Health Information Technology (HIT) Certificate Programs

Train Today for Jobs Tomorrow

Fact Sheet
Certificate Program Descriptions
Course Descriptions

September 2010
Enrollment Ongoing
Health Information Technology (HIT) is a demanding, growing profession that requires specialized skills. Studies by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Department of Education and other sources project that as many as 50,000 additional HIT professionals may be needed over the next five years to support the implementation of electronic health records in the United States. Wayne County Community College District (WCCCD) is part of the Midwest Community College HIT consortium and can provide you with the skills, confidence, and connections you will need to thrive in the HIT field.

**ABOUT THE CONSORTIUM**

The consortium is a collaboration of 17 of the largest and most innovative community colleges in the Midwest. Its goal is to recruit and train a minimum of 2,700 health career and information technology professionals and students annually, to assist them in becoming HIT professionals.

**PROGRAM SPECIFICS AT WCCCD**

The program offers both campus-based and distance education courses, including evening and weekend scheduling. WCCCD focuses on job-specific training in four workforce roles to support electronic health records implementation which are indicated listed below:

* Clinician/Practitioner Consultants
* Implementation Support Specialists

During Fall 2010, WCCCD launched the Clinician/Practitioner Consultants and Implementation Support Specialists Certificate Programs. The salary ranges for the above mentioned positions are between $12.46 - $20.25 per hour.

In addition to “hard” technical skills, the Midwest HIT training program will incorporate up to 40 hours of “soft” skills training, which includes problem solving, decision making, time management, etc.

**ADMISSION CRITERIA**

Minimum Requirements:  
- Prior health related work or classroom experience.
- Assessment and/or Interview

Preferred Qualifications:  
- Two years IT or health related work experience
- THIS IS NOT AN INCOME BASED PROGRAM

**JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

Though job placement is not guaranteed, the consortium is developing strong partnerships with regional expansion centers and workforce investment programs, as well as physician practices and software vendors/consultants, to help students establish the contacts they need that will lead to job opportunities.

To access the documents below, please visit www.wccd.edu/students under the WCCCD Services Tab

- HIT Application
- Certification Program Summary/Course Descriptions

For further information please contact Mrs. Karen McCants, (313) 922-3311 or email kmccants@wccd.edu

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Certificate Program Descriptions

Clinician/Practitioner Consultant Certificate

About the Program

This lecture/lab based certificate program is designed to prepare participants with the skills necessary to meet the “Meaningful Use Act” in the clinical and public health settings. The coursework will introduce participants to workflow and data collection issues from a clinical perspective, including quality measurements and improvement, assist in selection of vendors and software, design processes and information flows that accommodate quality reporting. The program is taught online and face-to-face.

Program Admission Requirements
For program admission and assessment information please refer to the application.

Coursework
Core Courses
Introduction to Health Information Technology
Principles of Healthcare Mgmt
Business Process and System Analyst

Courses
Working with IT Health Systems
Networking and Health Information Exchange
Public Health IT
Usability and Human Factors
Working in Teams

This is a 26-week program, beginning September 27, 2010 and ending April 15, 2011. Each course has approximately 40 contact hours.
Certificate Program Descriptions

Implementation Support Specialist – Healthcare Certificate

About the Program

The Implementation Support Specialist Certificate program is designed to introduce participants to the role of an on-site support specialist for implementation of health IT systems in both clinical and public health settings. This certificate program provides lecture, online and hands-on instructional that address subjects ranging from *Introduction of HealthCare and Public Health in the United States*, through *Culture* and *Terminology*. In addition, the program provides instruction to individuals who will provide on-site user support for the period of time before and during implementation of health IT systems in clinical and public health settings.

Program Admission Requirements

For program admission and assessment information please refer to the application.

Coursework

Core Courses
Introduction to Health Information Technology
Principles of HealthCare Mgmt
Business Process and System Analyst

Courses
Working with IT Health Systems
Installation and Maintenance of Health IT Systems
Networking and Health Information Exchange
Configuring EHRs
Quality Improvement
Usability and Human Factors
Special Topics Course on Vendor-Specific Systems

This is a 26-week program, beginning September 27, 2010 and ending April 15, 2011. Each course has approximately 40 contact hours.
Certificate Program Descriptions

Implementation Support Specialist – Information Technology Certificate

About the Program

The Implementation Support Specialist Certificate program is designed to introduce participants to the role of an on-site support specialist for implementation of health IT systems in both clinical and public health settings. This certificate program provides lecture, online and hands-on instructional that address subjects ranging from *Introduction of HealthCare and Public Health in the United States*, through *Culture* and *Terminology*. In addition, the program provides instruction to individuals who will provide on-site user support for the period of time before and during implementation of health IT systems in clinical and public health settings.

Program Admission Requirements
For program admission and assessment information please refer to the application.

Coursework

Core Courses
Introduction to Health Information Technology
Principles of HealthCare Mgmt
Business Process and System Analyst

Courses
Introduction to Healthcare and Public Health
The Culture of Health Care
Working with IT Health Systems
Installation and Maintenance of Health IT Systems
Networking and Health Information Exchange
Fundamentals of Health Workflow Process Analysis and Redesign
Configuring EHRs
Special Topics Course on Vendor-Specific Systems
Usability and Human Factors

This is a 26-week program, beginning September 27, 2010 and ending April 15, 2011. Each course has approximately 40 contact hours.
Core Course Descriptions

**Introduction to Health Information Technology**
Survey of how health care and public health are organized & services delivered in the U.S. Also traces the development of IT systems in health care and public health from the 1950’s, 1960’s and culminating in the HITECH act.

**Principles of Health Care Management**
How care is organized inside a practice setting, privacy laws, and professional and ethical issues encountered in the work place. To include leadership roles, principles of leadership and effective management of teams.

**Business Process and System Analyst**
A “theory” component, specific to healthcare and public health applications. Data structures, software applications and enterprise architecture in health care. Basic terminology of computing.

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Introduction to Healthcare & Public Health - (Category - Health / IT)
How health care and public health are organized and service delivered in the U.S. Covers; public policy relevant organization and interrelationships professional roles, legal and regulatory issues and payment systems.

The Cultural of Health Care - (Category - Health)
For individuals not familiar with health care. Addresses job expectations in a health care setting. Focus on how care is organized inside a practice setting. Privacy laws, professional and ethical issued encountered in the workplace.

Terminology in Health Care and Public Health Setting – (Category - Health)
Explanation of specific terminology used by workers in a health care and public health. Note this is Not a course in data representation or standards.

Introduction to information and computer Science - (Category - IT)
For students without an IT background, provides a basic overview of computer architecture; data organization, representation and structure; structure of programming languages; networking and data communication. Includes basic terminology of computing.

History of Health Information Technology in the U.S. – (Category - Health / IT)
Traces the development of IT systems in health care and public health, beginning with the experiments of the 1950’s and 1960’s and culminating in the HITEC act. Introduces the concept of meaningful use.

Health Management Information Systems – (Category - Health / IT)
A “theory component, specific to health care and public health applications. Introduction to health IT standard, health-related data structures, software applications; enterprise architecture health care and public health organizations.
Working with IT Health Systems – (Category - Health / IT)
Students will work with simulated systems and data. They will experience threats to security and appreciate the need for standards, high levels of usability and how errors occur.

Installation an Maintenance of Health IT Systems – (Category - Health / IT)
Installation and maintenance of health IT systems includes testing prior to implementation. Students will be introduced to the principles of underlying configurations.

Networking and Health Information Exchange – (Category (Health / IT)
In-depth analysis of data mobility including the hardware in fracture (wires, wireless, devices and supporting them. ISO stack standards, Internet Protocol, federation and grids, the NHIN and other nationwide approaches.

Fundamentals of Health workflow Process Analysis and Redesign – (Category Health / IT)
Fundamentals of health workflow process analysis and redesign is a necessary component of complete practice automation, which includes topics of process validation and change management

Configuring HER's - (Category - Health / IT)
A practical experience with a lab component, addressing approaches to assessing, selecting and configuring EHR's to meet the specific needs of customers and end-users.

Quality Improvement – (Category - Health / IT)
Introduce the concepts of Health IT and practice workflow redesign as an instrument of quality improvement. Addresses establishing a culture that supports quality and safety. Approaches to assessing patient safety issues and implementing quality management and reporting through electronic systems.
Public Health IT – (Category - Healthcare / IT)
For those contemplating careers in public health agencies. An overview of specialized public health applications such as registries, epidemiological databases, biosurveillance and situational awareness and emergency response. Information exchange issues specific to public health.

Special Topics Course on Vendor Specific systems- (Category - Environment)
An overview of the most popular vendor systems highlighting the features of each as they would relate to practical deployment, and noting differences between the systems.

Usability and Human Factor – (Category - Environment)
Discussion of rapid prototyping, user-centered design and cenaluation, usability, understanding effects of new technology, and workflow on downstream processes, facilitation of a unit-wide focus or simulation.

Professionalism/Customer Service in the Health Environment - (Category – Soft Skills)
Development of skills necessary to communicate effectively across full range roles that will be encountered in health care and public health setting.

Working in Teams – (Category - Soft Skills)
An experiential course that helps trainees becomes “team players” by understanding their roles, the importance of communication, and group cohesion.