



The Value of Credentialing

Frequently Asked Questions

What can educators tell students about the benefit of having a medical transcription/healthcare documentation credential?

- Credentialing speaks to the commitment of the medical transcriptionist/healthcare documentation specialist.
- Credentials demonstrate continuing education.
- Credentialed professionals may earn more than noncredentialed professionals.

What credentials are available in the healthcare documentation industry?

- RHDS (registered healthcare documentation specialist) – entry-level certification (recommended for students/post graduates).
- CHDS (certified healthcare documentation specialist) – advanced certification after fulfillment of at least 2 years of acute care practice.

When should students begin preparing to take the RHDS exam?

- RHDS preparation is appropriate for students who have entered the advanced phase of their curriculum.

How does credentialing upon completion of HDS programs help educational institutions?

- It showcases the program's commitment to excellence and accuracy.
- It demonstrates to potential employers the institution's understanding of industry standards.
- It promotes marketability for graduates of the school's program.
- It can be a springboard to related educational offerings such as medical transcription editing, a pre-credentialing course, or EHR programs.

What options do schools have to offer students access to RHDS exams?

- AHDi offers bulk pricing for the exam to Educational members at a reduced rate.
- The RHDS credentialing exam may be built into the tuition price for the program.
- Study materials and resources offered through AHDi can be used to benefit students studying for the credentialing exam.