

Program Information

The Anoka Technical College Medical Coding Specialist diploma program is a 41-credit program that prepares students to assume an entry-level position as a medical coder in an acute care hospital, clinic or physician’s office health care setting.

Program Learning Outcomes

- Essential professional and technical knowledge.
- Effective written and oral communication skills.
- Skills in using resources and technology.
- Problem solving.
- Teamwork.
- Critical thinking skills.
- Eligible to work in any healthcare setting.
- Eligible to sit for the CCA exam.

Accreditation

The Medical Coding Specialist diploma can prepare students to sit for the national certification examination to become a Certified Coding Associate (CCA) or the Certified Procedural Coding-Apprentice (CPC-A) credentials.

Course Prerequisites

Some courses may require appropriate test score or completion of basic math, basic English and/or reading courses with a “C” or better.

Background Study

Minnesota Law requires that any person who provides services that involve direct contact with patients and residents at a health care facility licensed by the Minnesota Department of Health have a background study conducted by the state. An individual who is disqualified from having direct contact with patients as a result of the background study, and whose disqualification is not set aside by the Commissioner of Health, will not be permitted to participate in a clinical placement in a Minnesota licensed health care facility. The college will withdraw any student who is disqualified by the Minnesota Department of Health. The student is responsible for requesting the Commissioner to reconsider the disqualification.

Graduation Requirements

All Anoka Technical College students seeking a Diploma in Medical Coding Specialist must earn a grade of “C” or higher in every course in the program.

Transfer Opportunities

To see how credits from this program may transfer into other Anoka Technical College programs or into a program at another college, visit:

- [Minnesota Transfer](#)
- [Anoka Technical College transfer student](#)

Industry Information

Graduates of the Medical Coding Specialist diploma program will:

1. Analyze medical record documentation in order to assign diagnostic and procedures codes.

2. Provide important information for the health care reimbursement process.
3. Assist in medical research and statistics.

Medical coding specialists analyze health record documentation in order to assign and/or ensure that valid codes are applied to medical diagnoses and procedures to facilitate reimbursement, analysis of patient outcomes and statistics. The coding specialist must have a thorough understanding of the content of the health record in order to be able to locate information to support or provide specificity for coding.

Therefore, coding specialists receive training in the anatomy and physiology of the human body and disease processes in order to understand the etiology, pathology, symptoms, signs, diagnostic studies, treatment modalities, and prognosis of diseases and procedures to be coded.

Wages/Outlook/Advancement

The U.S. Department of Labor Statistics, in its Occupational Outlook Handbook, projects that employment for health information technicians is expected to grow much faster than the average. Wage information is available from the [Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development](#)

Start Dates

Fall Semester.....August
Spring SemesterJanuary

Program Sequence

First Semester	15
<input type="checkbox"/> ADSC 1171 Microsoft Excel	2
<input type="checkbox"/> HITM 1110 Medical Terminology in Health Information.....	3
<input type="checkbox"/> HITM 1130 ICD-10-CM Coding.....	3
<input type="checkbox"/> HITM 1221 Intro to Health Information Management.....	3
<input type="checkbox"/> HLTH 1005 Anatomy and Physiology	4
Second Semester	14
<input type="checkbox"/> HITM 1230 ICD-10-PCS Coding	3
<input type="checkbox"/> HITM 1240 CPT Coding	3
<input type="checkbox"/> HLTH 1000 Disease Conditions	2
<input type="checkbox"/> INTS 1000 Critical Thinking Applications for College	3
<input type="checkbox"/> MnTC English	3
Third Semester	12
<input type="checkbox"/> HITM 1200 Billing and Reimbursement	2
<input type="checkbox"/> HITM 1244 Law and Ethics	2
<input type="checkbox"/> HITM 1250 Advanced Coding	2
<input type="checkbox"/> HITM 1260 Professional Practice for Coding Specialist.....	3
<input type="checkbox"/> MnTC General Education Elective	3

Faculty Contact

[Georgina Sampson](#) 763-576-4042
[Jody Sandberg](#) 763-576-4066

For information on how to apply, to schedule a tour, or for service during summer hours, contact Enrollment Services at 763-576-7710 or EnrollmentServices@anokatech.edu

Also see: Health Information Technology AAS and Health Unit Coordinator certificate

