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

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.
BACHELOR'S DEGREE OPTIONS

UW-LaCrosse
BS Health Information Management and Technology Online Degree

UW-Stevens Point
BS Health Information Management and Technology Degree (HIMT)

UW-Stevens Point
Health Science-Health Care Administration or Health Care Informatics

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

MEDICAL CODER
TECHNICAL DIPLOMA
31 CREDITS

CAREER OPTIONS
Coding Manager
Coding Support Specialist
Medical Claims Reviewer

CAREER OPTIONS
Coding Specialist
Chargemaster Coordinator
Medical Claims Reviewer

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT
COLLEGE TRANSFER
RETURNING ADULT

OTHER OPTIONS
RELATED PROGRAMS
• Central Service Technician
• Health & Wellness Promotion
• Medical Assistant
• Nursing
• Nursing Assistant
• Pharmacy Services Management
• Pharmacy Technician
• Phlebotomy Technician
• Respiratory Therapist
• Surgical Technologist

BEGIN AT ANY POINT IN THE PATHWAY

College Credit • Dual Credit • Military Experience • Work Experience
Learn about Credit for Prior Learning at mstc.edu/cpl.
PROGRAM OUTCOMES
Employers will expect you, as a Medical Coder graduate, to be able to:
• Review clinical documentation and diagnostic results to ensure accurate diagnostic and procedural coding.
• Extract and abstract data, and apply appropriate clinical codes using proper classification systems accurately.
• Provide charge validation.

TECHNICAL SKILLS ATTAINMENT
The Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) has implemented a requirement that all technical colleges measure program 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 their final few courses of the program.

FUNCTIONAL ABILITIES
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.

Please note that the ability to repeat courses is dependent upon availability in courses. Students may be required to apply for program re-entry in order to repeat courses within the program’s instructional area.

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 students and must be completed prior to obtaining 12 credits. (Not counted in the total credit value for this program.)

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 must be completed prior to obtaining 12 credits and as a graduation requirement.

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

Intro to College Reading
1083104 ........................................................................... 2 credits
Provides learners with the opportunities to develop and expand reading skills, including comprehension and vocabulary skills. Learners apply reading skills to academic tasks and read to acquire information from a variety of sources.

Intro to College Writing
1083103 ........................................................................... 3 credits
Introduces basic principles of composition, including organization, development, unity, and coherence in paragraphs and multi-paragraph documents. The purpose of this course is to prepare students for successful entry into required program courses. This course is tuition bearing and under certain circumstances may qualify for financial aid. This course cannot be used to satisfy program completion requirements at Mid-State.
Prerequisite: Accuplacer Sentence Skills score of 60 or equivalent. Proficiency in word processing skills recommended.

Pre-Algebra
1083409 ........................................................................... 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.
Prerequisite: Accuplacer Math score of 65, Accuplacer Algebra score of 30, ABE Math Prep V 76854785 and ABE Math Prep VI 76854786 with a grade of “S.” (Note: ABE Math Prep V and VI courses cannot be used to satisfy program completion requirements at Mid-State.)
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<th>SAMPLE FULL-TIME CURRICULUM OPTION</th>
<th>SAMPLE PART-TIME CURRICULUM OPTION</th>
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<td><strong>Term</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10501101 Medical Terminology</td>
<td>10530111 Introduction to Health Records</td>
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<td>10806177 General Anatomy &amp; Physiology</td>
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<td><strong>Term</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10530122 Electronic Health Records</td>
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<td>10530144 CPT Coding</td>
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<td>10530182 Human Disease for the Health Professions</td>
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<tr>
<td>10530197 ICD Diagnosis Coding</td>
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<td>10530146 Private and Government Reimbursement</td>
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<td>10530147 HIM Advanced Coding</td>
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<td>10530166 Inpatient Procedure Coding</td>
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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/classfinder.

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**CPT Coding**

10530144 .............................................................3 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, General Anatomy & Physiology 10806177, and Intro to Health Records 10530111; **Corequisite:** Human Diseases for Health Professions 10530182

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**Electronic Health Records**

10530122 .............................................................3 credits
Introduces students to the electronic health record (EHR) as a technology-based representation of healthcare data integration from a participating collection of varied systems for a single patient. Course covers emerging use of the electronic health record, an overview of EHR, applications, benefits and barriers to its use, vocabularies, principles of implementation, health information exchange, standards, privacy, security, information retrieval, digital libraries, and image management.

**Prerequisites:** Medical Terminology 10501101, General Anatomy & Physiology 10806177, and Intro to Health Records 10530111; **Corequisite:** Human Disease for Health Professions 10530182

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**General Anatomy & Physiology**

10806177 ............................................................. 4 credits
Examines basic concepts of human anatomy and physiology as they relate to health sciences. Using a body systems approach, the course emphasizes the interrelationships between structure and function at the gross and microscopic levels of organization of the entire human body. It is intended to prepare health care professionals who need to apply basic concepts of whole body anatomy and physiology to informed decision making and professional communication with colleagues and patients.

**Prerequisite:** High School GPA of 3.0 or Accuplacer Reading Skills of 236 or ACT of 15, or General Chemistry 10806134 with a grade of “C” or better, or General Biology 10806114 with a grade of “C” or better, or Human Body in Health & Disease 10509102 with a “C” or better. Students are encouraged to bring transcripts for further evaluation if they do not meet these requirements.

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**HIM Advanced Coding**

10530147 .............................................................3 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 Academic EHR System; perform data quality reviews to validate code assignment and compliance with reporting requirements; 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, CPT Coding 10530144, and Inpatient Procedure Coding 10530166; **Corequisite:** Private & Government Reimbursement 10530146
Human Disease for the Health Professions
10530182 ..............................................................3 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 General Anatomy & Physiology 10806177

ICD Diagnosis Coding
10530197 ..............................................................3 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, Intro to Health Records 10530111, and General Anatomy & Physiology 10806177; Corequisite: Human Disease for the Health Professions 10530182

Inpatient Procedure Coding
10530166 ..............................................................3 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. 
Prerequisites: Medical Terminology 10501101, Intro to Health Records 10530111, General Anatomy & Physiology 10806177, and Human Disease for the Health Professions 10530182

Introduction to Health Records
10530111 ...............................................................3 credits
Focuses on the purpose, format, content, use, confidentiality, and administrative issues of a patient’s medical history and care. Students study the use of the patient’s medical record as a basis for planning patient care, documenting communication between the health care provider and any other health professional contributing to the patient’s care, assisting in protecting the legal interest of the patient and the health care providers responsible for the patient’s care, and documenting the care and services provided to the patient. Emphasizes accuracy, organization, and confidentiality. Students are introduced to electronic medical record (EMR) concepts. 
Corequisite: Medical Terminology 10501101

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.

Private and Government Reimbursement
10530146 .............................................................3 credits
Introduces students to the vocabulary of private or voluntary-based healthcare reimbursement. Students will identify and compare the varieties of private 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, Inpatient Procedure Coding 10530166, and CPT Coding 10530144