

Medical Coding DIPLOMA

Program Overview

Graduates of the Medical Coding Diploma program are proficient in coding diagnoses and procedures, abstracting medical data, meeting physician documentation needs, and other related duties. Coders work closely with billing personnel at healthcare facilities, and proficiency in billing and reimbursement procedures is included in the Medical Coding Diploma program. Courses taken to meet requirements for the Medical Coding Diploma also prepare a student to continue into the Health Information Technology AAS degree program.

Applicants should possess excellent communication skills, meticulous attention to detail, good spelling, finger dexterity, and extreme accuracy in their work. Candidates considering this field should be comfortable reading and analyzing data for long periods of time, abstracting information from patient health records, assisting billers and other reimbursement personnel, and using critical thinking skills.

Career Opportunities

Graduates of the Medical Coding Diploma program may work in a physician's office, surgery center, specialty clinic, hospital, insurance company, government agency, research foundation, long-term care facility, dental office, consulting firm, rehabilitation center or other health care facility. Medical coding may be done at home through use of a secure Internet connection. Working from one's home is generally for employees who have completed training in an office setting for a period of time.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Job Outlook for Medical Record and Health Information Technology careers is projected to increase 11% between 2018 and 2028, which is much faster than average (www.bls.gov).

Program Outcomes

1. Graduates will apply basic medical sciences in accordance to the profession.
2. Graduates will demonstrate use of office and coding based software applications.
3. Graduates will perform accurate medical coding in accordance with official guidelines for coding and reporting.
4. Graduates will model professional and ethical behavior consistent with the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) Code of Ethics.

Part-time/Full-time Options

This program can be completed by using a combination of online, day, evening, and Saturday courses. Part-time and full-time options are available.

Program Requirements

- Check off when completed
- All classes must be successfully completed with grade "C" or better.

Technical Requirements	Cr
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDS 1420 Health Information Foundations	3
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDS 1470 Anatomy & Physiology/ Medical Office	3
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDS 1480 Medical Terminology	3
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDS 1560 Computerized Health Information	3
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDS 1562 Billing and Reimbursement	2
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDS 1570 Human Disease	3
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDS 2430 Pharmacology for the Medical Office	2
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDS 2434 Legal and Ethical Aspects of Health Information	2
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDS 2461 ICD-10-CM Coding	3
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDS 2462 ICD-10-PCS Coding	4
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDS 2470 CPT-4 Coding	3
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDS 2480 Advanced Coding	3
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDS 2594 Medical Coding Capstone	3
Subtotal	37
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General Education/MnTC Requirements	Cr
Refer to the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Course List for each Goal Area	
<input type="checkbox"/> Goal 1: Communications	3
COMM 17XX – 3 cr	
General Education Requirements	3
Total Program Credits	40

Program Faculty

Kelly Dale
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Program Start Dates

Fall, Spring, Summer-limited course offerings

Course Sequence

The following sequence is recommended; however, this sequence is not required. Not all courses are offered each semester.

First Semester

MEDS 1420 Health Information Foundations	3
MEDS 1470 Anatomy & Physiology/ Medical Office	3
MEDS 1480 Medical Terminology	3
Goal 1: COMM 17XX	3
Total Semester Credits	12

Second Semester

MEDS 1562 Billing and Reimbursement	2
MEDS 1570 Human Disease	3
MEDS 2461 ICD-10-CM Coding	3
MEDS 2462 ICD-10-PCS Coding	4
MEDS 2470 CPT-4 Coding	3
Total Semester Credits	15

Third Semester

MEDS 1560 Computerized Health Information	3
MEDS 2430 Pharmacology for the Medical Office	2
MEDS 2434 Legal and Ethical Aspects of Health Information	2
MEDS 2480 Advanced Coding	3
MEDS 2594 Medical Coding Capstone	3
Total Semester Credits	13

Total Program Credits 40

Minimum Program Entry Requirements

Students entering this program must meet the following minimum program entry requirements:

Reading: Score of 250+ or grade of "C" or better in READ 0722

Writing: Score of 250+ or grade of "C" or better in ENGL 0922

Arithmetic: Score of 250+

Keyboarding Skills: Minimum of 40 WPM with 3 errors or less or a grade of "C" or better in BTEC 1400.

Computer Skills: Basic computer skills such as word processing, spreadsheets, and Internet usage or a grade of "C" or better in BTEC 1418.

Assessment Results and Prerequisites:

Students admitted into Saint Paul College programs may need to complete additional courses based on assessment results and course prerequisite requirements. Certain MATH, READ, and ENGL courses have additional prerequisites.

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*Information is subject to change.
This Program Requirements Guide is not a contract.*