

HEALTH CARE INFORMATION PROGRAMS

This department offers several unique programs: The Associate in Applied Science degree in Health Information Technology, a certificate in Medical Transcription and a certificate in Medical Coding.

Health Information Technology 510899 HIT Career Degree - Wallace Linkage

Available: Phil Campbell and Shoals Campuses

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The Health Information Technician (HIT) is a skilled professional who analyzes and evaluates highly sensitive data in health records. Skills of the health information technician are varied but include the following: supervising the release of health information, maintaining and utilizing information storage and retrieval systems, compiling various health statistics, transcribing clinical information and medical coding. Health information technicians may be employed by any facility that manages patient information, such as a hospital, clinic, physician office, insurance company, or medical research center.

The Health Information Technology Program is accredited by the Commission on the Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM) in collaboration with the American Health Information Management Association's Council on Accreditation. Each graduate of the HIT Program is eligible to take the national examination to become a Registered Health Information Technician.

Health Information Technology clinical practicum courses include a large number of hours in clinical rotations in health care facilities located in various areas of Alabama. Assignment to these facilities is at the discretion of Program officials.

The Health Information Technology Program Offers three alternatives for a student's completion of classes:

***One Year - non-integrated program:** A student who has completed all general education courses may complete the HIT program courses in one year, three consecutive semesters (Fall, Spring, Summer).

***Two year - integrated program:** A student may schedule general education courses while taking the health information technology courses. This alternative requires a minimum of two years to complete.

***Online Program:** A student may schedule HIT online courses in accordance with either the one year or two year completion option. HIT professional practice experience (clinical) courses must be completed on dayshift as an approved health care facility, not online. HIT students may be required to attend a minimum number of on-campus class meetings.

General Courses to be Completed at Northwest-Shoals Community College.

Entering students are required to complete ORI 101. Transfer students are exempt from this requirement.

Semester Hours

*BIO 201-202 Human Anatomy and Physiology I and II	8
CIS 146 Microcomputer Applications	3
ENG 101-102 English Composition I and II	6
MTH 116 Mathematical Applications	3
**OAD 101 Beginning Keyboarding	3
PSY 200 General Psychology	3
Humanities/Fine Art Elective	3
Total Semester Hours	26-29

***Biology 103 highly recommended**

****OAD 101 is waived in lieu of 35 wpm keyboarding proficiency**

Students must complete specialized courses at Wallace State to receive this degree. Wallace State enrolls students in this program competitively and only in certain terms. See your advisor.

Health programs at Wallace State have program admission requirements unique to the individual program. Information on program admission requirements can be obtained through the WSCC catalog, WSCC website (www.wallacestate.edu), or Wanda Rhodes, Health Linkage advisor located at NW-SCC. Admission requirements may include, but are not limited to: CPR certification, ACT scores, Compass testing, and observation hours.

After program admission, all WSCC Health Science Division students are required to submit a physical exam, consent to drug testing, and criminal background checks to meet clinical agency requirements.