Applied Studies Division

Health Information Management Technology

- Associate of Applied Science Degree in Health Information Management Technology
Health Information Management Technology

Health information management technology (HIMT) is a profession that focuses on health care data and the management of health care information resources. Every time a patient receives medical care, the observations, treatment and interventions are documented in a medical record.

Health information management technologists play a key role in maintaining medical information for physicians, hospitals, insurance companies and government agencies. Their role represents a continuum of practice concerned with health-related information and management systems to collect, store, process, retrieve, analyze, disseminate and communicate information related to the research, planning, provision, financing and evaluation of health services.

Health information management technologists study medical terminology, coding, anatomy and physiology, legal issues related to health information, statistics, and database management. They are able to code each diagnosis, using their knowledge of disease processes and consulting classification manuals and specialized computer programs for information. They also tabulate and analyze data for use in research studies and provide documentation for use in legal actions. The work of health information management technologists is essential for improving patient care, controlling costs and obtaining accurate reimbursement for the medical facility.

Career Opportunities

Job prospects are very good for health information management technologists, as employment is expected to grow much faster than average through 2020. As physician offices, hospitals and outpatient centers provide an increased number of medical tests, treatments and procedures, trained technologists are needed to appropriately process the information to satisfy medical, legal and ethical standards.

Technologists are needed to ensure that medical records are complete and detailed to meet the requirements of insurance companies and managed care programs who scrutinize the information before providing reimbursement for services rendered.

Changes in government regulations, such as a recent mandate that all records be maintained electronically, are also leading to an increased need for health information management technologists.

Lakeland’s Program

Lakeland’s graduates earn an Associate of Applied Science degree in health information management technology. The health information management technology program teaches students to work with medical records and statistics, code medical data, maintain health record systems, and control the usage and release of health information. Students take courses in anatomy and physiology, medical coding and classification, health care records and documentation, computer database and statistics programs, and have two practicums and seminars.

The HIMT program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM).

The Lakeland Advantage

- Coursework includes two clinical practicum and seminar experiences.
- Many advancement opportunities exist in medical settings with larger health information departments.
- Research and government agencies need more technologists to manage medical records for statistical reports and studies.

For more information

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Health Program

Admission Requirements

Students must meet specific admission requirements for this program. Listed below are requirements for admission to the Health Information Management Technology (HIMT) Program:

OPTION 1: High School Option
This option is for current high school seniors or high school graduates who apply to the program within two years of high school graduation.

- Complete college application(s).
- Composite score of 21 or higher on the American College Test (ACT) or combined score of 1400 on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT).
- Place into MATH 1330 Statistics for the Health Sciences or higher or pass MATH 0850 Beginning Algebra.
- Complete high school algebra, chemistry, and biology with a “C” grade or higher.
- An overall high school GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale or equivalent.
- Meet with a counselor to review program prerequisites and requirements.

Upon successful completion of the above criteria, the applicant will be admitted into the program. Students must complete HLTH 1215 (Medical Terminology for Health Professionals) with a “C” grade or higher prior to enrolling in their first health technology course.

OPTION 2: College Option
This option is for students who do not qualify for admission under Option 1.

- Complete college application(s).
- Submit high school transcript as well as any college transcript(s).
- Successful passing score on the required program pre-admission test.
- Meet with a counselor to review program prerequisites and requirements.
- Students must have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher in program applicable courses. The following courses, or equivalent courses from other regionally accredited colleges, must be completed with a combined minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher and a “C” grade or higher.
  - HLTH 1215 Medical Terminology for Health Professionals
  - BIOL 2210 Anatomy & Physiology I

NOTE: Students must meet one of these requirements to take BIOL 2210 with a “C” or higher:
1. High school biology within last five years and high school chemistry.
2. High school biology within last five years and CHEM 1100 Elementary Chemistry.

Students are required to take the Math Placement Test and be placed into MATH 1330 or complete MATH 0850 with a “C” grade or higher.

OPTION 3: Advanced Education Option
Students pursuing this option must have an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Nursing or Allied Health, Bachelor of Science Degree in a natural science, or an Associate of Science Degree to be waived from the preadmission testing. All other Option 2 requirements apply.

Note: Students planning to transfer to a four-year college are encouraged to take ENGL 1120 English Composition II in addition to the following requirements.
To further your education, Lakeland’s Holden University Center offers a variety of bachelor’s degree programs from a number of four-year colleges and universities offering you the opportunity to stay here and go far! Visit lakelandcc.edu/uc to explore your options.

Quality Education
Lakeland prepares you for a high-demand career or for transfer to a four-year college or university. Professors at Lakeland are experts in their fields with real-world experience. Small class sizes allow for personalized attention.

Affordable Tuition
Save thousands on your college education. Lakeland’s tuition is about one-third the cost of most four-year schools. Financial assistance is available, including federal and state grants, scholarships, loans, and work study employment.

Convenience
Lakeland offers convenient day, evening and weekend class times, and a growing number of online courses. The main campus in Kirtland is only 20 miles northeast of Cleveland. Classes are also offered in Madison.

Focus on Students
Lakeland offers a variety of student services to help you succeed, such as counseling, tutoring, wireless computer labs, career services, free parking, and affordable child care.

Accreditation
Lakeland Community College is accredited through the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) and participates in the Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP). The Higher Learning Commission, 230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500, Chicago, IL 60604-1413, phone: 800.621.7440, hlcommission.org.