

# **MEDICAL CODER PROGRAM INFORMATION SESSION**

Trinity River Campus East

# AGENDA

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3. The Medical Coder
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# 1. INTRODUCTION

As reported by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment is projected to increase by 9% or more between 2023 and 2033. Additionally, around 191,500 job openings are expected nationwide.

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Tarrant County College's (TCC) Medical Coder program equips students with the knowledge and skills to succeed as medical coders in a variety of healthcare settings. The program prepares students to take the Certified Professional Coder (CPC) exam, administered by the American Academy of Professional Coders (AAPC). TCC's Medical Coder program is credentialed and recognized by the AAPC.

## LICENSING NOTICE: TEXAS HOUSE BILL 1508

This program prepares students for an occupational license. However, students may not be eligible for licensing if they have a prior criminal history. See [Texas House Bill 1508 Licensing Requirements](#) for more details.

The 232-hour continuing education workforce program is offered each year with classes scheduled Monday through Thursday, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Course delivery format will be in-person (face-to-face) at the Trinity River Campus **East** location.

## 2. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Minimum 18 years of age
- High school graduate or GED
- Passing score on The Adult Basic Education (TABE) or Texas Success Initiative (TSI) test, if applicable
- Compliance with the American Academy of Professional Coders (AAPC) regulations

## 3. THE MEDICAL CODER

### ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Medical Coders are crucial to the billing process. Their extensive knowledge of anatomy, pathophysiology, and the medical procedures they code creates a vital link of understanding between payers and providers.

#### A Medical Coder (MC) will:

- **Effectively Communicate** – A MC contacts doctors, nurses, and other medical staff to ensure accurate coding which is vital for correct billing and insurance claims. Clear communication prevents errors, ensures regulatory compliance, streamlines workflow, and enhances patient care by ensuring accurate documentation and efficient claims processing.
- **Encode and summarize Patient Interactions** – A MC will assign specific codes to various aspects of a patient's medical encounter such as diagnoses, procedures, and treatments. Additionally, they will highlight the patient's visit to include key details and recommended actions.
- **Ensure Compliance** – A MC will verify that coding practices adhere to regulatory standards and insurance requirements.

### 3. THE MEDICAL CODER, cont.

- **Identify and Correct Errors** – A MC will detect and resolve discrepancies or documentation deficiencies in medical records.
- **Generate Reports** – A MC will produce reports and summaries for billing, auditing, and compliance purposes.
- **Train and Advise** – A MC will provide guidance and training to healthcare staff on coding practices and documentation standards.
- **Update and Maintain Knowledge** –  
A MC will keep up to date with changes in coding guidelines, regulations, and medical terminology.



## 3. THE MEDICAL CODER, cont.

### DAILY ACTIVITIES

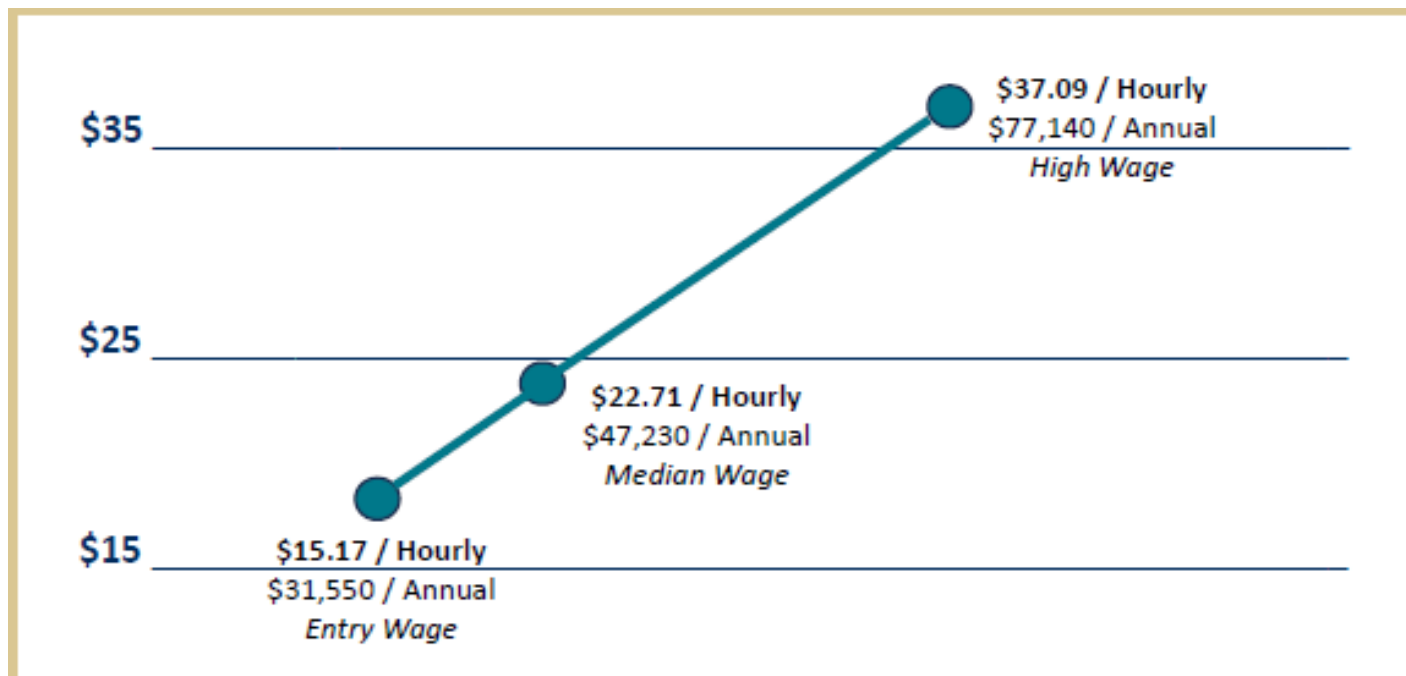
**A Medical Coder must be able to perform standard functional/physical activities while working on the job:**

- ✓ Reach, carry, and/or lift
- ✓ Prolonged sitting
- ✓ Use of computer and keyboard
- ✓ Read and interpret documents
- ✓ Focus on details
- ✓ Repetitive motion

### CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Medical Coders work in various settings, including doctors' offices, hospitals, outpatient surgery centers or clinics, healthcare consulting agencies, law firms, and insurance and government agencies. They also find employment in information technology and service companies where they assist to develop software systems for organizing and managing patient data or treatments for coding purposes.

## 4. WAGES\*



\*Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics 2024 wage data for the state of Texas.  
The information provided is subject to change and wages may differ depending on employer.



## 5. COURSES AND TUITION

Courses*	Hours	CEUs**	Tuition
SCIT 1000: Human Anatomy/Physiology	40	4.0	\$315
HITT 1005: Medical Terminology	48	4.8	\$330
HITT 1013: ICD-10-CM Coding	48	4.8	\$365
HITT 2046: Advanced Medical Coding	96	9.6	\$845
<b>Total</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>23.2</b>	<b>\$1,855</b>

\*The program consists of four (4) courses and taken in order as listed above. **Students will register and pay for the first two courses, which will be taken simultaneously**. Thereafter, the remaining two courses will be taken one at a time.

\*\*CEUs = Continuing Education Units

*Tuition subject to change.*

## 6. TEXTBOOKS\*

Course	Title	Fee
SCIT-1000 Human Anatomy/Physiology	<i>Introduction to the Human Body</i>	\$122
HITT-1005 Medical Terminology	<i>Exploring Medical Language</i>	\$76
HITT-1013 ICD-10-CM Coding	<i>AAPC ICD-10-Coding &amp; ICD-10-PCS</i>	\$123
HITT-2046 Advanced Medical Coding	<i>AAPC Pro Fee Coder Bundle</i>	\$245
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$566</b>

\*Textbooks and/or fees subject to change.

## 7. CERTIFICATE AND CPC EXAM

### CERTIFICATE

Upon program completion, student will receive a Tarrant County College certificate of program completion.

### CPC EXAM

Student will schedule and directly pay for the Certified Professional Coder (CPC) exam through the [American Academy of Professional Coders \(APPC\)](#).



## 8. APPLICATION PROCESS

### 1. New TCC Students only

If you have not previously attended TCC, contact a Career Advisor at 817-515-1484 or

[TR.HealthCareAdvising@tccd.edu](mailto:TR.HealthCareAdvising@tccd.edu)

### 2. Review the online “Medical Coder Information Session”

Complete and Print your “Information Session Exit Ticket” to submit with your application

### 3. Print, Read, and Complete your application

### 4. Collect the required supporting documents to submit with your application:

- Transcript\* from your highest level of education (high school, GED, or college)  
**NOTE:** *Diplomas will not be accepted*
- Test scores – if applicable
- Information Session Exit Ticket

### 5. Email your application and documents to [TR.HealthCareAdvising@tccd.edu](mailto:TR.HealthCareAdvising@tccd.edu)

*To be considered for the program, ALL documents must be submitted with your application.*

\*International high school diploma or college transcript must be evaluated for U.S. equivalency.

Contact: [International Academic Credential Evaluators, Inc. \(IACEI\)](http://www.iacei.org)

Denton, TX | at 940-383-7498.

(ALL CORRESPONDENCE TAKES PLACE VIA PHONE, EMAIL, OR MAIL)

## 8. APPLICATION PROCESS, cont.

### ACCEPTANCE

- Applicant receives from the Program Coordinator
  - **Email 1:** program acceptance letter
  - **Email 2:** registration and payment instructions

### REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT

- Candidate registers for the first two courses. ***Registration is first-come, first-served.***
- Student pays for both courses ***in full at time of enrollment.*** Failure to complete payment will result in being dropped from both courses.
  - **NOTE:** If student selects Payment Plan, TPEG, or other sponsored billing payment option, the option selected must be completed on the same day of enrollment.

### COMMUNICATION

- After student enrolls in the first two courses, **ALL** communication will be via their TCC email address (my.tccd.edu). For assistance to activate your TCCD email, view steps on [Tech Support](#) webpage or call 817-515-8324. Tech Support is available 24/7.

## 9. FAQs

- **Will my financial aid qualify for this program?**
  - FAFSA does not apply to this continuing education program.
  - The Texas Public Education Grant (TPEG) is available for students enrolled in continuing education workforce courses. Funding is based on demonstrated need and is limited. See [Financial Aid for Continuing Education](#) for additional information.
- **Is the Medical Coder program offered online?**

All classes are held on-site with no online option.
- **I have already completed an Anatomy and Physiology and/or Medical Terminology course. Will I still be required to take the CE Medical Coder *Human Anatomy/Physiology* and/or *Medical Terminology* courses?**

Yes, you will be required to complete all four (4) of the program courses to obtain the TCC Medical Coder program certificate of completion.
- **Will my years of experience in the medical industry exempt me from taking the CE Coder *Human Anatomy/Physiology* and/or *Medical Terminology* courses?**

No, you will be required to complete all four (4) of the program courses to obtain the TCC Medical Coder program certificate of completion.

# 10. QUESTIONS

For questions regarding

## Program:

Marisa Galaviz, Program Coordinator  
817-515-2328 | [marisa.galaviz@tccd.edu](mailto:marisa.galaviz@tccd.edu)

## Application or Testing Status:

Ms. Janette Keen, Career Technical Advisor  
817-515-1484 | [TR.HealthCareAdvising@tccd.edu](mailto:TR.HealthCareAdvising@tccd.edu)

# 11. INFORMATION SESSION EXIT TICKET INSTRUCTIONS

## PLEASE PAY ATTENTION!

To receive credit for this information session, please click on the link below to sign in and complete the form:

[Information Session Exit Ticket](#)

Thank you!