



HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Bachelor of Science Degree Requirements

Program Description: Health information management (HIM) is a diverse yet evolving field that incorporates medicine, management, finance, information technology, and law into one dynamic career path. The major in health information management is designed to prepare students with skills and competencies in health data management, data analytics and informatics, information governance, privacy and security, compliance, clinical documentation improvement, revenue cycle management, medical coding, administering health information technology and administrative and clinical work flow. For more information on job opportunities in the HIM profession go to <http://hicareers.com/CareerMap/>.

PROGRAM CURRICULUM

WKU Colonnade Program (39 hours)¹

Note: BIO 131-Anatomy and Physiology must be completed prior to admission. Language Proficiency of novice-high must be earned before completing 60 credit hours.

Required Courses (75-78 + BIO 131 included in Colonnade = 79-82 credit hours)

HIM 100-Health Data Content & Structure (4)	HIM 422-Clinical Quality Assessment & Performance Improvement (3)
HIM 225-Legal Issues in HIM (2)	HIM 430-Health Data Management & Analytics (3)
HIM 230-Computer Systems & Applications in HIM (3)	HIM 450-Application & Analysis of HIM Theory (3)
HIM 250-ICD Coding (4)	HIM 495-Capstone Professional Practice Experience (3-6)
HIM 251-HCPCS/CPT Coding(4)	HCA 340-Healthcare Organization & Management (3)
HIM 252-Healthcare Payment Systems (3)	CSCI 145C Introduction to Computing OR CIS 141 Basic Computer Literacy (3)
HIM 290-Medical Terminology (2)	CIS 243 Principles of MIS OR CS 157 Info Security I (3)
HIM 291-Advanced Medical Terminology (2)	PH 383-Biostatistics in Health Sciences (3)
HIM 292-Pharmacology & Lab Diagnostics (2)	CIT 350-Database Administration I or BDAN 330- Structured Data Analysis (3)
HIM 330-Electronic Health Records (3)	
HIM 350-Health Informatics Research (3) ²	
HIM 351-ICD-10 Coding (1) ³	
HIM 421-Health Information Leadership & Mgmt (3)	

Choose from the following required courses (12 hours)

- CIT 310-Systems Architecture I (3)⁴
- CIT 330-Systems Development I (3)
- CIT 332-Systems Development II (3)
- CIT 492-Technology Management I (3)
- BDAN 310- Business Data Analytics (3)
- BDAN 410- Decision Support Systems Analysis and Design (3)
- BDAN 420- Data Mining (3)
- BDAN 430- Data Visualization and Digital Dashboards (3)

TOTAL 114-117 (All B.S. graduating students must have 120 credit hours to graduate)

¹Note requirements listed in WKU Colonnade Program; refer to <http://www.wku.edu/colonnade/> for more information

²PH 383 must be taken prior to HIM 350.

³All students completing the required CAHIIM accredited HIM associate degree prior to Fall 2010 must take this course. Requirement may be waived upon submission of documentation showing evidence of current Clinical Coding Specialist (CCS) certification through the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA)** OR completion of the AHIMA Academy for ICD-10.

⁴CIT 300 waived as a prerequisite for CIT courses.

Job Opportunities: Job opportunities exist in multiple settings throughout the healthcare industry. These organizations include hospitals, multispecialty clinics and physician practices, long-term care, mental health, and other ambulatory care settings. The profession has seen significant expansion in nonpatient care settings, with careers in managed care and insurance companies, software vendors, consulting services, government agencies, education, and pharmaceutical companies.

Job Growth and Income: According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), employment of medical and health services managers is expected to grow 17 percent from 2014 to 2024, much faster than the average for all occupations. The healthcare industry will continue to expand and diversify, requiring managers to help ensure smooth business operations. In addition, the federally mandated use of the electronic patient record will require that graduates be knowledgeable in the management of computerized health information.

According to the BLS, the median annual wage for medical and health services managers was \$94,500 in 2015. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$56,230, and the top 10 percent earned more than \$156,380. Earnings vary by type and size of the facility and level of responsibility.

Accreditation: The HIM baccalaureate degree program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM).* Graduates are eligible to take the Registered Health Information Administrator (RHIA) examination.

Program Admission:

1. The applicant must be officially accepted to Western Kentucky University and complete HIM 100 before his/her program application can be considered. Admission to the college or university does not guarantee admission to the program. Acceptance into the baccalaureate degree HIM program is based on a selective admission process and is based on space available. Applicants are considered on a competitive basis. There are no restrictions regarding age, sex, race, religion, disability, sexual orientation or marital status.
2. Submit an application to the Program of Health Information Management by December 1 for admission to the spring semester and by May 1 for admission for the fall semester; late admission may be considered.
3. HIT/HIM courses from a CAHIIM accredited associate degree will be substituted as equivalency transfer credit for lower division courses.
4. HIT/HIM courses from non-CAHIIM accredited associate degree programs will not be accepted for transfer into the HIM program, but students may take departmental exams in appropriate classes. Students will receive WKU credit for successfully passing (70%) the corresponding WKU course departmental exam.
5. All HIM courses must be completed with a "C" or higher.

Please contact the department office at 270-745-3548 for further information or visit <http://wku.edu/healthinformationmanagement>

*CAHIIM(cahiim.org)
233 North Michigan Avenue, 21st Floor
Chicago, IL 60601-5800

**AHIMA (ahima.org)
233 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 2150
Chicago, IL 60601-5800 3/17