Outlining Revisions to the 2014 HIM Curricula Competencies

In response to AHIMA's HIM Reimagined (HIMR) initiative and its call to update HIM professionals’ skills, the Council for Excellence in Education (CEE) Curricula Workgroup has developed the draft 2018 HIM Curricula Competencies, AHIMA-revised Bloom’s Taxonomy levels, and related resources.

The draft competencies aim to align HIM education with the skills and knowledge required to meet long-term future HIM workforce needs. The development groups also focused on revamping curricula in a way that builds pathways for HIM practitioners to current, evolving, and future HIM jobs. Visit HIM Reimagined to learn more about the initiative.

What’s New This Time?

The CEE Curricula Workgroup was very purposeful, thoughtful, and deliberate in their approach. First, develop a broader curriculum, which provides educators with greater flexibility to incorporate the new competencies into academic programs. Second, incorporate two new sets of specialty competencies within the associate degree level: data management and revenue management. Third, provide progression and laddering structures across the academic levels. Fourth, remove the 2014 Curricular Considerations out of the Competencies documents and instead provide these learning resource examples through new 2018 Curriculum Guidance documents. Fifth, update the supporting body of knowledge to include math statistics, which ensures HIM graduates can readily deliver mission-critical data management services to their healthcare organizations.

Where Are We Now?

The public comment period closed September 14. Subgroup members of the 2018 CEE Curricula Workgroup are busy performing a detailed quantitative and qualitative analysis of all survey responses from each academic level.

Next Steps for the Draft 2018 HIM Curricula Competencies

Near-term: Final edits will be approved and made by consensus. The official 2018 HIM Curricula Competencies will be published and forwarded to CAHIIM, anticipated to be in December 2018. In the next two to three years CAHIIM will develop the accreditation standards for academic programs and CCHIIM will develop the certification exams.

How does the AHIMA Transformation Affect Next Steps?

On November 9, AHIMA released a special e-Alert to AHIMA members. View the full announcement. Several sections have been excerpted below.

2019 STRATEGIC PLAN

The 2019 Strategic Plan sets the path for our dual transformation. We will build a foundation internally by becoming more market-driven while also charting our direction for the future. These priorities allow us to focus our resources to achieve operational excellence and simultaneously build the longer-term mission, vision, values, and strategy for AHIMA.
FIRST STEPS
To start AHIMA along the path of transformation, we must make changes. For example, focusing AHIMA’s resources on developing products and services that reflect our core strengths and offer the highest return for the Association and our members.

AHIMA continues to support and strengthen products related to Coding, Clinical Documentation Improvement, AHIMA World Congress, Advocacy, Certification/Credentialing, Privacy/Security, and Higher Education, as well as Membership, Periodicals, and Convention.

AHIMA will discontinue and no longer support products related to information governance, informatics, standards, and consumer engagement. Products dedicated to these topics will be phased out during 2019. We are aware individuals will continue to practice in these areas and seek additional resources to support their needs.

We know many HIM professionals practice in informatics and data analytics roles. This will not change after AHIMA discontinues development of products for these areas. The same is true for the curriculum. We know HIM professionals need skills and knowledge related to informatics, data analytics and IG, but the resources used to teach these content areas will no longer be developed by AHIMA. By discontinuing the development of these tools, AHIMA can focus staff and financial resources on the areas with the highest returns in order to achieve the first priority mentioned in the 2019 Strategic Plan, “become more market-driven.”