HEALTH INFORMATICS POST-GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

Emerging technologies are fundamentally changing the way we manage and apply knowledge. In addition, healthcare organizations must meet the challenges of the HITECH Act and Meaningful Use, HIPAA changes, as well as regulatory influences such as The Joint Commission and IOM. As a result, the need for trained healthcare informaticians has increased dramatically over the last few years. In order to appropriately select and use technology to improve healthcare and to meet the requirements of regulating bodies, health informatics professionals need training in the use informatics concepts and methodologies.

The Health Informatics Post-Graduate Certificate program meets this need by preparing students to:

1. Apply healthcare informatics using theoretical, conceptual, and experiential knowledge base
2. Articulate a vision of healthcare informatics in an organization in the context of multidisciplinary practice and complex healthcare delivery systems
3. Implement and evaluate information systems that support multi-professional clinical/administrative practice
4. Facilitate the delivery of evidence-based practice at point of care, and
5. Sit for national Nursing, MD or graduate level certification exam as an expert informatician, as appropriate.

The advantage of this certificate program is that it offers an interprofessional learning experience and is open to graduates in all fields.

The application process for the Health Informatics Post-Graduate Certificate program is an online process. Detailed instructions on how to apply are posted on the Center for Health Informatics (http://www.kumc.edu/health-informatics/certificate.html) website. Students are admitted for the fall and spring semesters only. Applications for the fall semester must be received by April 1st and by September 1st for the spring semester.

Admission Requirements:

- A master's degree from a regionally accredited institution documented by submission of official transcript indicating the degree has been conferred before entering the program. Official transcripts from institutions attended both pre and post-baccalaureate are required.
  Students with degrees from outside the U.S. may be subject to transcript evaluation indicating the degree is equivalent to a U.S. degree and meets the minimum cumulative GPA requirements.
- A cumulative grade-point average (GPA) of at least a 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- Applicants, who are not native speakers of English, whether domestic or international, must demonstrate they meet the Minimum English Proficiency Requirement (http://www.kumc.edu/Documents/graduate%20studies/Min%20Engl%20Prof%2016-Oct.pdf).
- A background check (http://www.kumc.edu/Documents/graduate%20studies/Background%20Check%2016-Oct.pdf) is required during the admission process; it may affect the student's eligibility to enter the program.
- Successful completion of a graduate level statistics course, which may be completed prior to admission or during the first semester of enrollment.
- Three letters of recommendation from individuals who can assess your academic and professional background and potential for success in a post-master's certificate program.
- A personal statement regarding applicant's career objectives and purpose.
- A current resume or curriculum vitae.
- Satisfactory phone or in-person interview.

Applicants will be assessed on the above criteria and selected applicants will in the judgment of the admissions committee, demonstrate the academic achievement, maturity, integrity, and motivation necessary for successful advancement. In addition, the committee looks for applicants who will contribute academic, nonacademic, and socioeconomic diversity to the class. The committee is interested in evidence of capacity for mature and independent scholarship.

After an applicant has been admitted, the program may defer an applicant's admission for one year after which time the applicant must submit a new application. Admission requirements are subject to change. In most cases, use the catalog of the year student entered the program. *Other years' catalogs».*

Certificate Program Information: (http://catalog.ku.edu/graduate-studies/kumc/#certificatestext)

No student may work toward a graduate certificate without being accepted as a graduate certificate student in a specific graduate certificate program. Graduate certificates are not granted retroactively. An individual who is not currently a degree-seeking graduate student at KU must apply and may be admitted directly to a graduate certificate program.

The graduate certificate program is not a means of entry into a graduate degree program. If students admitted to a graduate certificate program are later admitted to a graduate degree program as degree-seeking, applicable courses taken for the graduate certificate program may, upon recommendation of the department and within general guidelines, be approved by the Office of Graduate Studies to be counted toward the degree.

While the courses comprising a graduate certificate may be used as evidence in support of a student's application for admission to a graduate degree program, the certificate itself is not considered to be a prerequisite and does not guarantee admission into any graduate degree program. The certificate program is not intended to serve as a default system for students in a degree program who find that they are not able to complete the degree for academic or other reasons. Should a student drop out of a degree program and seek admission to a certificate program, all certificate admission requirements must be followed for admission and conferral.

Graduate credit from another institution may not be transferred to a graduate certificate program.

Building on the health informatics core courses, the graduate certificate program focuses on the theory and application of informatics, computer technology, knowledge management, and evidence-based practice that supports healthcare informatics and clinical decision-making. The program culminates with a mentored practicum experience and project.

The Post-Graduate Certificate in Health Informatics prepares students to

1. Apply healthcare informatics using theoretical, conceptual, and experiential knowledge base
2. Articulate a vision of healthcare informatics in an organization in the context of multidisciplinary practice and complex healthcare delivery systems
3. Implement and evaluate information systems that support multi-professional clinical/administrative practice
4. Facilitate the delivery of evidence-based practice at point of care, and
5. Sit for national Nursing, MD or graduate level certification exam as an expert informatician, as appropriate.

Certificate requirements:

- Certificate requirements are normally completed within one (1) year of admission to the program although a maximum of 4 years is allowed.
- Cumulative grade-point average (GPA) of at least a 3.0 for all KU graduate certificate coursework.
- Enrollment in a minimum of one (1) credit hour the semester the program is completed. Graduate certificates may not be granted retroactively.
- Successful completion of a minimum of 19 credit hours.
- Successful completion of the following courses:

IPHI 820	Program, Project, and Communication Planning	2
IPHI 850	Introduction to Health Informatics	2
IPHI 851	Transforming Health Care through Use of Information Systems and Technology	3
IPHI 852	Health Data: Theory and Practice	3
IPHI 853	Abstraction and Modeling of Healthcare Information	3
IPHI 854	Knowledge Management in Healthcare	3
IPHI 856	Health Informatics Practicum	3
Total Hours		19

Graduate credit from another institution may not be transferred to a graduate certificate program.

Certificate requirements and course descriptions are subject to change. Any courses taken as an equivalent must be approved by the Graduate Director and the Office of Graduate Studies. In most cases, use the catalog of the year student entered the program. *Other years' catalogs».*

Typical Plan of Study

The Health Informatics Post-Graduate Certificate program consists of 19 credit hours. The 3-credit hour practicum (IPHI 856) requires a total of 200 clock hours and may be taken only after the majority of coursework is complete. This practicum may be taken over 1-3 consecutive semesters and must include the last semester in the program.

Full-Time Students

Year 1

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer	Hours
IPHI 851 (offered Fall only)	3	IPHI 820 (offered Spring only)	2	IPHI 854 (offered Summer only)	3
IPHI 853 (offered Fall only)	3	IPHI 850 (offered Spring only)	2	IPHI 856	3
	6	IPHI 852 (offered Spring only)	3		
	6		7		6

Total Hours: 19

Part-Time Students

Year 1

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer	Hours
IPHI 851 (offered Fall only)	3	IPHI 850 (offered Spring only)	2	IPHI 854 (offered Summer only)	3
		IPHI 820 (offered Spring only)	2		
	3		4		3

Year 2

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer	Hours
IPHI 853 (offered Fall only)	3	IPHI 852 (offered Spring only)	3	IPHI 856	1
		IPHI 856	2		
	3		5		1

Total Hours: 19

The Master of Science in Health Informatics degree and Post-Master Certificate signify that the holder is prepared for entry into the practice of applied health informatics. Therefore, it follows that graduates must have the knowledge and skills necessary to function in a broad range of situations. The following abilities and expectations must be met by all students **with or without accommodations** admitted to the program.

1. **Observation:** Students must be able to observe: lectures, demonstrations, online written and recorded audio/visual material, online meetings, and research and practice situations. Observation necessitates the functional use of the senses of vision and hearing.
2. **Communication:** Applicants also must be able to communicate effectively and efficiently in English with other students, faculty, staff and mentors/preceptors. Communication includes not only speech, but also listening, reading, and writing. Effective communication includes the ability to comprehend conversation, presentations, assigned readings, and the ability to present information verbally and in writing.
3. **Motor:** A student must have sufficient motor function to attend classes, prepare assignments, use a computer keyboard, and make public presentations if required. Course requirements will also include field work in a variety of health organizations.
4. **Intellectual, conceptual, integrative, quantitative, and problem solving abilities:** An applicant must be able to understand and learn factual information from readings and didactic presentations, gather information independently, analyze and synthesize learned material, and apply that information. In addition, an applicant must possess the ability to understand and work with measurements, carry out calculations and engage in reasoning, analysis and synthesis based on the calculations. An applicant must be able to draw on all these abilities to be an effective problem solver.
5. **Behavioral and social attributes:** Integrity, reliability, self-direction, motivation, and the ability to work with diverse groups are qualities necessary for effective preparation for and practice in this field. A

student must have the emotional health required for the full: use of his or her intellectual ability, exercise of sound judgment, and timely completion of all responsibilities attendant to the completion of academic responsibilities.

NOTE: Reasonable accommodations will be considered and may be made to qualified students who disclose a disability, so long as such accommodation does not significantly alter the essential requirements of the curriculum and the training program, or significantly affect the safety of patient care. Students who disclose that they have a disability are considered for the program if they are otherwise qualified. Qualified students with a disability who wish to request accommodations should provide the appropriate documentation of disability and submit a request for accommodation to the University's Office for Academic Accommodations.