

Certificate: Medical Billing/Coding

285

AREA: Medical Billing/Coding Certificate

LENGTH: Three semesters (one-year) program

PURPOSE: With an increasing demand for medical insurance billing and coding workers in professional offices in Virginia, this certificate will prepare individuals for full-time employment upon completion of the program. The program is beneficial for individuals who are seeking first-time employment, career advancement or national coding certification.

OCCUPATIONAL OBJECTIVES: medical billing assistant, medical coder or medical insurance specialist

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS: The program prepares the student to fill medical billing and coding positions and provides fundamental knowledge and skills associated with insurance billing and coding. The curriculum includes courses in college composition, medical coding and reimbursement, and medical office bookkeeping and insurance. Prior to internships or student employment, satisfactory completion of criminal background search and drug screen may be required. Upon satisfactory completion of the program, the graduate will be awarded a certificate in medical billing/coding.

The certificate may be completed in three semesters (one year) if the following conditions are met:

- Placement tests indicate readiness to enroll in ENG 111.
- Students without keyboarding skill (or limited skill below 30 words per minute or computer skills) must enroll in AST 80 and/or AST 81 prior to entry in the program.
- Students are willing to enroll in day and evening classes.

Additional courses to enhance employment opportunities may include:

AST	142	Word Processing II
AST	205	Business Communications
MDA	207	Medical Law and Ethics
SPA	101/102	Spanish I & II

Course#	Title	Credits
First Semester (Fall)		
AST 102/141	Keyboarding II ¹ or Word Processing I ²	3
BIO 145	Human Anatomy and Physiology for the Health Sciences ³	4
HIM 111	Medical Terminology I	3
SDV 101/100	Orientation to Health Professions	1
Total		11
Second Semester (Spring)		
ENG 111	College Composition I	3
HIM 112	Medical Terminology II ⁴	3
HIM 253	Health Records Coding ⁵	4
Total		10
Third Semester (Summer)		
AST 206	Professional Development ²	3
HIM 143	Managing Electronic Billing ⁶	3
HIM 254	Advanced Coding & Reimbursement ⁷	3
Total		10
Program Total		31

¹Keyboarding skill is required. Prerequisite: AST 80/81 or equivalent skill

²Prerequisite: AST 101 or equivalent skill

³Equivalent: Completion of BIO 141 and BIO 142

⁴Prerequisite: HIM 111

⁵Prerequisite: HIM 111 and BIO 145 or BIO 141 and BIO 142

⁶Prerequisite: HIM 253

⁷Prerequisite: HIM 112 and HIM 253

Internship opportunities and a national CPC certification exam may be available to certificate students/graduates.