



## Want to learn more about the kinds of HIM jobs available in healthcare?

Visit the AHIMA career map at [hicareers.com/careermap](http://hicareers.com/careermap) to see the full spectrum of employment opportunities in the dynamic HIM profession.

## Exciting Futures Belong to HIM Students

### Former student testimonials

*"I chose HIM as a career because the work that I do is both exciting and challenging. I have been able to meet different people from all walks of life and it has really opened up many other opportunities that I didn't think were possible...Being in the HIM program, I learned how to think both analytically and professionally. In addition, I learned a great deal about leadership. I consider these skills to be my core strengths that I often rely on as I have progressed through my career."*

*Kathleen Patton, RHIA  
Project Associate  
Deloitte Consulting, LLC*

*University of Washington-  
2006 graduate  
Health Informatics & Health  
Information Management Program*

*"The HIM profession has a plethora of opportunities. There are so many different exciting and challenging avenues to choose from. It is a wonderful profession to be a part of, especially during this time of change in the healthcare world."*

*Donna Carl, MLA, RHIA  
Operations Manager  
Seton Medical Center*

*Texas State University-  
1990 graduate  
Health Information Management  
Program*

## What is HIM?

If you are considering a career in healthcare, the Health Information Management (HIM) profession is a fast-growing, versatile field that may interest you. Professionals in this field work across a vast array of roles from analytical roles to project management roles to healthcare system management and governance roles. In an HIM educational program, you will acquire marketable skills and knowledge to:

- Ensure the accuracy, usefulness, integrity and protection of patient health information throughout a healthcare organization
- Apply leadership skills toward the implementation of electronic health information systems
- Assess and strategically plan for healthcare data and information needs to both manage and improve the quality of clinical and business operations
- Manage many new and exciting operational and technology-related projects related to health information management

## Why should you consider a HIM career?

The labor outlook for an HIM career is highly positive. There is an increasing need for credentialed HIM professionals due to the rapid and on-going advances in health information technology and constantly evolving trends in health care delivery.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics in its Health Data Management Report suggests the number of available health information management jobs will increase from about 186,300 in 2012 to an estimated 227,500 in 2022. They further cite this 22% growth rate is “much faster than average.”

## What types of job roles are there in HIM?

Similar to work responsibilities, job roles within HIM are wide and varied. Here are a few examples:

- Director and manager of HIM
- Electronic health record trainer
- Healthcare data analyst/manager
- Clinical coding/billing analyst/manager
- Personal health record/consumer advocate manager/director
- Electronic health record implementation analyst/coordinator/project manager
- Clinical documentation improvement specialist
- Privacy and security coordinator/manager/officer

## Where do HIM Professionals Work?

HIM professionals primarily serve the healthcare industry in departments where patient data or health information is collected and stored. Some examples include: Acute care hospitals; Physician offices and clinics, Long-term care facilities (nursing homes) health information software companies and health information consulting firms.

- Acute care hospitals
- Physician offices and clinics
- Outpatient surgery centers
- Long-term care facilities (nursing homes)
- Health information software companies
- Health insurance companies
- Health information consulting firms
- Colleges and universities (virtual and on-campus)
- Pharmaceutical companies
- Research institutes and foundations

## What are the educational training requirements for HIM?

Training in HIM does not require previous healthcare experience. You can enter the HIM field with other transferrable skills and knowledge, such as clinical, Information Technology, business or other background. You can then build on those existing skills and knowledge in HIM. Visit [cahiim.org](http://cahiim.org), for a list of CAHIIM-accredited programs.

## What AHIMA professional credentials are available in the HIM field?

AHIMA has a number of credentials and certifications that can be attained through nationally-recognized, competency-based testing. Once attained, the HIM professional will continue to maintain his/her credentials and certifications through on-going continuing education.

**For more information, see:**  
**[ahima.org/certification/whycertify](http://ahima.org/certification/whycertify)**