



## Medical Coding Specialist Program Requirements

### Industry Description

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.

### Industry Prerequisite

Minnesota Law requires that any person who provides services that involve direct contact with patients and residents at a health care facility licensed by the [Minnesota Department of Health](#) have a background study conducted by the state. An individual who is disqualified from having direct contact with patients as a result of the background study, and whose disqualification is not set aside by the Commissioner of Health, will not be permitted to participate in a clinical placement in a Minnesota licensed health care facility. The College will withdraw any student who is disqualified by the Minnesota Department of Health. The student is responsible for requesting the Commissioner to reconsider the disqualification.

### Wages /Outlook/Advancement

Wage information is available from the Minnesota Department of Education and the [Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development](#)

### 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.



**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

\* The prerequisite to this course is COMP 0100 "Basic Computer Keyboarding"