

# Health Information Specialist



## What do they do?

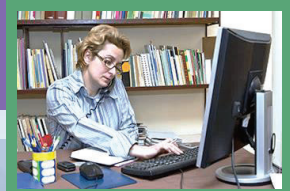
Health Information Specialists manage and organize health information data. Keeping this information organized maintains its quality, accuracy, accessibility and security in both electronic and paper copies.

## Where do they work?

Health Information Specialists generally work in clinical settings like hospitals, clinics, and nursing facilities. They can also work in administrative settings.

## Pay:

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the average yearly income for Health Information Specialists is \$45,240.



## Education:

Health Information Specialists need a high school diploma or GED. In addition they need a post secondary certificate or associates degree.

### Health Information Training in Wisconsin:

Madison Area Technical College:

[www.madisoncollege.edu](http://www.madisoncollege.edu)

Chippewa Valley Technical College:

[www.cvtc.edu](http://www.cvtc.edu)

Fox Valley Technical College:

[www.fvtc.edu](http://www.fvtc.edu)

Bryant & Stratton College – Milwaukee/Wauwatosa:

[www.bryantstratton.edu](http://www.bryantstratton.edu)

Northeast Wisconsin Technical College:

[www.nwtc.edu](http://www.nwtc.edu)

Waukesha County Technical College:

[www.wctc.edu](http://www.wctc.edu)

High school students interested in health information technology should take courses related to health, computer science, math and biology.

## Skills & Qualities:

- Analytical skills
- Detail-oriented
- Integrity
- Interpersonal skills
- Technical skills
- Organization & communication



## Job Outlook:

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment for Health Information Specialists is expected to grow 9 percent between 2020-2030, which is as fast as average across all occupations.

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, Medical Records and Health Information Technicians, [www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/medical-records-and-health-information-technicians.htm](http://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/medical-records-and-health-information-technicians.htm) (visited September 08, 2021).

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## Certifications:

Most employers expect Health Information Specialists to be certified or become certified shortly after being employed.

The Registered Health Information Technician certificate is certified by The American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA). [www.ahima.org](http://www.ahima.org)



The Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM) works to provide the community with consistent and effective ways to monitor health information. [www.cahiim.org](http://www.cahiim.org)

Types of Certifications:

- Associates Degree level
- Registered Health Information Technician (RHIT)
- Baccalaureate level or higher
- Registered Health Information Administrator (RHIA)



## Potential for Advancement:

There is room for advancement for Health Information Specialists through additional education and certifications. Advancement to a management position is possible after the completion of a bachelor's or master's degree. In addition, taking required certification courses are needed to advance and vary based on facility and state.