National Consortium on Health Science ad Technology Education
National Health Science Career Cluster Model

Health Informatics Pathway Standards & Accountability Criteria

These standards apply to occupations or functions that document client care. The standards specify the knowledge and skills needed by professionals in the Informatics services pathway.

Health Informatics Standard 1: Communication
Health informatics professionals will understand the need to communicate health/medical information accurately and within legal/regulatory bounds across the organization.

Accountability Criteria
1.1   Communication
1.11   Manage the accuracy, effectiveness, and timeliness of the transfer of information.
1.12   Evaluate legal and regulatory requirements for the transfer of information.
1.13   Distinguish who in the organization needs information and when they need it.

Health Informatics Standard 2: Analysis
Health informatics professionals will know the quantitative and qualitative requirements for information. They will analyze the information for designated purposes.

Accountability Criteria
2.1   Analysis
2.11   Synthesize information to determine the best course of action.
2.12   Assess health information required by patients, staff, and the community.
2.13   Assemble all necessary data components for successful completion of tasks.
2.14   Appraise the accuracy and completeness of data.
2.15   Assess whether information is reported and disseminated within legal and regulatory bounds.

Health Informatics Standard 3: Abstracting and Coding
Health informatics professionals will know how to read and interpret a medical record or other medical documents, applying knowledge of medical terminology and codes. They will extract required information from a medical record and other medical documents for a variety of purposes, upon regulatory or legal request.

3.1   Abstracting and Coding
3.11   Assemble appropriate, accurate information to record charges and reimbursement.
3.12   Choose accurate medical terminology.
3.13   Assess and apply information for regulatory and legal purposes.

Health Informatics Standard 4: Information Systems

Health informatics professionals will understand the resources, routes and flow of information within the health care system. They will participate in the design and implementation of effective systems or processes.

Accountability Criteria

4.1   Information Systems

4.11   Synthesize the information systems utilized by the organization.

4.12   Assess how systems interact to facilitate the timely and accurate flow.

4.13   Organize information within the parameters of the information systems.

4.14   Integrate information for timely, accurate dissemination.

4.15   Evaluate effectiveness of systems.

4.16   Assess and recommend systems for improvement.

Health Informatics Standard 5: Documentation

Health informatics professionals will understand the content and diverse uses of health information. They will accurately document and communicate appropriate information using legal and regulatory processes.

Accountability Criteria

5.1   Documentation

5.11   Assemble and accurately document required information.

5.12   Interpret information that has been collected.

5.13   Differentiate the various purposes and audiences for whom the information is collected.

5.14   Prepare accurate documentation for various audiences within legal and regulatory requirements.

5.15   Disseminate information to various audiences using established systems and guidelines.

5.16   Assess and recommend processes for improvement.

Informatics Standard 6: Operations

Health informatics professionals will understand the broad scope of operations in which health care services are delivered. They will know the systems operations used to capture, retrieve, and maintain information form internal and external sources. They will utilize internal and external information and resources accurately and efficiently.

Accountability Criteria

6.1   Operations

6.11   Analyzing the internal and external sources of information and resources available.

6.12   Project outcomes as interconnected components of a modified health care system.

6.13   Select the systems and sources of information necessary for the successful completion of the task.

6.14   Participate in the design of operational systems and processes.

6.15   Evaluate operational systems and processes for improvement.