

WHY I CHOSE THE HIM PROFESSION

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY

Prepared For

(HAHIMA)

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Prepared By

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Enrollment into the (HIM) Health Information Management program originated for several reasons; most importantly, was my desire to fulfill a childhood dream that began throughout my high school years. At the time my interest was aimed in pursuing a rewarding career in a health care environment, where I would provide assistance and support to individuals. This intention was directed towards a career as a radiographer; unfortunately, during my first year in college I lost sight of my goals for the future and focused only on my social life. The lack of commitment to my studies, money, and immaturity steered me in a direction that kept me from achieving the path I had chosen for myself. Struggling and dissatisfied in many ways, I decided to leave the small south Texas town I was born and raised in to find work in Houston, Texas.

Without any forethought of returning to school I settled into a working environment for a printing company. After twenty three years of dedicated service in the printing industry I began to feel discouraged with the lack of growth in my life and the direction I had chosen for myself. Now older and much wiser, I began to put more thought into my retirement years. Issues with the economy and the uncertainty of the stability of my job made me more aware that the time was right to refocus on my health care dreams. I was fortunate to have had the blessing and support of my husband who encouraged me to make the transition in my life.

Needless to say, excited about the new path that would redirect my life, I realized that it was going to take a tremendous amount of studying time and effort, but I now realized that I had the tenacity to complete the challenge. My confidence grew keeping in mind that through my accomplishments and commitment to obtain the knowledge and education required that it would provide the employment opportunities to sustain me in the future.

Thinking carefully to choose a career that would complement my characteristics, abilities, and strengths I acknowledged my interest and fascination towards the medical coding profession. Working many years in the printing industry helped to strengthen my skills for detail. So, I felt having this attribute would help me succeed in this particular field.

I began to research different programs in my community and encountered an article in the newspaper about the health science programs at HCC Coleman College. Interested I attended the (HIT) Health Information Technology information session presented by Dr. Carla Tyson-Howard and Mrs. Carolyn Stariha. After hearing a detailed informative session explaining the profile of the profession both professors were very instrumental in helping me to determine that this was the career path that I needed to pursue.

What I really liked and felt was very unique about the (HIT) Health Information Technology program was the strong demand for all the diverse professional roles, the vast range of job opportunities, and the fact that each student, through clinical rotations, would gain hands-on knowledge and experience of a Registered Health Information Technician's role.

Enrolling in the HIM Associate's degree program has been an enriching experience and positive choice in my life. I have dedicated many long hours of study to achieve the best possible education; as well as, to maintain a high academic GPA. Graduation is approaching this coming August and I am confident that this program has enhanced my skills and provided me with the tools and knowledge to succeed in a health-related environment. Then it will be up to me to get over the last hurdle to earn my RHIT credentials, so that I can advance in whichever position I decide to pursue.

Although there are so many fascinating scopes of work to choose from my first choice would be to acquire a position as a medical coder. Ultimately, my goal is to make a difference, through my performance, to the organization and patients that I will be representing.

In conclusion, I feel that anyone who is truly committed in one's growth and academically striving in life to better themselves, especially in a profession that is constantly changing, is worthy of this scholarship.