This course supports the assessment for Financial Resource Management and Healthcare Reimbursement. The course covers 15 competencies and represents 4 competency units.

**Introduction**

**Overview**
The provision of health care is an industry upon which consumers spent two trillion dollars in 2010. Health care is a very big business and whether an organization is not-for-profit, investor-owned, or a government health care organization, financial stability is critical to the continuation of its mission and services.

Most consumers of health care services do not realize the complexity of the reimbursement system, but you will, by successfully completing this course.

You will be competent in:

- Regulations, guidelines, and processes required for insurance claims submissions, and the numerous requirements depending on the third-party payer;
- How the revenue cycle works, and how cost for services is determined;
- Organizational strategic planning for sound financial decision-making, including budget review and cost-benefit analysis.

Financial Resource Management and Healthcare Reimbursement is usually one of the last courses attempted in the Health Informatics program since it pulls several processes together from earlier coursework.

Successful completion of the performance assessment will allow you to complete this course. The exam consists of three tasks, each of which will be an essay discussion. These essays will focus on the financial and economic structures that allow hospitals and practices to receive reimbursements. They also include the federal regulations and compliance structures that govern these reimbursements.

**Competencies**

This course provides guidance to help you demonstrate the following 15 competencies:

- **Competency 732.2.9: Healthcare Finance**
  The graduate develops a broad knowledge of financial information and organization classification as well as financial decision making processes in the operations of healthcare organizations.

- **Competency 732.2.14: Strategic Financial Planning**
  The graduate explains the strategic financial process, the components of cost concepts, and decision making and capital formations; and evaluates financial plans for healthcare organizations.

- **Competency 732.2.15: Management Control Process**
  The graduate explains the management control process and analyzes variances for
management use in healthcare organizations.

- **Competency 732.2.10: Operating Revenue and the Revenue Cycle**
The graduate describes and compares sources of operating revenue and facility-wide structures of revenue cycles in healthcare organizations; and calculates rates of federal programs applicable to healthcare organizations.

- **Competency 732.2.11: Legal and Regulatory Environment**
The graduate describes major components of the United States healthcare legal and regulatory environments; and evaluates policies and procedures in healthcare organizations to ensure compliance with federal laws and regulations.

- **Competency 732.2.12: Revenue Determination**
The graduate describes the general factors that influence healthcare pricing and the components of negotiating a managed care contract; and calculates returns on investment for healthcare organizations.

- **Competency 732.2.13: General Accounting Principles and Financial Statements**
The graduate describes the functions of financial and managerial accounting; and analyzes financial statements for healthcare organizations.

- **Competency 732.2.14: Reimbursement Methodologies**
The graduate describes and compares contemporary healthcare reimbursement methodologies and systems utilized in the United States.

- **Competency 732.2.15: Clinical Coding and Coding Compliance**
The graduate identifies and evaluates code sets associated with various levels of healthcare settings; and articulates procedural and ethical guidelines, rules, and regulations for clinical coding within healthcare organizations.

- **Competency 732.2.16: Voluntary Healthcare Insurance Plans and Managed Care**
The graduate describes key components of private, commercial, and Blue Cross and Blue Shield insurance plans; and evaluates how various insurers use coding in the billing process.

- **Competency 732.2.17: Government-Sponsored Healthcare Programs-Including Medicare and Medicaid**
The graduate evaluates and explains various government-sponsored healthcare programs; and recognizes the impact that government-sponsored healthcare programs have on the healthcare system in the United States.

- **Competency 732.2.18: Government-Sponsored Healthcare Programs Other Components and Methods**
The graduate evaluates and explains components and methods of non-Medicare/non-Medicaid government-sponsored healthcare programs; and recognizes the impact that government-sponsored healthcare programs have on the healthcare system in the United States.

- **Competency 732.2.19: Ambulatory Reimbursement Systems**
The graduate evaluates and explains the structures and components, and performs payment calculations for outpatient healthcare reimbursement in healthcare organizations.

- **Competency 732.2.20: Coding, Billing, and Revenue Cycle Processes**
The graduate evaluates coding and billing functions and ascertains potential impacts to institutional revenue cycles for healthcare organizations.

- **Competency 732.2.21: Reimbursement Quality Issues**
The graduate describes and compares models of quality reporting systems; explains how these models link quality to reimbursement; and evaluates the role of health information management for organizations.

Course Instructor Assistance
As you prepare to demonstrate competency in this subject, remember that course instructors stand ready to help you reach your educational goals. As subject matter experts, mentors enjoy and take pride in helping students become reflective learners, problem solvers, and critical thinkers. Course instructors are excited to hear from you and eager to work with you.

Successful students report that working with a course instructor is the key to their success. Course instructors are able to share tips on approaches, tools, and skills that can help you apply the content you’re studying. They also provide guidance in assessment preparation strategies and troubleshoot areas of deficiency. Even if things don’t work out on your first try, course instructors act as a support system to guide you through the revision process. You should expect to work with course instructors for the duration of your coursework, and you are encouraged to contact them as soon as you begin. Course instructors are fully committed to your success!

Getting Started

The pacing guide for Financial Resource Management and Healthcare Reimbursement is located inside Soomo under “Welcome to the Soomo Learning Environment.” The pacing guide suggests a weekly structure to pace the completion of your learning activities. The guide is provided as a suggestion and does not represent a mandatory schedule. The Soomo lessons in your pacing guide are constructed in a manner that builds on previous lessons, so make sure to complete each section in order. Each lesson has reading materials, videos and optional quizzes and discussion.

It is essential to read the materials prior to attempting the performance assessment to ensure you have a full understanding of the concepts and competencies required for successful completion of the two tasks.

Learning Resource

Your primary learning resources for this course are the reading materials, videos, and activities in the Soomo learning environment. This learning environment will contain links at the activity level to each of these learning resources.

Launch Course

Soomo E-Texts
The following textbook is available to you as an e-text within the Soomo learning environment. You will be directly linked to the specific readings required within the learning environment activities.

VitalSource E-Texts
The following textbooks are available to you as e-texts within the Soomo learning environment. You will be directly linked to the specific readings required within the learning environment activities.


Note: These e-texts are available to you as part of your program tuition and fees, but you may purchase a hard copy at your own expense through VitalSource or a retailer of your choice. If you choose to do so, please use the ISBN listed to ensure that you receive the correct edition. The following sites provide instruction on how to create a VitalSource account, use features such as downloading your e-texts for offline use, and purchase a print-on-demand option, if available.

- VitalSource Navigational Video
- Print-On-Demand Option

SkillSoft and Books24x7
You will access SkillSoft items at the activity level within the Soomo learning environment. For more information on accessing SkillSoft items, please see the "Accessing SkillSoft Learning Resources" page inside Soomo.

Additional E-Text
Enroll for access to the following e-text through the Learning Resources tab:


Final Assessment Tips
To access TaskStream, click the “Assessment” tab and navigate to TaskStream.

The instructions in TaskStream will include any necessary scenarios for each of the tasks along with other documents needed for reference.

Each task is to be completed as a professional paper with APA style in-text citations and the matching APA style bibliography.

These tasks will vary in length but must contain sufficient discussion of the various components shown in the task rubric. The rubric is accessible through a link at the bottom left section in each
Mentor Tips

Early contact with course instructors will make the successful completion of the tasks easier.

Complete the quizzes to gauge your learning progress. Reviewing the reading materials and websites in the Soomo learning environment before starting any of the tasks is important.

A thorough understanding of each of the task rubrics is crucial.