



Certified Coding Associate (CCA®)

February 3, 2017

Certifying Organization	American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) http://www.ahima.org/					
Description of Credential	The CCA® credential distinguishes coders by exhibiting commitment and demonstrating coding competencies across all settings, including both hospitals and physician practices. Overview of the CCA® certification					
Part of which Graduation Pathways ¹	<u>Integrated</u> : Health Sciences – Patient Care and Management					
Associated with Which Careers?	3 Star : Medical Records and Health Information Technicians; Occupational Health Safety Technicians To view industry career options for students beginning with a CCA certification, view the Career Map .					
Entry-Level Annual Salaries	\$20,280 - \$32,510					
Industry-Based Certification Requirements: Students						
Standard / Curriculum	A CCA® certification examination is based on an explicit set of competencies. The competencies are divided into domains and tasks. Examinations test only content pertaining to the following competencies: CCA Exam Content Outline					
Testing Methodology	Paper?	No	Online?	Yes	Performance Exams / Tests?	No
Re-Testing (if available)	Re-Testing Procedures	There is a 45 day wait period and fees do apply for each retest.			Max Attempts	No max
Testing Details (including any age requirements / accommodations)	<p>To take the CCA exam, a student must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Other recommendations include but not required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 months coding experience directly applying codes: OR • Completion of an AHIMA approved coding program (PCAP Program); OR • Completion of other coding training program to include anatomy & physiology, medical terminology, BASIC ICD (International Classification of Diseases) diagnostic/procedural and BASIC CPT (Common Procedural Terminology) coding. <p>For complete information, read the Candidate Guide carefully which includes information regarding applying for the CCA exam, pg. 8. Students that complete the coding curriculum competencies at the high school level may likely only require one additional year at a post-secondary institution to earn an associate degree in Health Information management (HIT) and be eligible for the Health Information Technician (RHIT) credential. For details on the competencies and requirements visit CAHIIM. Candidates must obtain an Authorization to Test (ATT) letter before applying to take the test. The CCA® exam is two hours long with no breaks. There are 100 multiple-choice questions. 90 questions are scored and 10 pretest questions are not. These 10 questions as used for possible inclusion in future tests and cannot be distinguished by the candidate. The current passing <i>scaled score</i> for the CCA exam is 300 out of 400. For more information, go to: Exam Scoring FAQs or Exam Preparation Information</p> <p>Testing occurs at a Pearson VUE testing center. Locations: www.pearsonvue.com/ahima Candidates must apply for an exam and receive an Authorization to Test (ATT) letter containing an eligibility number and scheduling information. Candidates with a valid email address will be sent an ATT letter from Pearson VUE. Testing accommodations are available, including some assistive technology (AT) accommodations.</p>					

Industry-Based Certification Requirements: Teachers

Bulletin 746, Chapter 5: All Louisiana teachers providing instruction in a course that leads to an IBC must hold the certification that they're teaching students to attain.

Instructor Certification Requirements (by certifying agency)	Qualified instructors for this program will possess one of the following credentials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCA – Certified Coding Associate • CCS – Certified Coding Specialist • RHIA – Registered Health Information Administrator • RHIT – Registered Health Information Technician Access To Instructor Materials Educator Catalog				
Proctoring / Test Security (if any)	Testing is conducted through Pearson VUE Centers. Locate a test center.				
Certification Tracking					
Credentialing Documentation	Candidates will receive their results immediately upon completion of their exam while still at the test center. Within two months of passing the examination, the candidate will receive an official certificate via regular mail.				
Certification Tracking System	Online Tracking System?	Yes	Details	On the AHIMA website (authorization by the candidate is required) AHIMA and Pearson VUE will not release scores to any other third party.	
Other Details	Expiration Timeframe?	2 years			
Certification Costs / Funding Sources					
Cost Details	CCA® Exam : \$199 (member price); \$299 (non-member) Practice Test : \$49.99 (member) and \$59.99 (non-member)				
Re-test / Refund Policies	Cancelling or Rescheduling an exam: fees range from \$30 to \$75. Fees apply for each retest request.				
Funding Sources ²	CDF?	Yes	Perkins?	Yes	Alternative Source (other than General Funds)
For More Information					
Certifying Agency Contact Info	American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) Customer Relations Phone: (800) 335-5535 Louisiana AHIMA branch: www.lhima.org http://www.ahima.org/certification/CCA Christi Lower, Academic Affairs Operations Manager/PCAP Administrator Christi.lower@ahima.org , (312) 233-1903				
LDE Contact	JumpStart@La.Gov				
Jump Start Regional Team Experts	Kris Labruzzo, CTE Supervisor Jefferson Parish: Kris.Labruzzo@jppss.k12.la.us				

1 – This table may not include all the graduation pathways this credential appears in. Please check the [graduation pathway](#) you are working with if you have a question as to whether or not this credential is part of that pathway.

2 – CDF = [Career Development Fund](#)