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HEALTH INFORMATICS

City & Guilds has produced the Health Informatics qualification following consultations with Skills for Health and key informatics stakeholders including NHS Connecting for Health, Informing Healthcare NHS Wales to provide certification of competence for personnel starting on the Health Informatics Career Framework or those who do not hold a formal qualification in this area. It provides a flexible solution for those who work with data or information that may be paper or computer based, helping to ensure good practice across use of data, its storage, reporting and accuracy.

In addition, this qualification may act as a CPD programme for those already employed in the informatics area or clinicians (doctors or nurses) who are involved in the manipulation of data/information on a daily basis.

What is Health Informatics?

Health Informatics is defined as 'the knowledge, skills and tools which enable information to be collected, managed, used and shared to support the delivery of healthcare and to promote health'.

This is a growing discipline within the Health Service with staff supporting clinicians develop their specialist knowledge and expertise, by providing up-to-date information on the latest services and techniques available for health professionals. Health Informatics staff can also be found dealing with day-to-day services, such as; ordering vital supplies, booking patient appointments and running systems that enable NHS staff to communicate or access information effectively.

What will a learner gain from completing a Health Informatics qualification?

The Level 2 Health Informatics (7450) qualification provides learners with the competence to deal with data/information within a health environment. It covers the skills and knowledge for dealing with paper or electronic data/information in the following

key areas;

- Input and handling of data
- Validation and quality assurance of data
- Production of reports from a variety of sources
- Dissemination of information including all aspects around its storage, security and disclosure.

Learners will be working with a data/information tasks that are straightforward or routine, but will also gain the confidence and competence to handle some elements or tasks that are unfamiliar.

What certification can a learner achieve in Health Informatics?

City & Guilds Health Informatics provides two sizes of qualification:

Award	requires 12 credits from the Mandatory units
Certificate	requires 12 credits from the Mandatory units plus a minimum of 6 credits from the optional units

How will a learner achieve the ITQ for Doing Business Online?

Learners can work toward either the Award or Certificate size qualification or aim for the Award and top up later using the Health Informatics Unit Route (7450-92) to gain the Certificate. In order to achieve the qualification the learner needs to undertake the following;

7450 Level 2 Award in Health Informatics (minimum 12 Credits)

Mandatory Units

- 201 Essentials in health informatics (2 Credits)
- 202 Research information (4 Credits)
- 203 Organise and report data (3 Credits)
- 204 Store and retrieve information (3 Credits)

7450 Level 2 Certificate in Health Informatics (minimum 18 Credits)

Mandatory Units

- 201 Essentials in health informatics (2 Credits)
- 202 Research information (4 Credits)
- 203 Organise and report data (3 Credits)
- 204 Store and retrieve information (3 Credits)

Optional Units

- 105 IT security for users (1 Credit)
- 205 IT security for users (2 Credits)
- 206 IT user fundamentals (3 Credits)
- 107 IT communication fundamentals (2 Credits)
- 207 IT communication fundamentals (2 Credits)
- 208 Data management software (3 Credits)
- 209 Bespoke software (3 Credits)
- 210 Specialist software (3 Credits)

What if a learner uses a specific application as part of their job role?

City & Guilds recognises that there are a number of software systems that are in use across the NHS in both primary and secondary care. To show competence in specific applications City & Guilds have included a number of these as titled units (500 series) that can be substituted for the Bespoke and Specialist Software units. This is not an exclusive list and further software applications can be added on request.

Who will benefit from the ITQ for Doing Business Online?

These qualifications are intended to provide certification of competence for those working or wishing to work in the Health Informatics Career Framework in the following positions;

- Data entry clerks, Clinical coder and clinical coding support worker
- Ward clerks, Health records clerks
- Information assistants, Information officers, Information governance assistant, Information analyst
- Administrative assistant, Receptionists

It may also be suitable for Assistant Trainers who work with the above or non-informatics specialist roles, such as;

- Clinicians in both primary and secondary care or Information managers who may wish to use this as a CPD or springboard or underpinning qualification

More information

For more information on Health Informatics and other City & Guilds qualifications, please contact the Customer Relations team:

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