

1. Program overview

The AAS-HIM Program was initially accredited by CAHIIM in 1998 and holds current accreditation. CAHIIM requires an Annual Program Assessment Report (APAR) and every 10 years a detailed program self-assessment. The AAS-HIM program was awarded re-accreditation on May 18, 2022 the next Comprehensive Program Review for Continuing Accreditation will be in 2029-2030.

In 2018, CAHIIM announced new curriculum competencies. The change reflected a major revision of the student learning outcomes for programs. The HIM Program made major curriculum changes to comply with the new requirements prior to the Comprehensive Program Review for Continuing Accreditation.

The two certificates compliment the requirements for the AAS-HIM Program. The courses offered in the certificates are also required courses for the AAS-HIM Program and will transfer over to the AAS-HIM degree. An additional Healthcare Information Technology Occupational Endorsement is offered which has program-learning outcomes but does not require an annual assessment plan and is not included in this report.

Associate of Applied Science – Health Information Management

The AAS-HIM Program provides a course of study, using primarily e-Learning methodology that prepares entry-level health information professionals. Graduates are eligible to write the national examination; successful completion of the examination leads to the professional credential of Registered Health Information Technician (RHIT).

Health Information Management Coding Specialist Certificate

An area of HIM specifically focused on coding/classification systems at both the inpatient and outpatient level. The certificate will allow students to obtain entry-level skills in healthcare coding and the opportunity to continue to earn an Associate of Applied Science degree in Health Information Management. National credentialing exams are available at both the entry and advanced level.

Healthcare Privacy and Security Certificate

The Healthcare Privacy and Security Certificate prepares students for employment in data access, disclosure and healthcare informatics. Students who complete this program are prepared to work in a variety of employment settings, particularly in healthcare related facilities. The certificate contains coursework that will apply toward the Associate of Applied Science degree in Health Information Management.

2. Program level learning outcomes (PLOs)

Associate of Applied Science – Health Information Management

1. Apply knowledge of data structure, content, and information governance (Domain I).
2. Demonstrate knowledge of information protection: access, use, disclosure, privacy, and security (Domain II).
3. Utilize and organize information pertaining to informatics, analytics, and data use (Domain III).
4. Describe, evaluate, and apply revenue cycle functions and processes. (Domain IV).
5. Identify health care laws and regulations (Domain V).
6. Demonstrate organizational management, and leadership skills (Domain VI).

Health Information Management Coding Specialist Certificate

1. Describe, evaluate, and apply revenue cycle functions and processes. (Domain IV).

Healthcare Privacy and Security Certificate

1. Demonstrate knowledge of information protection: access, use, disclosure, privacy, and security (Domain II).

3. How the data is collected on the program learning outcomes (rubrics, portfolios, etc.)

Associate of Applied Science – Health Information Management

Data will be collected from the student's tests scores from the National Registered Health Information Technician (RHIT) certification test. The American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) RHIT exam covers six domains. The domain scores of each test taker will be compared with the national passing score for each domain to determine the need for program improvement in content area. The passing score for each domain is 60% on the scored scale. In order to pass the exam students must get 300 out of 400 points, which is a 75% passing score. Due to a low number of student's that sit for the exam we will monitor domain scores over a 5-year period for any low score trends within each domain. Program improvements will also include any accreditation changes, which can include program and student learning outcomes.

Health Information Management Coding Specialist Certificate

Data will be collected from the student's tests scores from the National Registered Health Information Technician (RHIT) certification test in Domain IV, (describe, evaluate, and apply revenue cycle functions and processes). The passing score for this domain is 60% on the scored scale. This domain will be compared with the national passing score to determine the need for program improvement. Due to a low number of student's that sit for the exam, we will monitor domain scores over a 5-year period.

Data will also be collected from the Certified Coding Special (CCS) Exam Preparation course. Students take a mock exam prior to the CCS exam in the CCS Exam Preparation (HIM 282) course. The scores from the mock exam will be used with the scores from the RHIT exam to determine the need for program improvement. The passing score for the mock exam is 60%. Due to a low number of student's that sit for the exam, we will monitor scores over a 5-year period.

Healthcare Privacy and Security Certificate

Data will be collected from the student's tests scores from the National Registered Health Information Technician (RHIT) certification test in Domain II, (demonstrate knowledge of information protection: access, use, disclosure, privacy, and security). The passing score for this domain is 60% on the scored scale. This domain will be compared with the national passing score to determine the need for program improvement. Due to a low number of student's that sit for the exam, we will monitor domain scores over a 5-year period.

4. The data collected on the PLOs during the previous academic year (assessment period)

RHIT National Exam Scores for AY 21/22

	Student 1	Student 2	Student 3	Student 4	Student 5
Student Graduation Date:	05/2021	12/2021	12/2021	05/2022	Unsure of Student
Student Exam Date:	08/2021	01/2022	01/2022	04/2022	Unsure of Student
Domain 1: Data content, structure, and Information Governance	85%	67%	67%	68%	65%
National Score	62%				
Domain 2: Access, Disclosure, Privacy and Security	72%	75%	75%	78%	78%
National Score	68%				
Domain 3: Data Analytics and Use	86%	77%	77%	67%	62%
National Score	67%				
Domain 4: Revenue Cycle Management	68%	66%	66%	55%	67%
National Score	62%				
Domain 5: Compliance	82%	71%	71%	76%	72%
National Score	67%				
Domain 6: Leadership	78%	75%	75%	94%	61%
National Score	63%				
Scale Score	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass

*Passing score is 60% on the scaled score model with some test questions having a higher value than other do. The yellow highlights indicates a score falling below the 60% threshold for passing. Student 2 and student 3 scores are combined. When more than one student takes the exam in a quarter the student scores are combined and averaged together. AHIMA does not provide individual scores. Nor does AHIMA provide the name of the student taking the exam.

Most of the HIM students will inform me when they take the exam and this is how I keep track of the individual student information. Student number 5 is unknown.

HIM 282 CCS Exam Prep Exam 2 Scores

	Student 1	Student 2	Student 3	Student 4	Student 5	Student 6
Student Graduation Date:	12/2021	12/2021	12/2021	05/2022	05/2022	05/2022
Student Exam Date:	12/2021	10/2021	11/2021	04/2022	03/2022	08/2022
Domain 1: Coding Knowledge and Skills	79%	43%	93%	79%	79%	50%
Domain 2: Coding Documentation	83%	67%	100%	67%	83%	50%
Domain 3: Provider Queries	55%	55%	100%	73%	100%	45%
Domain 4: Regulatory Compliance	69%	69%	85%	85%	85%	38%
Case Studies: Coding Scenarios	93%	48%	70%	74%	78%	52%
Scale Score	Pass	Fail	Pass	Pass	Pass	Fail

5. An evaluation/analysis of the data collected

RHIT National Exam Results 2015-2022

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
7 Exams	5 Exams	8 Exams	2 Exams	1 Exam	1 Exam	5 Exams	4 Exams
71% passed	80% passed	100% passed	100% passed	100% passed	100% passed	80% passed	100% passed

Over the last 8 years we have met our goal of at least 85% of students that sit for the national exam will pass. In reviewing the specific domains of the RHIT National exam Domain IV seems to be the domain that students are scoring the lowest. The table below shows the scores of domain IV for AY 20/21 and AY 21/22

RHIT Domain IV Results AY 20/21

	Student 1	Student 2	Student 3	Student 4
Domain IV: Revenue Cycle Management	53%	66%	66%	48%
National Score	62%			

*Student 1 has a combined percentage with a student in AY 19/20 and student 2 and 3 are combined percentages.

RHIT Domain IV Results AY 21/22

	Student 1	Student 2	Student 3	Student 4	Student 5
Domain IV: Revenue Cycle Management	68%	66%	66%	55%	67%
National Score	62%				

*Student 2 and 3 are combined percentages.

Domain IV is monitored for both the AAS-HIM Program and the Coding Specialist Certificate. Three out of nine student in the last two academic years has scored low in this domain. Keeping in mind that some of the student scores are combined scores.

RHIT Domain II Results AY 20/21

	Student 1	Student 2	Student 3	Student 4
Domain II: Access, disclosure, privacy and security	72%	64%	64%	72%
National Score	68%			

*Student 1 has a combined percentage with a student in AY 19/20 and student 2 and 3 are combined percentages.

RHIT Domain II Results AY 21/22

	Student 1	Student 2	Student 3	Student 4	Student 5
Domain II: Access, disclosure, privacy and security	72%	75%	75%	78%	78%
National Score	68%				

*Student 2 and 3 are combined percentages.

Domain II is being monitored for the Healthcare Privacy and Security Certificate. For the last two academic years, students are scoring well in this domain.

6. Conclusion and plans for program improvement

Associate of Applied Science – Health Information Management

The AAS-HIM Program is meeting our goal of an 85% student pass rate on the RHIT National exam. Looking at the scores from 2015-2022, our average pass rate is 91%. We will continue to monitor the scores on the RHIT exam and advocate for the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) to provide student names and individual scores for the exam. Including this information will help in evaluating needs for improvement within the HIM Program.

In reviewing the specific domains for the RHIT exam, it looks like the most challenging domain is domain IV, revenue cycle. The most challenging topics in this domain are coding and understanding the payment classification systems. The program will consider new ways to help students retain information in this subject area. We might even explore making HIM 261 Revenue and Financial Management for Healthcare two courses instead of one. This would help

with the large volume of content that students are required to learn in this course.

Health Information Management Coding Specialist Certificate

The national pass rate for the Certified Coding Specialist (CCS) Exam is 55%. Four students out of six did poorly on the CCS Exam prep exam 2 scores, which is a 66.67% pass rate and higher than the national rate of 55%. This is a pretest for students. It helps them know the areas they need to most study before taking the CCS National exam.

Student 2 indicated that the scores on this test were better than her previous scores on practice tests. She indicated that she struggled with assigning the secondary diagnosis codes to the case scenarios. The program will look at implementing more focus on assigning primary and secondary diagnosis codes to case scenarios. This student did feel that practice with case studies are the best way to learn coding.

Student 6 struggles with time management and setting aside time for studies. I do not think these exam results are the students best efforts.

Domain 3, provider queries seems to be the area of struggle on the CCS Exam prep 2 scores. With student 1, 2 and 6 scoring low. The program will monitor these scores for the next academic year to see if this is still an area that students are struggling.

Healthcare Privacy and Security Certificate

Historically students enrolled in this certificate are also enrolled in the AAS-HIM program. Currently the best source for evaluating program outcomes for this certificate is domain II of the RHIT National Exam. In the last two academic years, students have done well in this domain. The program will continue to monitor for future opportunities for improvement.

The program may consider including this certificate as an emphasis in the AAS-HIM Program and add a Certified Healthcare Privacy Security (CHPS) preparation course. Adding a preparation course would give a more accurate reflection of student and program outcomes.

¹ PLOs describe what we want our students to know or have learned by the time they finish the program

² Approved by Faculty Senate April 2022