apply hospital policies, federal regulations and/ or state statutes in the release and management of protected health information (PHI).
7. Ensure document compliance for services being billed.
8. Apply skills to find, build, research, manage and report both electronic and paper data.
9. Employ auditing skills and methodologies to insure compliance, accuracy, completeness, regulations, policies and procedures, and protocols in the healthcare delivery system.
10. Utilize knowledge and skills of medical terminology, codesets, reimbursement methodologies and regulations to accurately and thoroughly assign respective code sets.

Suggested Semester Sequence

First Semester		Credit Hours
HTEC-1060	Medical Terminology I ^{1,2}	3
Any approved Ohio Transfer 36 Mathematics course		3
Select from one of the following:		3
ENG-1010	College Composition I	
ENG-101H	Honors College Composition I	
Select from one of the following:		3
IT-1090	Computer Applications	
IT-109H	Honors Computer Applications	
Credit Hours		12
Second Semester		
HIM-1113	Physician Office Coding with Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) Coding	2
HIM-1114	Medical Office Coding with ICD-10-CM	3
HIM-1311	Legal Aspects of Health Care	3

HIM-1122	Medical Billing Practices for Healthcare Providers	3
HTEC-2060	Medical Terminology II ^{1,2}	2
Credit Hours		13
Total Credit Hours		25

¹ HTEC-1050 Introduction to Medical Terminology, BIO-1050 Human Biology, and BIO-105L Human Biology Laboratory together will be accepted in place of HTEC-1060 Medical Terminology I and HTEC-2060 Medical Terminology II.

² MA-1020 Medical Terminology I and MA-2010 Medical Terminology II will be accepted in place of HTEC-1060 Medical Terminology I and HTEC-2060 Medical Terminology II.

³ Students must pass all required courses with a grade of "C" or higher to be eligible for the certificate.

MATH-1140, MATH-1141, MATH-1200, MATH-1270, and MATH-1280 can no longer count towards fulfilling the college-level mathematics requirement. These courses were re-classified as developmental mathematics by the state of Ohio in 2016. Tri-C established a 5-year transitioning window for students who had completed these courses prior to 2016 to apply them towards meeting graduation requirements, which expired in Summer 2021. It is highly recommended to see a counselor to determine the appropriate math required for your current major.