FACEBOOK.COM/ATACOLLEGE
HEALTH CARE REFORM GUIDE

Last month a monumental health care overhaul was set in motion when President Obama signed the Health Care Reform Bill. No doubt there will be changes to the health care system and no doubt you have questions about how this will impact you as a future health care worker and as a consumer. Here’s a user-friendly look at the bill:

WHAT IT MEANS FOR ME AS A HEALTH CARE WORKER:
• More than 30 million uninsured Americans will become insured
• Demand for more health care workers will continue to increase
• Changes will not happen overnight, but will be phased in over a 10 year period
• Major coverage expansion begins in 2014

WHAT IT MEANS FOR ME AS A CONSUMER/PATIENT:
• Almost everyone will be required to have health insurance or pay a fine
• Children with pre-existing conditions cannot be denied insurance coverage
• Young adults can stay on their parents insurance plans until age 26
• Insurance companies cannot drop your coverage if you get sick
• Insurance companies cannot place a lifetime cap on coverage
• Small businesses, self-employed and uninsured can pick a plan through new state exchanges
• Subsidies provided to help low income families buy insurance

flow in a medical office, which directly impacts the success of the office.

According to Pope, most physicians just want to practice medicine. In her article, however, Pope speaks directly to physicians and offers her top three tips on how they can facilitate the management of their accounts receivable.

1. Understand the billing process.
2. Develop a written financial policy.
3. Follow-up on outstanding claims and patient accounts.

Here why Pope’s article is important for ATA students as prospective allied health professionals: All staff members have a role in the cash flow cycle. From front office staff, who obtain necessary data such as patient demographics and up-to-date insurance cards; to clinical staff who document essential data to support medical necessity for services provided; to billers/coders who submit clean claims in a timely manner.

In addition to her work at ATA as program director and instructor, Pope also serves on the board of American Academy of Professional Coders. She is currently co-writing a coding textbook with Juanita Davies entitled, “Anatomy for Coders.” Students may recognize Davies, her co-author, as the author of the medical terminology textbook they currently use in her class. We appreciate all of Julie’s hard work and dedication over the past four years here at ATA.

Thanks for being an important part of the college and for making ATA look good, Julie!

CONGRATULATIONS JULIE!

Congratulations to Julie Pope, program director of Medical Coding and Medical Office Assistant programs here at ATA! She was recently published in Southern California Physician magazine for an article she authored entitled “Working with Patient and Third-Party Payers.”

In her article, Pope offers up her expert tips to physicians on coping with reimbursement issues and in the meantime, she also helps them understand how a properly trained staff directly contributes to the success of their practice.

“Sometimes coders have to teach doctors,” says Pope. “One thing I stress to all of my students is that they will play a very important role in ensuring positive cash flow in a medical office, which directly impacts the success of the office.”

ATA TIPS: These 6 tips will help you get rid of unnecessary job search stress:

1. Get organized. Create an easy-to-access portfolio of all your essentials (resume, cover letters, diplomas, etc.).
2. Stick to a schedule. Finding a job is full time job and a schedule will help you get it done.
3. Know where you stand. Evaluate interac-
tions with prospective employers.
4. Avoid repetitive stress. Create templates that can be customized for different companies and situations.
5. Take a break. Recreation plays a vital role in maintaining composure. Look at your schedule and fill your free time with fun and relaxation.
6. Practice makes perfect. Just like you studied for your exams, you should study for an interview.

The job hunt is stressful enough. You can minimize unnecessary stress during this time by taking charge and letting these 6 steps work for you.

Need some help with coursework? We understand everyone needs a little help sometimes, so we offer free tutoring! Contact Brittany Becht @ 371.8330 x365

Free Computer Workshop
ATA offers free computer workshops every Thursday at 1:00pm and 4:00pm. Topics include: Internet research, Microsoft Excel, Powerpoint and trouble shooting.

Questions? Contact Brittany Becht @ 371-8330 ext. 365 to sign up.

Free Tutoring
Need some help with coursework? We understand everyone needs a little help sometimes, so we offer free tutoring! Contact Brittany Becht @ 371.8330 x365

Practical Nursing, Limited Medical Radiography, Medical Assisting, Dental Assisting, Medical Coding, Medical Office Assisting, Phlebotomy, Medical Laboratory Technician

Thanks for being an important part of the college and for making ATA look good, Julie!

MEET JULIE POPE

Kim Hall
Limited Medical Radiography

Kim Hall (left), Brooke Rose (right)

ATTENDING ATA SINCE SEPTEMBER 2009 – FUTURE RADIOGRAPHER

What advice would you give to fellow students? Keep a positive attitude. Don’t give up! You can do it.

AT A TIPS:

• Get organized. Create an easy-to-access portfolio of all your essentials (resume, cover letters, diplomas, etc.)
• Stick to a schedule. Finding a job is full time job and a schedule will help you get it done.
• Know where you stand. Evaluate interactions with prospective employers.
• Avoid repetitive stress. Create templates that can be customized for different companies and situations.
• Take a break. Recreation plays a vital role in maintaining composure. Look at your schedule and fill your free time with fun and relaxation.
• Practice makes perfect. Just like you studied for your exams, you should study for an interview.

Research the company, think about possible questions and your responses and even go through a mock interview with a friend. The job hunt is stressful enough. You can minimize unnecessary stress during this time by taking charge and letting these 6 steps work for you.

NEED ASSISTANCE FROM CAREER SERVICES?

Schedule a one-on-one interview with Mabel Sebastian in the last quarter of school. Dress professionally and bring in a copy of your resume. The Career Service Office will conduct a mock interview and talk with you about your career goals.

It’s never too early to start working with Career Services at ATA. Even if you’re a new student, schedule your appointment today!

371-8330 x353

NEW CLASSES START
May 24

Academic Affairs
Cindy Landry
371-8330 ext. 363
clandry@ata.edu

Student Services
Brittany Becht
371-8330 ext. 365
bbecht@ata.edu

- -

Career Services
Mabel Sebastian
371-8330 ext. 353
msebastian@ata.edu

Katie Bechtold
371-8330 ext. 381
kbechtold@ata.edu

Admissions
Heather Brown
371-8330 ext. 362
hbrown@ata.edu

- -

Registrar
Regina Thoman
371-8330 ext. 375
rthoman@ata.edu

- -

Financial Aid
April Tretter
371-8330 ext. 339
atretter@ata.edu

Welcome!

What advice would you give to future students? Be organized. Don’t give up! You can do it.

Kim Hall (left), Brooke Rose (right)