

**An Articulation Agreement  
Between  
Richland Community College  
and  
The Board of Trustees of Illinois State University**

Richland Community College (RCC) and the Board of Trustees of Illinois State University (ISU) hereby form a cooperative relationship through this articulation agreement to better serve our public constituents, to smooth the transfer process, to minimize duplication of instruction and to build on community college and university learning experiences. Both institutions recognize that by working together, their collective efforts are stronger than their individual efforts.

The two institutions agree to the following:

1. Students who successfully complete the Health Information Technology (HIT) program and all other appropriate requirements for an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Health Information Technology (HIT) at Richland Community College and meet all general ISU and program admission criteria will be admitted to ISU, and generally, would be placed at the junior level.
2. Acceptance into a specific ISU degree program is based on each individual transfer student meeting the conditions and considerations listed for that program. Specifically, students successfully completing a Health Information Technology (HIT) program and all other appropriate requirements for an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Health Information Technology (HIT) at Richland Community College, prescribed in Exhibit A (attached), will be admitted to the Baccalaureate Health Informatics and Management program at ISU, subject to available capacity in the degree program. The minimum cumulative transfer GPA for admission to the Health Informatics and Management program at ISU is 2.25.
3. The courses listed in the attached Exhibit A that prescribe Richland Community College Health Information Technology program courses have been reviewed and accepted for transfer to ISU as part of the B.S. in Health Informatics and Management program. Students must meet all ISU graduation requirements, including General Education, as a condition of receiving an ISU B.S. in Health Informatics and Management (HIM) degree.
4. Relationships between Richland Community College and ISU faculty and administration are in the spirit of cooperation and provide the basis of this agreement.
5. Representatives of both institutions agree to meet on a regular basis, but at least every other year, to assess curricular changes and other conditions that may affect the nature of the agreement.
6. This agreement does not preclude either institution from making curriculum changes. The other party will be notified of any such curriculum changes.
7. Subject to review and approval of both parties, appropriate publications and promotional materials regarding this agreement will be made available to all Richland Community College students with interest in the program.

8. Either ISU or Richland Community College may terminate this agreement by giving one year's advance notice to the cooperating institution's chief academic officer. All students admitted to ISU or enrolled at ISU at the time such termination becomes effective shall be permitted the opportunity to complete their degree or program upon such terms and conditions as were in effect at the time such student was admitted.
9. This agreement is effective with the 2022-2023 academic year and will automatically renew every year for a period not to exceed ten (10) years, unless terminated in accordance with paragraph 8 above.
10. It is understood and agreed that neither party to this Agreement shall be legally liable for any negligent or wrongful acts, either of commission or omission, of the other, unless such liability is imposed by law and this Agreement shall not be construed as seeking to either enlarge or diminish any obligation or duty owed by one party against the other or against third parties.
11. Both parties agree to comply with all applicable federal and state nondiscrimination, equal opportunity and affirmative action laws, orders, and regulations. Neither party shall engage in unlawful discrimination or harassment against any person because of race, color, ancestry, national origin, religion, pregnancy, sexual orientation, order of protection, gender identity and expression, age, marital status, disability, genetic information, unfavorable military discharge, status as a veteran, or sex (including sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking).
12. The relationship of each party to the other under this Agreement shall be that of independent contractor, and no employment, partnership, or joint venture relationship shall be created by the entry into or performance of this Agreement by the parties.
13. Both parties affirm that, to the best of its knowledge, there exists no actual or potential conflict between such party's family, business, or financial interests and its obligations under this Agreement; and, in the event of a change in either of its private interests or obligations under this Agreement, and such party will raise to the other any questions regarding a possible conflict of interest which may arise as a result of such change.
14. This Agreement may not be assigned to either party without the prior written consent of the other party. Such consent shall not be unreasonably withheld. The Agreement, attachments, and incorporated references shall constitute the entire agreement between the parties with respect to the content of said Agreement. This Agreement may not be amended by either party unless such amendment is mutually acceptable to both parties and is reduced to writing and signed by both parties.
15. The failure of either party to enforce any provision hereof shall not be construed as a waiver of such party's right to enforce such provisions in the future. In the event that any provision of this Agreement shall be held to be void, voidable or otherwise unenforceable, the remaining provisions, shall remain in full force and effect. This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Illinois, without regard to the conflicts of laws. Any dispute arising hereunder shall be brought only in the appropriate courts located in Illinois. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, including by facsimile signature, each of which shall be deemed an original, and all of which together shall constitute a single instrument.

16. Any notice required hereunder shall be deemed given when delivered in person or three (3) days after being sent by first class mail to the following addresses, which may be changed by notice provided pursuant to this Agreement:

For Illinois State University

Dr. Chris Grieshaber, PhD  
Chairperson, Department of Health Sciences  
Campus Box 5220  
Illinois State University  
Normal, IL 61790-5220

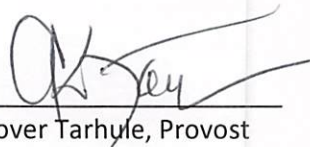
For Richland Community College:

Ellen Colbeck, EdM, RT(R)  
Dean, Health Professions  
Richland Community College  
One College Park  
Decatur, IL 62521

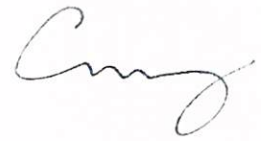
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement as of the date below.

**The Board of Trustees of Illinois State University**

**Richland Community College**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Aondover Tarhule, Provost

10-12-22  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Cristobal Valdez, President

10/6/2022  
Date

**Reviewed and Approved  
as to legal form  
Office of General Counsel**

Exhibit A  
To the Articulation Agreement  
Between  
Richland Community College and Illinois State University

If a student completes the Health Information Technology (HIT) program and all other appropriate requirements for an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Health Information Technology (HIT) at Richland Community College (RCC) and is admitted to Illinois State University, that student shall be eligible for this Articulation Agreement.

1. This Articulation Agreement is only appropriate for students who transfer from Richland Community College with an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Health Information Technology pursue a Bachelor of Science Degree in Health Informatics and Management, RHIT to HIM Online Sequence, from Illinois State University.
2. These students must complete the requirements for the Associate of Applied Science degree in Health Information Technology from Richland Community College as detailed in this agreement.
3. Prior to enrolling in major sequence courses at Illinois State University, students must complete, at minimum, 15 credit hours toward the Illinois Articulation Initiative General Education Core Curriculum (IAI GECC). It is strongly recommended that the 15 hours include the Communications category, the Math category, and at least one of the required courses in the Science category. Remaining courses required to complete the IAI GECC may be completed after students have begun major sequence courses at Illinois State University. Transferable courses from Richland Community College are outlined below.

**Communication** – (9 hours/3 courses required. A grade of C or better required)

- Writing Course I – (*ENGL 101 meets requirement*)
- Writing Course II – (*ENGL 102 meets requirement*)
- Oral Communication – (*COMM 101 meets requirement*)

**Mathematics** – (3 hours/1 course required)

- MATH 113, 171 meets requirement as well as major requirement for statistics*

**Physical and Life Sciences** – (7 hours/2 courses; one course must include lab)

- Life Science Course (*BIOL 101, 102, 106, recommended as they are most closely related to the HIM major; any IAI L1 will meet requirement*)
- Physical Science Course (*CHEM 100, 106, 131 recommended as they are most closely related to the HIM major; any IAI P1 or P2 will meet requirement*)

4. Prior to enrolling in major sequence courses at Illinois State University, students must provide evidence of a current Registered Health Information Technician (RHIT) credential. This credential must be maintained throughout a student's enrollment in the program.

5. Students must satisfactorily (grade of C or higher) complete the following major course requirements at Illinois State University to complete the Bachelor of Science Degree in Health Informatics and Management, RHIT to HIM Online Sequence:

<u>Course #</u>	<u>Course Title</u>	<u>Credit Hours</u>
HSC 326	Healthcare Financial Management and Reimbursement Systems	6
HSC 327	Healthcare Quality Management, Law, & Risk Management	6
HSC 328	Planning, Implementation, & Management of Health Information Systems	6
HSC 329	Management for the Health Information Administrator	6
HSC 330	Health Data Analysis for Decision Making	6
HSC 398A03	Professional Practice in Health Information Management	3

Total credit hours = 33

One course is completed each term, year-round. With the exception of HSC 398A03, students may begin the sequence with any of the above courses and proceed in order from there. HSC 398A03 may be taken during the student's final semester, or on its own in the final semester.

6. Upon successful completion (grades of C or higher) of three major courses in the RHIT to HIM Online Sequence, students will earn proficiency credit toward the Health Information Management core courses. Proficiency credit is granted for the following courses where there is no existing course articulation:

<u>Course #</u>	<u>Course Title</u>	<u>Credit Hours</u>
HSC 105	Medical Terminology	3
KNR or BSC 181	Human Anatomy & Physiology I	3
KNR or BSC 182	Human Anatomy & Physiology II	3
HSC 201	Pathophysiology I	3
HSC 202	Pathophysiology II	3
HSC 204	Health Data Analysis	3
HSC 210	Introduction to Health Information Management	3
HSC 212	Healthcare Classification and Indexing Systems	3
HSC 213	Hospital Inpatient Classification and Reimbursement Processes	3
HSC 230	Legal Aspects of Health Information and Risk Management	3
HSC 298A03	Professional Practice: Health information Management Clinical Internship	3

Total credit hours = 33

7. Students under the foregoing articulation agreement must meet all other graduation requirements as listed in the student's undergraduate catalog at Illinois State University, including completion of the IAI General Education Core Curriculum (IAI GECC). This includes approved courses in the humanities, the fine arts, an additional course in either the humanities or fine arts, and three courses in at least two disciplines in the social and behavioral sciences. One of these courses must focus on non-Western subject matter ("AMALI" graduation requirement). In addition, beginning with the 2023-2024 Undergraduate Catalog, students will be required to complete a course that fulfills the IDEAS diversity requirement. For further information please consult [www.itransfer.org](http://www.itransfer.org).