



# Health Information Management FAQs

## WHAT ARE THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR A PROGRAM GRADUATE?

Program graduates, often referred to as health information management (HIM) or health information technology professionals, have opportunities in numerous aspects of information management and healthcare. These roles include health information technicians, billing specialists, data analysts, quality improvement coordinator, chargemasters, coding support, coding specialist, and patient accounts.

## IS THERE A CERTIFICATION REQUIRED IN THIS FIELD?

Many employers require employees working within the health information field to obtain a credential from the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA). Graduates of the Mid-State HIM program are eligible to take the Registered Health Information Technician (RHIT) certification exam.

## WHAT IF I ALREADY HAVE A CERTIFICATION, DIPLOMA, OR DEGREE?

Students who have already completed college-level work may be eligible to transfer credits for the use of this program. Often students transfer courses such as medical terminology and some general education courses.

Credits for Prior Learning at Mid-State is designed to accelerate the completion of your educational goals and help you save money on tuition and books along the way. Please visit [Credit For Prior Learning and Experience](#) for more information.

## IS THERE A WAITING LIST TO ENROLL IN THE HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM?

There are immediate openings for students interested in the HIM program, with new courses starting each year in the spring and fall.

## CAN THIS PROGRAM BE COMPLETED ENTIRELY ONLINE?

Frequently, the HIM program is completed entirely online. It is important to note that some practicum experiences require the student to work at the healthcare organization, while other practicum experiences are remote/virtual.

## **WHAT IS CLINICAL HEALTH WORK?**

Students enrolling in health programs requiring practicum experiences must document information about their health, including their record of immunizations for certain communicable diseases, tuberculosis testing, and a background check. The practicum sites require this information. Students will complete the required health work and caregiver criminal background checks using a private vendor, ViewPoint Screening. There is an additional fee for this service that is the responsibility of the student.