

HEALTH IT WORKFORCE TRAINING PROGRAM

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What is this training? For what WORKFORCE ROLES will this training prepare you?

Health information technology allows comprehensive management of medical information and its secure exchange between health care consumers and providers. Broad use of HIT has the potential to improve health care quality, prevent medical errors, increase the efficiency of care provision and reduce unnecessary health care costs, increase administrative efficiencies, decrease paperwork, expand access to affordable care and improve population health.

This intensive, non-degree education is designed to provide a qualified pool of workers with both a medical body of knowledge and an IT body of knowledge to ensure the adoption of electronic health records (EHRs), information exchange across health care providers and public health authorities and the redesign of workflows within health care settings to gain the quality and efficiency benefits of EHRs, while maintaining privacy and security of medical information.

This education is designed to be completed in six months or less online and allows the student to focus on one of the following workforce roles:

- Practice workflow and information management redesign specialist
- Clinician/practitioner consultant
- Implementation support specialist
- Implementation manager
- Technical/software support staff
- Trainer

The programs will be flexibly implemented to provide each trainee with skills and competencies that he/she does not already possess and will focus on students who have already acquired information technology knowledge/education and who need further education in the clinical/medical knowledge, skills and aptitudes necessary to implement an electronic health record system and on individuals with clinically-related knowledge/education who need further education in respect to the information technology knowledge, skills and aptitudes to implement an electronic health records system.

2. How will this training be delivered?

This training will be delivered online with some required proctored testing on site.

3. What education will be required for this training?

This program will require instruction/competencies in the following:

- Instruction in IT
- Health care
- Workflow of health care practices
- Redesign of health care practices
- Change strategies
- Quality improvement techniques

Each workforce role will have specific components that are required. A list of those will be published. See elsewhere on this website for a listing of all components.

5. When will this training be available?

A new group of students will begin November 15, 2010. A schedule will be posted on this website for 2011 classes.

6. What background must I have to be eligible for this training?

Students must have either a medical or an information technology background (by education or experience) before entry into this program.

7. How much does this training cost?

Each class is \$50.00. Students are strongly encouraged to complete one role at a time.

Stipends are available upon **successful completion** of the certificate. This does not guarantee one will be awarded.

8. How do I apply and become accepted into this program?

Contact Mallory Pennington at ICC @ **662.620.5145**.

9. How do I learn more about HITECH programs and funding?

<http://healthit.hhs.gov>

(The name of the award is the Information Technology Professionals in Health Care: Community College Consortia to Educate Health Information Technology Professionals Cooperative Agreement Program. This grant award is issued under the authority of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, 2009 (P.L. 111-5), Title XIII. The issuing agency is the Office of National Coordinator for Health Information Technology. This award is issued as a cooperative agreement, a financial assistance mechanism in which substantial Office of the National Coordinator [ONC] programmatic involvement is anticipated. The award number for the PCC project is 90CC0078.)