



CCS Certification Course

Certified Coding Specialists are mastery-level professionals skilled in classifying medical data from patient records, generally in the hospital setting. These coding practitioners review patients' records and assign numeric codes for each diagnosis and procedure. To perform this task, they must possess expertise in the ICD-9-CM and CPT coding systems. In addition, the CCS is knowledgeable in medical terminology, disease processes, and pharmacology. Professionals experienced in coding inpatient and outpatient records should consider obtaining this credential.

The U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 20% increase in employment before 2018 for the Medical Coding and Billing field, which includes medical coding and billing professionals. This represents more than 37,000 new jobs.

CCSs are skilled in classifying medical data from patient records, generally in a hospital setting. These coding practitioners:

- Review patients' records and assign numeric codes for each diagnosis and procedure
- Possess expertise in the ICD-9-CM and CPT coding systems
- Are knowledgeable about medical terminology, disease processes, and pharmacology.

Different facilities and institutions make use of a CCSs' skills:

Hospitals and medical providers take the coded data created by CCSs to insurance companies—or to the government in the case of Medicare and Medicaid recipients—for reimbursement of expenses. Researchers and public health officials also use this data to monitor patterns and explore new interventions. Coding accuracy is highly important to healthcare organizations, and has an impact on revenues and describing health outcomes.

In fact, certification has become an implicit industry standard. Accordingly, the CCS credential demonstrates a practitioner's tested data quality and integrity skills, and mastery of coding proficiency. Professionals experienced in coding inpatient and outpatient records should consider obtaining this certification.