

Joint BS in Health Information Management/MS in Health Informatics

Pending final notification of the Board of Trustees and Illinois Board of Higher Education in July 2025.

The Joint Bachelor of Science in Health Information Management (BSHIM) and Master of Science in Health Informatics (MSHI) is designed for undergraduate students with outstanding academic performance who desire to pursue graduate studies in Health Informatics, and who wish to prepare themselves for advanced placement in the workplace. Students will earn the BSHIM when the student has completed at least 123 semester hours and fulfilled all baccalaureate degree requirements, and the MSHI will be awarded upon completion of the master's program requirements, with 9 hours of coursework shared between the two degrees. This will allow students to sit for the Registered Health Information Administrator exam and obtain their RHIA immediately upon completion of the BSHIM degree requirements.

Admission Requirements

Students may submit their intent to apply to the joint degree program when they begin HIM core courses. Campus and Online BSHIM students are eligible to obtain the joint degree. Students should meet with their HIM undergraduate advisor to plan their courses accordingly.

International students should check with the UIC Office of International Services to verify their eligibility for this program, prior to applying.

Campus students with tuition waivers should discuss their tuition options with their financial aid advisor prior to applying. As a full-cost recovery program discretionary waivers are not allowed for the MS in Health Informatics degree portion of the program. Students must apply through the Graduate College to the joint program in the second to last semester of their senior year, be reviewed by the HIM and HI program directors and accepted by the BHIS Academic Affairs admissions committee. To be eligible, students are required to have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.40/4.00 upon application and throughout the remainder of their senior year. After completing their senior year, they must maintain a GPA of at least 3.00 in all graduate coursework.

Degree Requirements

The requirements for completion of the combined BSHIM/MSHI degree are nearly identical to the completion of these two separate degrees. The major difference is that 9 hours of shared coursework used for both degrees. Completion of 114 hours at the undergraduate level; plus 9 shared hours counting toward both the BSHIM and MSHI degrees; plus 29 hours of coursework at the graduate level will result in joint BSHIM/MSHI degrees.

Upon acceptance the student will register for two graduate-level courses in the MSHI program during their last semester in the BSHIM program. The Master of Health Informatics portion of this program is offered completely online.

Sample Course Schedule

Course	Title	Hours
Freshman Year		
First Semester		
ENGL 160	Academic Writing I: Writing in Academic and Public Contexts	3
BIOS 110	Biology of Cells and Organisms	4
HIM 101	Health Information Management First Year Seminar ^a	1
Understanding the Past course		3
Understanding the Creative Arts course		3
Hours		14
Second Semester		
ENGL 161	Academic Writing II: Writing for Inquiry and Research	3
PSCH 100	Introduction to Psychology	4
Analyzing the Natural World course		3
Understanding U.S. Society course		3
General Elective		3
Hours		16
Sophomore Year		
First Semester		
MATH 110	College Algebra	4
KN 230	Anatomy and Physiology Lecture I	3
IDS 200	Intro to Management Information Systems	4
BHIS 406	Medical Terminology for Health Information Management	2
General Elective		3
Hours		16
Second Semester		
STAT 101	Introduction to Statistics	4
KN 231	Anatomy and Physiology Lecture II	3
HIM 410	Introduction to the Health Care System	3
Exploring World Cultures course		3
General Elective		3
Hours		16
Junior Year		
First Semester		
HIM 317	Principles of Health Information Management	4
HIM 319	Alternative Health Records	4
BHIS 405	Medical Sciences and Human Pathophysiology	3
BHIS 460	Introduction to Health Informatics	1
Hours		12
Second Semester		
BHIS 480	Management and Business Practices	3
BHIS 461	Information Systems for Health Information Management	2
HIM 320	Technical Affiliation	2
HIM 329	Legal Aspects of Health Information Management	3
HIM 361	Human Resources Management	3
HIM 432	Coding and Classification Systems	3
Hours		16
Senior Year		
First Semester		
BHIS 410	Health Data Structures and Management ^a	3
HIM 337	Analysis of Health Care Data	4
HIM 374	Health Information Research	4
HIM 433	Coding and Reimbursement Systems	4
HIM 481	Healthcare Financial Management	2
Hours		17
Second Semester		
BHIS 437	Health Care Data ^a	3
BHIS 520	Health Information Systems Analysis and Design ^a	3

HIM 343	Quality Evaluation and Management	3
HIM 377	Current Issues in Health Information Management	2
HIM 384	Clinical Practicum	5
Hours		16
Summer Semester		
BHIS 499	Information Sources in Biomedical & Health Information Sciences	1
BHIS 515	Management of Health Care Communication Systems	3
BHIS 503	Communication Skills in Health Informatics	3
Hours		7
Fifth Year		
First Semester		
BHIS 505	Ethics and Legal Issues in Health Informatics	3
BHIS 525	Social and Organizational Issues in Health Informatics	3
Electives		6
Hours		12
Second Semester		
BHIS 593	Health Informatics Capstone Experience	1
BHIS 530	Topics in Health Informatics	3
Electives		6
Hours		10
Total Hours		152

a Shared hours counting toward both the BSHIM and MSHI degrees.