

**The Registered Health Information Technician (RHIT) Associate in Science program emphasizes skills in health data collection, quality, monitoring, and adhering to legal and regulatory standards.**

*These technicians serve as medical coders, clinical data specialists, data quality managers, and information security officers. They hold supervisor, manager, and director positions in health care settings across the continuum of the health care industry.*

*Courses include design and implementation of systems for the collection of complete and accurate health records on each patient and the processing, storage, retrieval, security and release of health information and statistics in a timely manner for appropriate uses.*

*Students are instructed in regulatory compliance, performance improvement, quality assurance, utilization review, risk management, and departmental management.*

*The program consists of 70 semester hours of general education and health information technology core courses.*

*The HIT program is accredited through the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM). Students are eligible to sit for the national certification credentialing exam to become Registered Health Information Technicians (RHIT) after completion of the program or during their last semester with approval from the director for early testing. The RHIT exam is a national certification offered through the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA).*

**For additional information check our website at [SJRstate.edu](http://SJRstate.edu) under Workforce Education or call 904-808-7465.**

### PROGRAM MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Health Information Technology program is to improve the health care delivery system through education and training to make sure students are competent in the management of health information systems, healthcare reimbursement, clinical coding, and legal aspects of healthcare to provide service to the HIM industry. It provides graduates with the knowledge and skills necessary to become self-directed learners who possess critical thinking skills, as well as problem-solving, communication, and interpersonal skills. The program is designed to prepare graduates to work as Registered Health Information Technicians and manage health-related information in a variety of settings.

The Health Information Technology courses are offered via distance education (online). Students are required to participate in a 64 hour internship at a healthcare facility during their final semester in the program. The internship must be approved by the Health Information Technology Director and coordinated by the student. A student must earn a grade of "C" or above in all courses required in the program. **The program is a full-time program and students must follow the Health Information Technology program rotation.**

**(Note that students who are only taking prerequisites for admission into the program and who are not pursuing other degree programs are not considered regular, admitted students and are therefore not eligible for either federal or state forms of financial aid).**

Applicants may apply:  
April 1 - May 15 for Fall enrollment

### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The Health Information Technology program is a limited access program.

To apply for admission to the Health Information Technology program, a student must have completed all of the following:

1. Application to SJR State;
2. Application to the Health Information Technology program;
3. Achieved satisfactory scores on college placement tests or have completed all college preparatory courses;
4. Complete the seven prerequisite courses prior to the application period:

	ENC	1101	Composition I
	BSC	2085 & 2085L	Human Anatomy and Physiology I and Lab
	BSC	2086 & 2086L	Human Anatomy and Physiology II and Lab
	CGS	1100	Microcomputer Applications
	HSC	1531	Medical Terminology
*			General Education Mathematics
+	HIM	2432	Concepts of Disease

\* Refer to A.A. degree general education requirements.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS (POST DEGREE WITH LICENSURE/CERTIFICATION)

To apply for admission to the Health Information Technology (post degree) a student must have completed all of the following:

1. Application to SJR State;
2. Application to the Health Information Technology (post degree);
3. Provide an official transcript with an earned degree and one of the following licensure/certifications: CCS, CCA, CCS-P, RHIT, RHIA;
4. New applicants will be considered after all current Health Information Technology seats are filled.

**Applicants are considered on a space available basis. Priority will be given based on the date admission requirements have been completed.**

## STUDENT SELECTION

Student selection is objective and based on the following point system: **(MAXIMUM POSSIBLE POINTS = 164)**

1. **92 POSSIBLE POINTS** – Completion of general education and Health Information Technology-related courses. Total of 23 credit hours are available for point consideration. The method of point calculation for this category is based on the following formula:  
 Letter grade value X class credit hours = points assigned  
 A = 4 points                      B = 3 points                      C = 2 points  
 Ex. Student achieves a letter grade of “C” in HSC 1000 (3 cr. hrs.)  
 A “C” grade = 2 points X 3 cr. hr. class = 6 points
2. **15 POINTS AWARDED** – Residence in Clay, Putnam, or St. Johns counties, Florida (Not required)
3. **15 POINTS AWARDED** – Current licensure/credential in a medical profession
4. **20 POSSIBLE POINTS AWARDED** – 5 points will be awarded if applicant has a college-level certificate; 10 points will be awarded if applicant has an A.A./A.S. degree; 15 points will be awarded if applicant has a BA/BS degree; and 20 points will be awarded if applicant has a MA/MS degree
5. **16 POSSIBLE POINTS AWARDED** – 2 points will be awarded for each prerequisite course taken at St. Johns River State College
6. **6 POSSIBLE POINTS AWARDED** – Completion of HSC 1004 –Professions of Caring course. 6 points awarded for an “A” in the course, 4 points awarded for a “B” in the course, and 2 points will be awarded for a “C” in the course

## POST ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Following acceptance into the Health Information Technology program, students must complete/attend the following:

1. All students are required to sign a consent and waiver to perform a criminal and professional background check and drug screen. Failure to provide consent will render the applicant ineligible for admission to the program. Admission to the program is conditional upon the results of the criminal and professional background check and drug screen. Additional random and scheduled drug screening may be required at any time during the program.
2. Have a physical examination verifying that the student is free of communicable diseases; exam must include TB screening; however, Hepatitis B vaccination and Flu shot are optional
3. All students are required to sign a confidentiality statement which is kept on file in the Health Information Technology department.
4. Attend a Health Information Technology student orientation on the specified date

**Note: Failure to comply with these requirements may result in administrative withdrawal from the Health Information Technology program.**

## GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES

BSC	2085	Human Anatomy and Physiology I.....	3
BSC	2085L	Human Anatomy and Physiology I Lab .....	1
ENC	1101	Composition I.....	3
+*	___	General Education Mathematics.....	3
+*	___	General Education Humanities.....	3
*	___	General Education Social Science.....	3

## HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY RELATED COURSES

+	BSC	2086	Human Anatomy and Physiology II.....	3
+	BSC	2086L	Human Anatomy and Physiology II Lab .....	1
	CGS	1100	Microcomputer Applications Software.....	3
	HSC	1000	Introduction to Healthcare Delivery System .....	3
	HSC	1531	Medical Terminology.....	3
	HIM	1000	Introduction to Health Information Management .....	3
+	HIM	2432	Concepts of Disease .....	3

**DEGREE SPECIFIC COURSES**

+	HIM	1110	Standard Healthcare Practices.....	3
+	HIM	1211C	Health Information Systems.....	3
+	HIM	1282C	Basic ICD Diagnostic Coding.....	3
+	HIM	1442	Pharmacology for Health Professionals.....	2
+	HIM	2012	Health Care Law.....	3
+	HIM	2214	Healthcare Statistics & Research.....	3
+	HIM	2255C	CPT Coding.....	3
+	HIM	2512	Supervision, Organization, and Management.....	3
+	HIM	2723C	ICD Procedure Coding.....	3
+	HIM	2729C	Advanced Coding and Healthcare Reimbursement.....	3
+	HIM	2800	Professional Practice Experience I.....	3
+	HIM	2820	Professional Practice Experience II.....	3

**REQUIRED TOTAL CREDIT HOURS**

**70**

**NOTE: Professional Practice Experience classes require travel and day/evening sessions.**

+Prerequisite courses required. See course descriptions in catalog.

\* Refer to A.A. degree general education requirements.

NOTE: Students who complete the following courses will be eligible to attain the Medical Information/Coder Certificate (4160): BSC 2085, BSC 2085L, BSC 2086, BSC 2086L, CGS 1100, HSC 1531, HIM 1000, HIM 2432, HIM 1282C, HIM 1442, HIM 2723C, HIM 2255C, HIM 2729C, HIM 2800.

Accreditation: The Health Information Technology associate degree program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM).

