

*Medical Transcription Certificate Program*



**“THIS WORK CAN BE DONE ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD. WE HAVE SOME MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTIONISTS ON OUR STAFF THAT LIVE OUT OF STATE AND ALSO OUTSOURCE TO COMPANIES WHICH HAVE THEIR STAFF WORKING FROM HOME ACROSS THE COUNTRY.”**

***Virginia Lucarelli, manager of medical transcription/health information at Pinnacle Health Systems***

Careers in the healthcare field are hot these days, but not everyone who has fervor for all things medical vie for daily interactions with patients. A career in the medical transcription field might just be what the doctor ordered.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor and Statistics, the employment of medical transcriptionists – which is the act of translating medical information from oral to written form -- is projected to grow 14 percent from 2006 to 2016, faster than the average for all occupations.

“With the development of the electronic medical record, there is a need for talented medical transcriptionists (MTs),” says Virginia Lucarelli, manager of medical transcription/health information at Pinnacle Health Systems. “There is a shortage of MTs and we anticipate a continued shortage as those currently performing this job mature and look toward retirement,” Lucarelli adds.

COLLEGE AND COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT

*Medical Transcription  
Certificate Program*

**START THE PROCESS**

*Are you ready to take that  
first step into a rewarding  
career in the medical field?*

*If you are interested in  
this program or have questions,  
contact Noncredit Healthcare  
Education at (717) 221-1352  
or email [medt@hacc.edu](mailto:medt@hacc.edu).*



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Keyboarding and transcription should not be confused. “We are not just keyboarders. As medical transcriptionists, our skills are not just limited to keyboarding and typing,” says Carol Croft, CMT, AHDI-F, former president of the Pennsylvania Association for Healthcare Documentation Integrity. “We are a patient-care team advocate and are masters of not only technology terms, but of critical-thinking skills. An experienced, acute care transcriptionist would have the terminology of a third-year medical student.”

Medical transcriptionists are detail-oriented, highly organized self starters with an insatiable interest in medicine and healthcare. They possess proficient keyboarding and computer skills, have an excellent foundation of the English language and top-notch proofreading. The profession also appeals to individuals who are seeking a career change, young professionals looking to enter the healthcare field and/or people who are seeking flexible work-at-home opportunities, including retired and active nurses, spouses of military personnel, stay-at-home moms and/or dads, Lucarelli and Croft add.

Does the field of medical transcription seem right for you? Look no further than HACC, the region’s premier leader in educational and workforce development. HACC can help individuals prepare for a rewarding career in the healthcare industry right in their own backyard. HACC’s Medical Transcriptionist Certificate program, taught by experienced professionals already working in the field, fosters basic medical transcription skills, and helps prepare students to take a certification exam in the field of medical transcription in as little as 12- to 18 months.

**STATE OF THE ART PROGRAMS  
AND OPPORTUNITIES**

“We provide employability skills and quality customized training to the citizens of Central Pennsylvania in a timely and economical manner,” says the dean of HACC’s Workforce and Economic Development, Public Safety and Community Education division.

HACC offers affordable and easily accessible classes for individuals who are interested in the field of medical transcription at the Harrisburg, Lancaster, Gettysburg and Lebanon campuses, along with courses online via the Virtual Campus.

**FUTURE PROSPECTS**

Establishing meaningful and long-lasting professional connections in any industry is important, and it is not uncommon for HACC students to find jobs before they finish a program. This in-demand vocation offers opportunities and flexible hours in a range of workplaces, including many work-from-home opportunities. In 2006, 41 percent of medical transcriptionists worked for hospitals and another 29 percent worked for physician’s offices. Others worked for business support services, medical and diagnostic laboratories, outpatient care centers and offices for physical, occupational and speech therapy and audiology.