This course supports the assessment for Healthcare Ecosystems. The course covers 6 competencies and represents 3 competency units.

**Introduction**

**Overview**
The term ecosystem is generally associated with environmental issues. In this course, you will be investigating the past and current environment of the healthcare system in the United States.

The issues are complex. Technologically, the healthcare ecosystem is highly sophisticated and continues to expand in new directions.

The profession of health informatics is a relatively new one, blending the use of technologies with collecting, organizing, storing, using, and evaluating health information.

Technology can assist healthcare workers on every clinical and administrative level to use information more effectively in clinical decision-making for patients, and in implementing strategic goals within an organization.

Health informatics is appropriate for every level of the healthcare ecosystem.

Successful completion of the performance assessment will allow the student to complete this course. The exam consists of two tasks, each of which will be an essay discussion. These essays will focus on the necessary interactions of healthcare providers and hospitals with the community and the federal government payer programs regarding filing claims and receiving reimbursement for healthcare services already rendered.

**Competencies**

This course provides guidance to help you demonstrate the following 6 competencies:

- **Competency 730.1.1: Organization of Healthcare Systems**
  The graduate assesses the implications of key historic, economic, social, and legislative events that influenced the evolution of medical care in the United States; and analyzes the roles of health professionals as well as technology on the organization of contemporary healthcare systems.

- **Competency 730.1.2: Components and Operation of Healthcare Organizations**
  The graduate analyzes how the components and operation of healthcare delivery systems across the continuum of patient care influence cost, access, and quality of care.

- **Competency 730.1.3: Licensure, Certification and Accreditation Standards**
  The graduate analyzes how licensing, certification, and accreditation agencies for healthcare organizations impact healthcare delivery at federal, state, local, and organizational levels.

- **Competency 730.1.4: Quality, Reimbursement and Patient Access to Healthcare**
  The graduate analyzes how relationships between clinical healthcare quality, reimbursement for services, and patient access to medical care influences the services
that are provided at various levels of healthcare organizations.

- **Competency 730.1.5: Federal Healthcare Legislation and Programs**
The graduate analyzes how federal legislation and programs influence the provision of services at all levels of healthcare organizations.

- **Competency 730.1.6: Trends in Healthcare Delivery**
The graduate analyzes how emerging technologies and trends in healthcare informatics and medical practice, as well as federal government initiatives, impact contemporary healthcare delivery.

**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, instructors, 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, so you are welcome to contact them as soon as you begin. Course instructors are fully committed to your success!

**Getting Started**

The pacing guide for Healthcare Ecosystems 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**

**SkillSoft and Books 24x7**
You will access SkillSoft modules at the activity level within the Soomo learning environment.

The following VitalSource e-text will be included in your Soomo learning resource and will be used in this course:


*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

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**Final Assessment Tips**

To access Taskstream, click the “Assessment” tab and navigate to Taskstream.

These instructions 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 for the task. The rubric is accessible through a link at the bottom left section in each task.

**Instructors Tips**

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