



## Medical Coding Specialist Program Description

### Industry Description

The Medical Coding Specialist is a diploma program designed to provide entry-level personnel to perform abstracting and coding of medical records. Graduates of this program will:

1. Analyze medical record documentation in order to assign diagnostic and procedures codes.
2. Provide important information for the health care reimbursement process.
3. Assist in medical research and statistics.

Medical Coding Specialists analyze health record documentation in order to assign and/or ensure that valid codes are applied to medical diagnoses and procedures to facilitate reimbursement, analysis of patient outcomes and statistics. The coding specialist must have a thorough understanding of the content of the health record in order to be able to locate information to support or provide specificity for coding. Therefore, coding specialists receive training in the anatomy and physiology of the human body and disease processes in order to understand the etiology, pathology, symptoms, signs, diagnostic studies, treatment modalities, and prognosis of diseases and procedures to be coded.

The Medical Coding Specialist Diploma can prepare students to sit for the national certification examination to become a [Certified Coding Associate](#) (CCA).

### Program Description

The Medical Coding Specialist Program at Anoka Technical College prepares students to assume an entry level position as a medical coder in an acute care hospital, clinic or physician's office health care setting. Specifically, program outcomes are designed to assure that graduates of the program will be prepared to demonstrate:

- essential professional and technical knowledge, skills and competencies fundamental to the medical coding profession;
- effective written and oral communication skills;
- skills in using resources and technology;
- problem solving, team work and critical thinking skills.

For course sequence plans, please go to the website under Academic Program Plans and click Medical Coding Specialist, or contact the program advisor.

This information is available in alternative formats by calling (763) 576-4700. TTY users can call Minnesota Relay at (800) 627-3529. Anoka Technical College • (763) 576-4700 • 1355 West Highway 10, Anoka, MN 55303 • A member of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System • Anoka Technical College is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer and educator.



**Medical Coding Specialist  
Diploma**

**42 Credits**

**General Education**

**10 Credits**

COMP1000	Introduction to Computers	3
ENGL1105	Composition I	4
SPCH1200	Interpersonal Communications	3

**Technical Education**

**32 Credits**

HLTH1000	Disease Conditions	2
HLTH1005	Anatomy and Physiology	4
HLTH1040	Medical Terminology	2
ADSC1010	Keyboarding I	3
ADSC1040	Applied Medical Terminology	2
ADSC1171	Microsoft Excel	2
ADSC1221	Intro to Health Information Mgt	3
ADSC1231	ICD-9-CM Coding	3
ADSC1240	Coding and Reimbursement for Physician's Services	3
ADSC1244	Legal & Ethical Aspects in HealthCare	2
ADSC1249	Advanced Coding and Reimbursement	2
ADSC1252	Professional Practice for Coding Specialist	3
NURS1140	Pharmacology I	1

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