



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 IN THE PATHWAY

College Credit • Dual Credit
Military Experience • Work Experience

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



CAREER OPTIONS

- Coding Specialist
- Chargemaster Coordinator
- Medical Claims Reviewer



CAREER OPTIONS

- Coding Manager
- Coding Support Specialist
- Medical Claims Reviewer

OTHER OPTIONS

RELATED PROGRAMS

- Central Service Technician
- Health & Wellness Promotion
- Medical Assistant
- Nursing
- Nursing Assistant
- Pharmacy Services Management
- Pharmacy Technician
- Phlebotomy Technician
- Respiratory Therapy
- Surgical Technologist

BACHELOR'S DEGREE OPTIONS

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), The College of St. Scholastica, University of Phoenix, UW-Green Bay, UW-LaCrosse, UW-Oshkosh, UW-Stevens Point, UW-Stevens Point at Marshfield, UW-Stout, UW-Whitewater, Western Governor's University, and Wisconsin Private-Nonprofit Universities/Colleges.

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

PROGRAM 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 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.

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 must be completed prior to obtaining 12 credits and is 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

108381042 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

108311033 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

108341093 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.)

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
10530182	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
10530166	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
10530182	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
10530166	Inpatient Procedure Coding	3
Total credits 30		

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 3.0 or Accuplacer Reading Skills of 236 or ACT of 15. Students are encouraged to bring transcripts for further evaluation if they do not meet these requirements.

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 10530182

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 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 10530166

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 Basic Anatomy 10806189*

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

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, Basic Anatomy 10806189, and Introduction to Digital Information in Healthcare 10530123; 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.

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

Introduction to Digital Information in Healthcare

10530123.....3 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. Students should possess basic keyboarding, mouse, and Windows 10 skills. Students may develop these skills in the LiNK 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 10530166; HIM Advanced Coding 10530147