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# Certified Professional Coder

at Macomb Community College  
**CENTER FOR HEALTH CAREERS**

There have never been as many careers in health care as there are right now. Whether you are interested in short-term training (9 months or less) to obtain a high-demand, entry-level job, are already employed in health care and need to continue your education, or need help landing that first health care job, Macomb's Center for Health Careers has what you are looking for!

*Information technology is a pivotal part of transforming our health care system. We are at a critical juncture. Working in close collaboration, the federal government and private sector can drive changes that will lead to fewer medical errors, lower costs, less hassle and better care.*

—Mike Leavitt, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary

## What is a Certified Professional Coder?

With the shift to electronic medical records, Certified Professional Coders have become vital in the maintenance of a patient's health care records and correct submission of claims to health insurance providers. Knowledgeable in both medical terminology and disease classifications, Certified Professional Coders are responsible for reading medical charts and assigning correct diagnosis, procedure and supply codes in hospitals, doctors' offices and other health care facilities.

It is essential that a coder be able to perform math calculations, accurately input data into the computer, be proficient in Microsoft Office programs and analyze revenue data as requested. A coder must be able to communicate with physicians, insurance companies and other medical personnel, providing verbal feedback in a professional manner.

Coding is an excellent field for people who are detail-oriented, enjoy working with computer software, and have an interest in helping a medical business reach financial stability.

## The Program

Part of Macomb's Center for Health Careers offered through Workforce and Continuing Education, Macomb's Certified Professional Coder Program will introduce you to the medical terminology and disease classifications used by professional coders as you prepare for the internationally recognized Certified Professional Coder Exam, licensed by the American Academy of Professional Coders.

CPCs typically earn 20% more than non-certified coders (according to the AAPC 2013 Annual Salary Survey). The CPC credential increases your chances of being hired and retained in a competitive job market.

Among the five required classes are two coding classes—one for diagnosis coding and one for procedure coding. In addition to the classroom-style learning, both classes may be Web-enhanced, with reference material or quizzes found on Macomb's online learning platform.

Macomb's Certified Professional Coder Program can be completed in as little as six months, and includes a certificate of completion.





## LOOKING FOR A JOB?

Contact Career Services  
586.445.7321  
careerservices@macomb.edu

The Center for Health Careers has an Occupational Coordinator who will act as your liaison with Career Services.

**For more information, contact Macomb's Center for Health Careers at 586.226.4807 or visit [www.macomb.edu/healthcareers](http://www.macomb.edu/healthcareers)**

**For general information about Macomb Community College, call 866.Macomb1 (866.622.6621) or email [answer@macomb.edu](mailto:answer@macomb.edu)**

## *Online Internship for Medical Coding*

This virtual internship simulates the work experience of a realistic multi-specialty medical clinic. It offers experience coding more than 500 cases in 18 medical specialties.

## *Certificate Requirements*

- Attend a mandatory two-hour interactive Health Career Workshop prior to registration in the Medical Coding I course. Details of each requirement will be reviewed at the workshop, which is scheduled throughout the year. Check the Schedule of Classes available at [www.macomb.edu](http://www.macomb.edu).
- There are 5 classes (163.5 hours). You must pass Medical Terminology (HLTH-8010A) and MS Office 2013 (CSFT-8063B) prior to enrolling in Medical Coding I (HLTH-8102), Medical Coding II (HLTH-8103) and CPC Study Night (HLTH-8074).
- For those who have been working in the health care field, there is an exam to test out of Medical Terminology that requires 80% to pass. Contact Lori Riggs to discuss this option. If you have taken HHSC-1700, ITCS-1010, or CIS-101 at Macomb, certain classes can be waived.

## *Employment Outlook*

With a certified professional coder certificate from Macomb, you will be qualified for careers including health information specialist, medical records analyst and medical billing specialist. Median salary for these careers is \$35,780, with a 10 percent increase in openings projected in Michigan through 2024.



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