



# Health Information Management and Technology

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

## Undergraduate Programs

### MAJORS:

- Health Information Management and Technology (HIMT)

## Sample Courses

- Survey of Contemporary Computing
- Healthcare Systems and Organizations
- Survey of Information Technology in Healthcare
- Healthcare I: Terminology and Body Systems
- Ethical Issues, Security Management and Compliance
- Statistics for Healthcare
- Healthcare II: Survey of Disease and Treatments
- Healthcare Systems: Analysis and Design
- Healthcare Billing, Coding, and Reimbursement
- Healthcare Information and Technology—Data
- Healthcare Systems: Implementation and Integration
- Healthcare Systems: Project Management
- Quality Assessment and Improvement
- Group Processes, Team Building, and Leadership
- Healthcare Information and Technology—Standards

## Department Overview

The Health Information Management and Technology (HIMT) major offered by the Information Systems Department at UWL is a program carefully structured to meet the requirements of the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM). The 61-credit online degree completion program is one of the only programs that teaches essential skills in both health information management (HIM) and health information technology (HIT)—providing the new HIMT skills you need to succeed in today's ever more technology-focused healthcare environments.

Designed with an understanding that new technologies and regulations are profoundly changing the roles and educational requirements of health information professionals, the HIMT program is aimed at preparing students for professional positions in today's increasingly technology-based, data-driven healthcare environments. With a cutting-edge curriculum and expert faculty the HIMT program teaches the vital skills that tomorrow's health information professionals will need to unlock the potential of electronic health data to dramatically improve healthcare delivery and patient care.

The HIMT program is a partnership of UW-Extension and four University of Wisconsin Campuses—UW-Green Bay, UW-Parkside, UW-Stevens Point, and UW-La Crosse. Our program's faculty is one of its greatest strengths. You won't find another health information management program—online or otherwise—that brings such diverse expertise together in one place.

View degree requirements:  
[www.uwlax.edu/catalog](http://www.uwlax.edu/catalog)

Information Systems Department  
240 Wing Technology Center  
608.785.6656  
[www.uwlax.edu/information-systems](http://www.uwlax.edu/information-systems)

# Health Information Management and Technology

## COLLEGE OF LIBERAL STUDIES

### Undergraduate Program

The next ten years will see great demand for health information professionals who understand not only the management, coding, and transfer of electronic health data, but also how to build and use the software and systems needed to manage, retrieve, and analyze data to improve patient care. With this in mind, we have revolutionized the traditional HIM curriculum by adding a strong technology focus that will prepare you to qualify for emerging jobs.

The HIMT curriculum offers two tracks: Health Information Technology and Health Information Management. Students will enter the program with 60 credits. All students will take 17 core courses and then, depending on which track you choose, you will take four additional courses in a given track to complete your degree. There are no electives. Graduates will earn a concentration in Health Information Technology OR Health Information Management.

Today, health information management and technology (HIMT) professionals must have a deep understanding of not only the management of health data, but also the software and systems needed to manage and analyze data. HIMT is a discipline that encompasses two fields focused on improving patient outcomes and reducing healthcare costs:

Health information management (HIM) professionals care for patients by managing, analyzing, and securing all of their protected health information no matter the format. That includes all paper records and electronic health record (EHR) data. HIM professionals are highly trained in the business aspects of healthcare (especially, the revenue cycle), understand health organization workflows, and take on leadership and compliance roles.

Health information technology (health IT) professionals are responsible for the technical work related to EHR data, such as data modeling, warehousing, and transmission. They can build and adapt IT systems to drive clinical and operational effectiveness and efficiency throughout healthcare organizations. Health IT professionals also have a keen understanding of how to capture appropriate data and make it accessible to providers so it can be used for decision support to improve patient care.

Over the last decade, new technology and regulations have changed the health information field dramatically. And as a result, it is growing fast. The employment outlook for health information technology (health IT) is extremely positive—the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts an employment increase of 17 percent for all health information professionals between 2014 and 2024.

In 2012, U.S. News & World Report ranked health informatics and information management as one of the top nine new majors in the country, stating that “the need is huge for professionals who can help acquire, manage, and use information to improve health and manage payments.” Additionally, CNBC reported that both health and technology jobs were in high demand in 2015 and listed medical records and health information professionals as the sixth “most in-demand healthcare job”.

Widespread use of electronic health records (EHRs) will continue to create demand for managers with knowledge of health information technology and informatics systems. Medical and health services managers will be needed to organize, manage, and integrate these records across areas of the healthcare industry.

### Career Opportunities

Job titles and salaries of health information management professionals vary considerably and are usually dependent on work setting and experience. A University of Wisconsin-La Crosse Bachelor of Science in Health Information Management and Technology (HIMT) can be the foundation for many health information management positions, such as these listed below:

#### ENTRY LEVEL

- Health data coder/analyst
- Health systems analyst
- Clinical data analyst
- Health data statistician
- Health data scientist
- EHR (Electronic Health Record) privacy and security coordinator
- EHR analyst

#### LONG-TERM CAREER DEVELOPMENT

- HIM Manager
- HIM Director
- Privacy Officer
- Project Manager
- IS/IT Director
- Compliance Officer
- Manager
- Supervisor
- Consultant