



Medical Coder Program

Why should you consider a career in Medical Coding?

Medical Coders are in demand, with good salaries, flexible work schedules, and can work from home.

What does a Medical Coder actually do?

A Medical coder reviews patients' records and assign numeric codes for each diagnosis and procedure. They also possess expertise in the ICD-10-CM and CPT coding systems and are knowledgeable in medical terminology, disease processes and pharmacology.

What is the expected annual salary for a Medical Coder with a CCS credential?

The majority of Medical Coder Salaries currently range between \$40,000.00 to \$60,000.00.

Why is the CCS Credential so important?

Certified Coding Specialist (CCS) is considered one of the highest levels of coding credentials. Once you have this credential, you will find that employers are much more likely to hire someone with a CCS credential before other applicants without the CCS.

What is required of the Student?

Upon the Students successful completion of the CNA course thru the High School, they will be eligible to receive credit for the first of four medical coding modules. NCSI students are required to: complete all course work, remotely online on their own, under the direction of a course instructor, and are required to provide their own computers.

How long does it take?

48 Weeks **without** the CNA class, or 36 Weeks **with** the CNA class.





What is the cost to the Student? (Scholarship, Tuition & Books Expense)?

✓ Medical Coder Program Expense Summary

- Sites for funding: Arkansas Rural Endowment Fund at www.aref.org
- *Applicable Scholarships for the Medical Coding Program (Module 1) will be awarded to those students successful completing the CNA Course thru the Local High School. This Tuition Scholarship of \$1,550.00 will be applied to NCSI Medical Coding School in the name of the recipient to be applied to the first of a four-part module course. Modules 2, 3 & 4 are not included as a part of this scholarship. Scholarships are valid for a period of 12 months from the date awarded. Scholarships may not be reassigned or applied to any other student than the original awardee.*

CNA Graduates	
Tuition Scholarship	\$1,550.00
CNA course book cost savings value	<u>\$ 300.00</u>
Total Value	\$1,850.00
Total 36 week cost	<u>\$6,150.00</u>

Standard Costs	
Total Tuition for all 4 modules - 48 week	\$6,200.00
Total estimated Book cost for all 4 modules	<u>\$1,800.00</u>
Total 48 week cost	<u>\$8,000.00</u>

What courses will I be taking?

N101 – Medical Terminology & Anatomy for Coders: This course integrates expanded anatomy, physiology, and pharmacology coverage with medical terminology specifically tailored to ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS guidelines. Students will learn root words prefixes, suffixes and combining forms used in medical terminology.

N105 – Pathophysiology for Coders: This course is an introduction to human disease processes and treatment. Students will become familiar with common diseases by understanding the etiology (cause), signs and symptoms, diagnostic criteria, tests and procedures, associated complications and treatment regimens including surgical procedures and/or medications.

N110 – Pharmacology for Coders: This course is an introduction to drug classification and adverse drug reactions and the implications of diagnostic test results. Students will become familiar with drug treatments for various diseases.

H120A, H120B, H120C – Health Information Documentation, Data Quality & Delivery Systems, Compliance and Ethics: This course provides an overview of health record content and documentation, coding, regulatory, fraud surveillance, information protection, data quality, compliance and coding ethics.

I200 – Spreadsheets: Microsoft Office Excel 2013. This course introduces the students to Microsoft Excel and the formatting of cells, formulas and functions as well as managing the workbook. Also examined are adding charts and analyzing data.





I210 – Computers in Healthcare: This course provides an overview of computerized health information systems, computer-based patient records including architecture and design, evaluation and acquisition, data integrity, security and privacy concepts, and applications in health information management. Also examined are topics of data dictionaries, data modeling, data warehousing, screen design, personal health records and micrographics, electronic or imaging technology for data/record storage and retrieval.

C215 – Healthcare Reimbursement Methodology: This course will introduce the student to a multitude of reimbursement systems including but not limited to Ambulatory Patient Classification (APC), Diagnosis Related Groups (DRG), Medicare Severity Diagnosis Related Groups (MS-DRG), Resource Utilization Groups (RUG), and other Prospective Payment Systems (PPS) to include inpatient and outpatient reimbursement. Revenue cycle management processes including claims, advanced beneficiary notice (ABN), explanation of benefits (EOB), electronic data interchange (EDI) as well as case mix index (CDI), chargemaster maintenance and the denial appeals process are reviewed and discussed. Coding quality and compliance strategies and plans are reviewed.

C220 – Basic ICD-10-CM/PCS Coding: This course introduces the student to the conventions, coding principles and Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) official (inpatient) coding guidelines using the ICD-10-CM/PCS coding system. Students will be required to assign ICD-10-CM/PCS codes to diagnosis/procedure using the ICD-10-CM/PCS coding manuals and web-based assignments assisting in the development of basic skills needed for accurate coding for reimbursement and statistical purposes.

C230 – Basic CPT/HCPCS Coding: This course introduces the student to the theory, structure and process of coding procedures using the Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) and Healthcare Common Procedural Coding System (HCPCS). CPT coding guidelines, principles and conventions along with ambulatory services coding related to facility and professional services will be examined in detail.

C240 – Inpatient Procedural Coding: This course focuses on the learning and mastering of the process of building codes in ICD-10-PCS. Students will learn root operations, surgical approaches, and coding of inpatient procedures using ICD procedural coding system.

C250 – Coding Workout: This course reinforces learned coding skills by the coding of hospital inpatient and outpatient scenarios which combines both diagnostic coding and procedural coding, payer specific coding, Medicare/Medicaid patients using specific coding guidelines, principles and conventions.

V260 – Coding Virtual PPE: This course provides students with approximately 50-60 hours of virtual coding as a remote coder. The practicum will include the coding of 100 hospital inpatient and outpatient electronic health records utilizing 3M encoder. Students will be provided with a mentor who will guide them through the coding process and provide feedback on coding activity.

P270 – CCS Prep Review Class: This course will prepare students for the CCS exam which includes multiple mock exams as well as a resource/reference list covering all domains included in the CCS Exam.

