

# Physician Coding Specialist

## INDUSTRY FACTS



### What do Physician Coding Specialists do?

Physician coding specialists—who share a lot in common with health record technicians

and medical record specialists—deliver medical records and procedural information to the proper recipients. It's a behind-the-scenes role that greatly impacts the patient experience.

As such, strict adherence to HIPAA guidelines is absolutely essential. The most successful ROI specialists also have exceptional customer service skills, strong attention to detail, and an uncanny ability to work well in groups as they often collaborate with other specialists.

Here's a breakdown of their responsibilities:

- Collects health information management from all departments: emergency department, inpatient units, outpatient surgery department, clinics, health centers, and urgent care facilities).
- Prepares charts to be scanned into the electronic health record, and scans and processes medical records.
- Answers phones and provides basic release of information functions.



### Where do they work?

When it comes to physical expectations, this role is similar to a standard desk job. Hospitals, health clinics, and physicians' offices are generally all staffed with some level of health information technician support—there's also potential to work from home, depending on the needs and expectations of your employer.

### How much do they earn?

While this isn't a patient-facing role, the impact medical coding specialists have on health systems is undeniable—and the salary potential is a reflection of that impact. The salary for this specific role varies based on location and experience, but the national median annual income is \$56,920\*.

\*<https://www.salary.com/research/salary/alternate/medical-coding-specialist-salary>

"I have truly enjoyed my experience with CareerStep. Their programs allow you to work on your studies on your own time, which is fantastic for busy moms like myself. If I have ever run into problems with anything, all I have to do is text someone from learner support and they are there to help me."

JENNIFER, CAREERSTEP LEARNER  
JULY 2019

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## PROGRAM DETAILS

### Improve Your Life

When it comes to career training, you'll find a lot of sub-par providers out there. Salespeople that'll try to impress you with fancy hyperbole. But through all the noise, the distinct sound of success can be heard. Your success. All it takes is a little push. A nudge in the right direction—and your whole life could change. New doors opened. New worlds discovered. New opportunities explored.

### Prepare for a Better Job

Train affordable without sacrificing quality. This program's comprehensive training was developed by industry professionals with years of experience – specifically designed to help you prepare for the Certified Professional Coder (CPC), Certified Coding Specialist-Physician Based (CCS-P), and Certified Outpatient Coder (COC) certification exams as well as the Certified Billing and Coding Specialist (CBCS) and Certified Electronic Health Records Specialist (CEHRS) exams offered through the NHA.

### Learn Your Way

With online training, you can absorb more knowledge and learn more skills—fast.

- Train on a schedule that fits your life
- Progress at a pace that matches your learning style
- Adjust the time and effort you devote to your coursework each day

### Receive Coaching and Guidance

When you train with CareerStep, we back you every step of the way—from sign-up through course completion.

- Learner support
- Technical support

### Get Certified

We'll prepare you to take nationally recognized exams so you can explore greater opportunities in your area.

- Certified Professional Coder (CPC®)
- Certified Coding Specialist-Physician (CCS-P®)
- Certified Outpatient Coder (COC)
- Certified Billing and Coding Specialist (CBCS)
- Certified Electronic Health Records Specialist (CEHRS)

### Program Outline

#### Course

Program Orientation: Physician Coding Specialist

Digital Technology

Introduction to Healthcare

Law, Liability and Ethics for Healthcare

Comprehensive Medical Terminology

Anatomy and Physiology

Comprehensive Pharmacology

Comprehensive Electronic Health Records

Outpatient Coding

Medical Billing

Physician Coding

Telehealth for Coding Professionals

Program Completion: Physician Coding Specialist

**TOTAL HOURS: 587**

**Coursework, Simulations, and Experiential**