Medical Billing and Coding

Career Options... Medical Billing and Coding is a rewarding field in healthcare. Medicine is more than patient care; it is also a business. Medical practices rely on medical billers and coders to provide the cash flow that keeps their doors open. Positions are also available with ambulatory care centers, medical equipment suppliers, insurance companies, public health agencies, consulting firms, and medical billing companies.

Spoon River College Community Outreach offers an online program in Medical Billing & Coding. Visit Healthcare & Fitness at http://careertraining.ed2go.com/spoonriver/ for course information which also includes program outlines, requirements, and FAQs.

Medical Billing and Coding
Medical Billing and Coding is an ideal program for students new to a medical career. If you’re seeking entry into the healthcare industry, this comprehensive program will provide you with all of the information you need to earn a certification in medical billing and coding. You will build a foundation of medical vocabulary, to help you better understand the contents of a patient’s medical record, as well as notes from practicing physicians. In addition, you’ll learn current medical coding standards, so you can be successful within the industry. You will learn to function as an important member of the healthcare team by providing key skills, such as abstracting from medical records, assigning codes to diagnoses and procedures using the ICD-10-CM, ICD-10-PCS, CPT and HCPCS Level II code books, developing insurance claims according to third-party guidelines, and understanding the legal, ethical, and regulatory concepts that are vital to this field. In the Medical Terminology portion of the class, you will learn the “language of medicine” and study the disorders and medical procedures common to each body system. There are two courses to choose from depending on which Certification Voucher you want included with your registration. This is a 12-Month Program. Program Options Include (Choose one):

- CBCS Medical Billing and Coding (Voucher Included): $2195
- CPC Medical Billing and Coding (Voucher Included): $2695

Do I want the CBCS or the CPC Voucher option?
Our Medical Billing and Coding classes include a voucher to sign up to take a certification exam. Currently we offer CBCS and CPC. One way to look at the difference is that a CBCS is like an Associates Degree where the CPC is like a Bachelors Degree. CBCS is more basic entry where CPC offers more opportunities. Additional details are below.

CBCS: Stands for Certified Billing and Coding Specialist and is offered by the National Healthcareer Association (NHA). The CBCS designation is good for those interested in working for small, private practices. Visit www.nhanow.com to learn more about this certification and testing locations.

CPC: Stands for Certified Professional Coder and is offered by the American Academy of Professional Coders (AAPC). This option also includes CPC Study Guide, CPC Practice Exam Bundle, 1-yr AAPC Membership. Students without 2-years of coding experience will have a CPC-A designation until they meet the 2-year experience requirement. The CPC designation is good for those interested in working for larger hospitals and surgery centers. Visit www.aapc.com to learn more about this certification and testing locations.

What is a CCA?
CCA: Stands for Certified Coding Associate and is offered by AHIMA. Our Medical Billing and Coding programs now prepare students to sit for the CCA exam. This certification is like having a Masters Degree in Medical Billing and coding. There is not currently an AHIMA voucher option for students, but they will be fully prepared to pursue the AHIMA certification on their own if interested. Visit www.ahima.org to learn more about this certification and testing locations.

- Our student success rate for passing the CBCS exam was 92-94%. This was 20% higher than the national average. Success rate for CPC is currently not available as this is a new certification we are offering.
- Should you need more time to complete your program, an extension of six months is available at no additional cost.
- Financial aid assistance is not available for this program.
- Payment is due in full at time of registration.

To learn more or to sign up, go to: http://careertraining.ed2go.com/spoonriver/
For questions call 309-833-6031 or 309-649-6260.