

PROGRAM APPROVAL APPLICATION
NEW or SUBSTANTIAL CHANGE or LOCALLY APPROVED

Fill In Form

Health Data Analyst

Proposed Program Title

Fall 2017

Projected Program Start Date

East Los Angeles College
 College

Los Angeles Community College District
 District

Contact Information

Christopher Whiteside
 Voting Member

Dean Workforce Education
 Title

(323) 265-8640
 Phone Number

whitescj@elac.edu
 Email

Goal(s) of Program (Check all that apply):

Career Technical Education (CTE) Transfer Other

Type of Program (Check all that apply):

Certificate of Achievement 12-17 (or 17-27 quarter) units Certificate of Achievement 18+ semester (or 27+ quarter) units
 Associate of Science Degree Associate of Arts Degree

Reason for Approval Request (Check One):

New Program Substantial Change Locally Approved

Program Information

1223.00 Recommended [Taxonomy of Program \(TOP\) Code](#)
 - Units for Major-Degree
 - Total Units for Degree
 18 Required Units-Certificate

Written Form

1. Insert the description of the program, as it will appear in the catalog.

Healthcare data analysts play an essential role in the focus on performance improvement and the transformation of raw data into meaningful analytics used in the healthcare industry. This program will prepare professionals with skills to gather data, validate methods of acquisition, reformat, evaluate, and interpret healthcare data in preparation for analysis and reporting.

Upon completion of the program who are eligible may sit for the Certified Health Data Analyst (CHDA) or Certified Documentation Improvement Practitioner (CDIP) examination offered by the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA). *NOTE: In order to be admitted into the Health Data Analysts Certificate Program, students must meet the eligibility requirements of an Associate's Degree or higher (Health-related).*

2. Provide a brief rationale for the program.

As technology changes the way patient data is captured through the use of the electronic health record (EHR), knowledge to acquire, manage, analyze, interpret, and transform data accurately, consistently, and timely is essential

to the quality improvement of patient care and research in healthcare. Real advances depend on better ways to exploit the disconnected puddles and lakes of existing data (e.g., health records, clinical trial data, actuarial information) as well as better ways to generate, capture, analyze and make use of the streams of new kinds of data (genomics, sensor readings, population and disease tracking) presently flooding healthcare.

With the introduction of what most call “Big Data”, the national organization (AHIMA) and its accrediting body Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management (CAHIIM), has identified health/clinical data analysts as an occupation with a bright outlook. ELAC’s HIT Program advisory board members and faculty strongly support the need for highly qualified health data analysts in the Los Angeles County region, as well as employment sites such as Indeed.com, Monsters.com, and Linked In. As of December 31, 2014, AHIMA Certification Activities document listed only 193 CHDAs and 757 CDIPs nationwide.

3. Summarize the Labor Market Information (LMI) and employment outlook (including citation for the source of the data) for students exiting the program.

According to Cal Pass Plus Launch Board data (<https://www.calpassplus.org/LaunchBoard/Home.aspx>), in 2009 there were 4,595 Medical Records/Health Information Technician professionals in the HIM field. Data from 2014 showed an increase to 5,196 positions adding an additional 601 positions in the Los Angeles County region. In the Orange County region, a total of 1,409 professionals were listed increasing 110 positions in the area to 1,519. The difference between the LA County and Orange County regions signify a difference of 491 more positions in LA County.

Graduate Data from Cal Pass Plus Launch Board
of Medical Records and Health Information Technicians

County	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	Total
Los Angeles	5	8	15	10	20	58
Orange	8	11	18	24	11	72
ELAC	11	13	18	13	24	79

Numbers for ELAC were provided by its Office of Institutional Effectiveness (OIE) noting a greater number of graduates from the HIT Associate degree program. Even with these numbers, there remains a great need to support the community healthcare organizations by offering more programs and opportunities in the field of health information management.

According to O*NET, (<http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/15-2041.02>) Clinical Data Managers (Health Data Analyst) are an emerging occupation in a high growth industry with a projected growth of 2012-2022 of 22% or higher. The California Employment Development Department list Clinical Data Specialist as one of the growing positions within the Medical records and Health Information Technician profession in California. EDD suggest in California, an average of 340 new job openings per year is expected for this field, plus an additional 440 job openings due to the net replacement needs (<http://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov>).

The data revolution will certainly increase opportunities for HIM professionals who are willing to think of creative ways to use the data to improve their work and the work of their facility, Bryant says. New and emerging roles include—but aren't limited to—terminology analyst, data reporting analyst, and clinical informatics reporting analyst. "All of these require the expertise to acquire, manage, and manipulate the data and interpret it for others," Bryant says. (**Article citation:** Eramo, Lisa A. "Healthcare's Data Revolution: How Data is Changing the Industry and Reshaping HIM's Roles." *Journal of AHIMA* 84, no.9 (Sept 2013): 26-32.) The professional organization (AHIMA) is currently working with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and other entities to differentiate the roles and review job descriptions in employment data in the HIM field.

4. List similar programs at other colleges in the Los Angeles and Orange County Region, which may be adversely impacted. (There is space for 10 listings, if you need more, please contact laocrc@sccollege.edu)

College	Program	Who You Contacted	Outcome of Contact
Cypress College	Health Information Technology AS Degree/Cert.	Rebecca Gomez, MS, MA, RHIA	Contacted program director twice – awaiting response.
Glendale Community College	Health Information Technology Coding Certificate	Sonali M. Perera, MBA, MHM	Congratulations on bringing forward new programs, I am all for supporting and growing opportunities for our

			students. Yes, you have our utmost support and we will refer students should they be seeking that information.
Saddleback College	Health Information Technology AS Degree/Cert.	Safiah Mamoon, MS, RHIT, CPC	I think that your certificates are great, and would support it. In fact, please let me know if you have more information so that I can share with my students.

5. List all courses required for program completion, including core requirements, restricted electives and prerequisites. (There is space for 20 listings, if you need more, please contact laocrc.sccollege.edu)

Courses	Course Number	Course Title	Units
HTHTEK	223	Introduction to Health Informatics	3
HTHTEK	224	Clinical Information Systems and Design	3
HTHTEK	225	Project Management for Healthcare Professionals	3
HTHTEK	226	Introduction to Health Data Standards and Quality	3
HTHTEK	227	Healthcare Data Acquisition and Management	3
HTHTEK	228	Data Mining for Healthcare Analytics	3

6. Include any other information you would like to share.

Information management is critical to the provision of health care in the 21st century. To comply with the federal mandating use of the electronic health records, jobs for medical records and health information technicians are projected to increase at least 18% through 2016, driving a projected 16% increase in jobs related to medical records and health services management (Burning Glass: A Growing Jobs Sector: Health Informatics).

According to the Health Care Sector Profile 2015 document, the labor market data does not adequately convey the rapid evolution of HIT jobs and as a result the industry trends are resulting in shifting HIT job requirements. Switching to EHR requires new positions to work with complex database designs and maintenance, as well as analytic capacity to understand data. Health data analyst jobs place greater emphasis on skills in information analysis and organization, system infrastructure design, networking and programming. While the BLS only tracks 60 percent of health information jobs, jobs such as data analyst, clinical documentation specialists, compliance reviewers, to name a few, have become more skilled with entry-level jobs upgraded (Health Informatics Workers in High Demand - <http://www.jff.org>) Efforts by HHS, the U.S. Department of Education and DOL, to work together to create “stackable” credentials that are industry-recognized and career pathways out of poverty and into the middle class, will go far to create a skilled HIT workforce (Registered Apprenticeship U.S. DOL). The average health informatics salaries begin at \$69,000 which can vary greatly due to company, location, industry, experience, and benefits.

Results from an Interest Survey forwarded to ELAC alumni, active students, faculty, and other HIM professionals interest in the new certificate program indicated 43% of 138 surveyed were interested in pursuing this certificate to enhance their professional growth. The program curriculum has been cross walked and mapped to the AHIMA Certified Health Data Analyst (CHDA) and the Clinical Documentation Improvement Professional (CDIP) domains to ensure students receive the appropriate knowledge content to sit for either exam. Other colleges have also indicated their support to forward information to their graduates who are interested in pursuing further education in the field of Health Data Analyst.