



Northwest Iowa
Community College

603 West Park Street
Sheldon, Iowa 51201

Phone 712-324-5061 or
toll free 1-800-352-4907, Ext. 105

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NEWS RELEASE

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AHIMA Members Meet With Congressional Representatives

Health Information Management Professionals from Iowa Traveled to Washington, D.C.

American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) members from Iowa met with policymakers during AHIMA's 12th annual Hill Day Event March 18.

AHIMA members from Iowa who participated include: MariBeth Lane, NCC Health Information Technology Instructor and IaHIMA President-Elect, George; Carrie Arens, IaHIMA President, Ida Grove; and Megan Weis, IaHIMA Delegate, Dubuque. They met with staff from the offices of Representatives Braley, King, Latham, Loeb sack and Senator Grassley.

AHIMA members urged Congress to move forward with implementing an updated medical coding system called ICD-10-CM/PCS and discussed other pending legislation that addresses health information issues.

"AHIMA's members are the lifeblood of our association, and we are grateful they traveled from Iowa to Washington D.C. to advocate for issues that are critical -- not just to the health information management (HIM) profession -- but the entire healthcare system," said AHIMA CEO Lynne Thomas Gordon, MBA, RHIA, CAE, FACHE, FAHIMA.

AHIMA members spent the day with representatives and senators from their home states highlighting the local impact of these national advocacy initiatives. Members also provided elected leaders with details about the depth of the HIM field, which draws from more than 40 different employer types and 120 different job functions.

On March 17, members participated in AHIMA's Leadership and Advocacy Symposium.

HIM professionals protect the safety and privacy of medical records and make sure this information is available when and where it's needed. HIM professionals also analyze overall trends to be sure the nation's healthcare leaders have the proper information to make decisions on diagnosis, treatment, budgets and policy.

About AHIMA

The American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) represents more than 71,000 educated health information management professionals and health informatics in the United States and around the world. AHIMA is committed to promoting and advocating for high quality research, best practices and effective standards in health information and to actively contributing to the development and advancement of health information professionals worldwide. AHIMA's enduring goal is quality healthcare through quality information. www.ahima.org

The HIT program at NCC

If you wish to combine your organizational and analytical skills with your interest in healthcare, a career in Health Information Technology could be for you! As a Health Information Technician, you play a vital role in making our healthcare system work. You perform data collection and analysis needed by doctors, nurses, and other healthcare professionals.

NCC's program is unique because it focuses on the sciences and communication skills. Students have three separate internships and are well prepared to take the Registered Health Information Technician test after completion of the program (NCC grads have almost a 100% pass rate).

HIT graduates could be a supervisor of a Health Information Management department, Quality Assurance Coordinator, a clinical coder/abstractor, or a medical transcriptionist. Excellent opportunities also exist in research firms, government agencies, pharmaceutical firms, insurance companies, consulting businesses, and telecommuting from your home. Graduates of the HIT program report earnings of \$20,000–\$30,000. Salary increases with experience.

This program is available on campus or online.

To receive your free copy of the NCC Viewbook or schedule a campus visit, contact the Admissions office at studentservices@nwicc.edu, call 712-324-5061, 800-352-4907 or text THUNDER to 82942. Or visit our website at nwicc.edu. At NCC There's a Place For You! **Photo L-R:** Megan Weis, IaHIMA Delegate from Dubuque; Carrie Arens, IaHIMA President from Ida Grove; and MariBeth Lane, IaHIMA President-Elect from George