

# Getting Your HIM Associate Degree: An Academic Pathway

## Where can I go?

Attend a CAHIIM-Accredited HIM Associate Degree Programs

### What kinds of education options are available at the associate degree level?

#### Associate Degree

- » Completion time is typically two years, longer if attending on a part-time basis
- » Traditional classroom and distance learning options are available
- » Many programs offer evening hours
- » Curriculum includes a variety of courses designed to provide a general overview of healthcare organizations and delivery systems

## Once I complete my courses, what's the next step?

You can take a national credentialing exam for health information technology

### What is the credential?

Registered Health Information Technician (RHIT) Credential

## Once I have my associate degree, what can I become?

### HIM Associate Degree with RHIT Credential

#### Employment responsibilities may include:

- » Coder
- » HIM Director
- » Consultant
- » Quality Improvement Specialist
- » Charge Master Auditor
- » Documentation Specialist
- » HIM Department Manager or Supervisor
- » Cancer or Other Disease Registrar
- » Information Access/Disclosure Specialist
- » Instructor/Trainer

## How can I further my HIM education?

Professional Advanced Certifications  
CCS, CCS-P, CHPS

Progress to a CAHIIM-Accredited  
HIM Baccalaureate Degree Program

**Transfer of course credits:** Students interested in transferring course credits from one institution to another should locate the transfer policy of the school program and speak with the Program Director to discuss specific circumstances.