



MEDICAL CODER

Technical Diploma Program Code: 31-530-3 Total Credits: 30

The Medical Coder program at Mid-State prepares students for entry-level work as medical coders in health care settings such as hospitals, physician offices, long-term care facilities, and more. Medical coders review medical documentation and assign diagnosis and procedure codes for the purposes of billing, quality improvement, statistical reporting, and medical research. In this program, you'll be introduced to reimbursement principles and build proficiency in assigning codes across all settings. After program completion, graduates may qualify to take the Certified Coding Associate (CCA) credentialing exam through American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA).

Estimated tuition and fees: mstc.edu/programcosts

ACADEMIC ADVISOR

To schedule an appointment with an academic advisor, call 715.422.5300. Academic advisors will travel to other campuses as necessary to accommodate student needs. For more information about advising, visit mstc.edu/advising.

CHECKLIST:

This section will be completed when meeting with your academic advisor.

- FAFSA (www.fafsa.gov)
- Financial Aid Form(s)
Form(s): _____
- Follow-Up Appointment:
Where: _____
When: _____
With: _____
- Official Transcripts
Mid-State Technical College
Student Services Assistant
1001 Centerpoint Drive
Stevens Point, WI 54481
- Other: _____



mstc.edu • 888.575.6782 • TTY: 711



ADAMS CAMPUS
401 North Main
Adams, WI 53910

MARSHFIELD CAMPUS
2600 West 5th Street
Marshfield, WI 54449

STEVENS POINT CAMPUS
1001 Centerpoint Drive
Stevens Point, WI 54481

WISCONSIN RAPIDS CAMPUS
500 32nd Street North
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

CAREER PATHWAY • BEGIN AT ANY POINT

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT

COLLEGE TRANSFER

RETURNING ADULT

CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING AND EXPERIENCE

CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING AND EXPERIENCE

- Certifications and Licenses
- High School Credit
- Military Experience
- National/Standardized Exams
- Transfer Credit
- Work and Life Experience

Learn about Credit for Prior Learning at mstc.edu/cpl.

TECHNICAL DIPLOMA

MEDICAL CODER

Technical Diploma • 30 Credits

Start Your Career

- Medical Coder
- Medical Claims Reviewer
- Financial Services Specialist

ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE (AAS)

HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Associate in Applied Science (AAS) • 61-62 Credits

Start Your Career

- Medical Coder/Reviewer/Educator
- Revenue Cycle Coordinator
- Healthcare Information Data Analyst

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

BACHELOR'S DEGREE OPTIONS

Arizona State University, Bellevue University, Colorado State University Global, Concordia University, Franklin University, Grand Canyon University (GCU), Herzing University, Lakeland University, Milwaukee School of Engineering (MSOE), Mount Mary University (MMU), Northern Michigan University, The College of St. Scholastica, University of Maryland Global, University of Phoenix, UW-Green Bay, UW-La Crosse, UW-Oshkosh, UW-Parkside, UW-Stevens Point, UW-Stevens Point at Marshfield, UW-Stout, UW-Whitewater, Western Governors University, and Wisconsin Private-Nonprofit Universities/Colleges.

For more information and additional opportunities, visit mstc.edu/transfer.

OTHER OPTIONS

RELATED PROGRAMS

- Dental Assistant
- Health & Wellness Promotion
- Medical Assistant
- Nursing
- Nursing Assistant
- Phlebotomy Technician
- Respiratory Therapy
- Sterile Processing Technician
- Surgical Technology

OUTCOMES

Employers will expect you, as a Medical Coder graduate, to be able to:

- Apply clinical documentation and diagnostic results to ensure accurate diagnostic and procedural coding.
- Validate completeness and accuracy of health data for coding, billing, and statistical purposes.
- Evaluate components of revenue cycle management and clinical documentation improvement.

TECHNICAL SKILLS ATTAINMENT

The Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) has implemented a requirement that all technical colleges measure outcomes attained by students. This requirement is called Technical Skills Attainment (TSA). The main objective of TSA is to ensure graduates have the technical skills needed by employers. Students are notified of TSA reporting in the Inpatient Procedure Coding and Advanced Coding courses.

TECHNICAL STANDARDS

A list of specific physical, emotional, and mental tasks needed to function as a medical coder is at mstc.edu/programs/medical-coder. Contact the Disability Services coordinator in the Student Services & Information Center to receive assistance.

PROGRAM PROGRESSION AND COMPLETION

In order to progress in and successfully complete the program, students must:

- Repeat courses not completed with a grade of “C” or better prior to progressing in core courses or other courses with co- or prerequisites.
- Receive a grade of “C” or better in all courses required for graduation.

A student may repeat the same course only once in the Medical Coder program. If the course is failed a second time, the student will be withdrawn from the Medical Coder program. If a Medical Coder student fails four separate program courses, the student will be withdrawn from the program. Failures will include failing the same course or failing different courses. A withdrawal grade of “W” counts as one attempt for the course.

STUDENT HANDBOOK

Visit mstc.edu/studenthandbook to view Mid-State’s student handbook, which contains information about admissions, enrollment, appeals processes, services for people with disabilities, financial aid, graduation, privacy, Mid-State’s Student Code of Conduct, and technology.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

The GPS for Student Success course is required for all Mid-State program students and is recommended to be completed before obtaining 12 credits. (Not counted in the total credit value for this program.) Some students are exempt from this requirement. Please see your program advisor for more information.

GPS for Student Success

10890102 1 credit

Integrate necessary skills for student success by developing an academic plan, identifying interpersonal attributes for success, adopting efficient and effective learning strategies, and utilizing Mid-State resources, policies, and processes. This course is recommended to be completed prior to obtaining 12 credits and is a graduation requirement unless you receive an exemption from your program advisor.

ADDITIONAL COURSES AS NEEDED

The following courses may be recommended or required if the student does not achieve minimum Accuplacer scores.

College Reading and Writing 1

10831104 3 credits

Provides learners with opportunities to develop and expand reading and writing skills to prepare for college-level academic work. Students will employ critical reading strategies to improve comprehension, analysis, and retention of texts. Students will apply the writing process to produce well-developed, coherent, and unified written work.

Pre-Algebra

10834109 3 credits

Provides an introduction to algebra. Includes operations on real numbers, solving linear equations, percent and proportion, and an introduction to polynomials and statistics. Prepares students for elementary algebra and subsequent algebra-related courses.

SAMPLE FULL-TIME CURRICULUM OPTION

| Term | | 12 credits |
|----------------------|---|------------|
| 10103106 | Microsoft Office Introduction ☑ | 3 |
| 10501101 | Medical Terminology ☑ | 3 |
| 10530123 | Introduction to Digital Information in Healthcare | 3 |
| 10806189 | Basic Anatomy | 3 |
| Term | | 9 credits |
| 10530144 | CPT Coding | 3 |
| 10530117 | Human Disease for the Health Professions | 3 |
| 10530197 | ICD Diagnosis Coding | 3 |
| Term | | 9 credits |
| 10530146 | Private and Government Reimbursement | 3 |
| 10530147 | HIM Advanced Coding | 3 |
| 10530115 | Inpatient Procedure Coding | 3 |
| Total credits | | 30 |

☑ This course has options available to receive credit for prior learning (CPL) or work experience. Visit the website at mstc.edu/cpl or contact your advisor for details.

Please Note:

- This curriculum sequence is only for student planning. Actual student schedules will vary depending on course availability.
- Program completion time may vary based on student scheduling and course availability. For details, go to mstc.edu/schedule.

SAMPLE PART-TIME CURRICULUM OPTION

| Term | | 6 credits |
|----------------------|---|-----------|
| 10501101 | Medical Terminology ☑ | 3 |
| 10530123 | Introduction to Digital Information in Healthcare | 3 |
| Term | | 9 credits |
| 10806189 | Basic Anatomy | 3 |
| 10103106 | Microsoft Office Introduction ☑ | 3 |
| 10530117 | Human Disease for the Health Professions | 3 |
| Term | | 6 credits |
| 10530144 | CPT Coding | 3 |
| 10530197 | ICD Diagnosis Coding | 3 |
| Term | | 9 credits |
| 10530146 | Private and Government Reimbursement | 3 |
| 10530147 | HIM Advanced Coding | 3 |
| 10530115 | Inpatient Procedure Coding | 3 |
| Total credits | | 30 |

MULTIPLE MEASURES

Multiple Measures Writing (MMW): High school GPA of 2.6 and successful completion of 2.0 credits of high school writing courses with a "C" or better

Multiple Measures Math 1 (MMM_1): High school GPA of 2.6 and successful completion of 1.0 credits of high school math (Algebra 1 or equivalent) with a "C" or better

Multiple Measures Science 1 (MMS_1): High school GPA of 2.6 and successful completion of 1.0 credits of high school lab science course with a "C" or better

Multiple Measures Reading (MMR): High school GPA of 2.6 and successful completion of 2.0 credits of high school literature courses with a "C" or better

Multiple Measures Math 2 (MMM_2): High school GPA of 2.6 and successful completion of 2.0 credits of high school math including Algebra 1 and Algebra 2 with a "C" or better

Multiple Measures Science 2 (MMS_2): High school GPA of 2.6 and successful completion of 1.0 credits of high school chemistry with a "C" or better

Past high school and college transcripts are used in making course placement decisions.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Basic Anatomy

108061893 credits

Examines concepts of anatomy and physiology as they relate to health careers. Learners correlate anatomical and physiological terminology to all body systems.

Prerequisite: High School GPA of 2.6 and MMS_1 or Accuplacer Reading Skills of 249 or ACT Reading score of 15

CPT Coding

105301443 credits

Prepares learners to assign current procedural terminology (CPT) codes supported by medical documentation with entry-level proficiency. Students are familiar with and use standard coding references. Emphasizes accuracy, CPT instructional notations, conventions, rules, and official coding guidelines when assigning CPT codes to case studies and actual medical record documentation. Also covers application of modifiers to services and relationship to financial impact.

Prerequisites: Medical Terminology 10501101, Basic Anatomy 10806189, and Introduction to Digital Information in Healthcare 10530123; Corequisite: Human Disease for the Health Professions 10530117

HIM Advanced Coding

105301473 credits

Builds on basic coding knowledge and skills through the coding of clinical case studies and actual medical records. Students access, review, and code electronic medical records from the virtual lab software; perform data quality reviews to validate code assignment and compliance with reporting requirements; develop appropriate physician queries; and assign diagnosis related groups (DRGs) and ambulatory payment classifications (APCs) with entry-level proficiency using computerized encoding and grouping software.

Prerequisites: ICD Diagnosis Coding 10530197 and CPT Coding 10530144; Corequisites: Private and Government Reimbursement 10530146 and Inpatient Procedure Coding 10530115

Human Disease for the Health Professions

105301173 credits

Focuses on the common diseases of each body system as encountered in all types of healthcare settings by health information professionals. Emphasizes understanding the etiology (causes), signs and symptoms, diagnostic tests, and treatment (including pharmacologic) of each disease.

Prerequisites: Medical Terminology 10501101 and Basic Anatomy 10806189

ICD Diagnosis Coding

105301973 credits

Prepares students to assign ICD diagnosis codes supported by medical documentation with entry-level proficiency. Students apply instructional notations, conventions, rules, and official coding guidelines when assigning ICD diagnosis codes to case studies and actual medical record documentation.

Prerequisites: Medical Terminology 10501101, Basic Anatomy 10806189, and Introduction to Digital Information in Healthcare 10530123; Corequisite: Human Disease for the Health Professions 10530117

Inpatient Procedure Coding

105301153 credits

Prepares students to assign ICD procedure codes supported by medical documentation with entry-level proficiency. Students apply instructional notations, conventions, rules, and official coding guidelines when assigning ICD procedure codes to case studies and actual medical record documentation.

Prerequisite: ICD Diagnosis Coding 10530197; Corequisites: Private and Government Reimbursement 10530146 and HIM Advanced Coding 10530147

Introduction to Digital Information in Healthcare

105301233 credits

This introductory course examines the field of Health Information Management including the hardware and software systems used, common industry terminology, the security and ethical responsibilities of professionals in the field, and the current trends in the industry. Students will focus on accuracy and integrity of health data and confidentiality in this course.

Corequisite: 10501101 Medical Terminology

Medical Terminology ☑

10501101 3 credits

Focuses on the component parts of medical terms: prefixes, suffixes, and word roots. Learners practice formation, analysis, and reconstruction of terms. Emphasizes spelling, definition, and pronunciation. Introduces operative, diagnostic, therapeutic, and symptomatic terminology of all body systems as well as systemic and surgical terminology.

Microsoft Office-Introduction ☑

101031063 credits

Develops introductory skills in the Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint, and Outlook) while reinforcing the students' knowledge of computer concepts, Windows Explorer, and web usage. This course prepares students for the Associate level MOS Certification exams for Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Outlook. Students should possess basic keyboarding, mouse, and Windows 10 skills. Students may develop these skills in the Academic Learning Center while concurrently enrolled in this course.

Private and Government Reimbursement

105301463 credits

Introduces students to the vocabulary of private healthcare and government reimbursement. Students will identify and compare the varieties of private and government healthcare insurance including the advantages and disadvantages of each for the provider and for the policyholder. HIPAA guidelines are utilized throughout.

Prerequisites: ICD Diagnosis Coding 10530197 and CPT Coding 10530144; Corequisites: Inpatient Procedure Coding 10530115; HIM Advanced Coding 10530147