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Healthcare Management Certification

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If you're seeking healthcare career opportunities in the expanding healthcare management field, enrolling in an online healthcare training program and earning your healthcare management certification can put you on the right track. As the [allied health field](http://www.ultimatemedical.edu/education/allied-health-professions) grows in scope and complexity, healthcare providers increasingly need qualified managers with strong organizational, planning and decision-making skills. Individuals who earn the Certified Medical Manager (CMM) credential from the Professional Association of Health Care Office Management (PAHCOM) can demonstrate a proven level of relevant knowledge.



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Online healthcare training programs can help students prepare for entry-level positions in healthcare management – a field that is projected to experience steady growth in the coming years. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) expects that employment of medical and health services managers will grow faster than the average occupation, with a 16% increase in the healthcare management workforce between 2008 and 2018.¹ BLS reports suggest that employment will rise as the healthcare industry expands and diversifies, requiring more managers to ensure smooth business operations. Based on this anticipated employment growth, the BLS indicates the job outlook should be good – particularly for applicants with strong business management skills.

Many aspiring healthcare managers opt to pursue a formal healthcare training program that prepares students to sit for the CMM certification exam, thereby enabling them to acquire both academic credentials and industry certification. Ultimate Medical Academy (UMA) offers an online [healthcare management training program](http://www.ultimatemedical.edu/programs/healthcare-management-degree) that is designed to help students develop the knowledge and skills employers seek.

UMA's Associate of Science (AS) in Healthcare Management is intended to train students for entry-level healthcare positions, with the potential to grow into a management role. Healthcare managers can find employment with many different healthcare organizations, including hospitals, clinics, physicians' practices, home healthcare services, nursing care facilities and other healthcare service providers.

The [AS in Healthcare Management degree](http://www.ultimatemedical.edu/programs/healthcare-management-degree) program is offered through UMA's online learning platform and can be completed in as few as 18 months. Upon graduation, students may apply to sit for the national healthcare management certification exam offered by PAHCOM.

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Training for the Certified Medical Manager–Academic (CMM-A) Credential

Healthcare providers depend on skilled and certified medical managers to ensure a well-run business operation. UMA's healthcare management curriculum combines general education and healthcare courses with industry-relevant skills training. The program is designed to help students:

- Develop organizational, communication, planning and decision-making skills
- Understand the proper procedures to keep physicians' offices in compliance with federal regulations
- Master basic accounting and financial principles for healthcare organizations
- Acquire proficiency with practice management software
- Prepare for the PAHCOM healthcare management certification exam

Among the required courses are Medical Practice Management Systems, which introduces students to medical billing systems and their applications in healthcare offices, and Introduction to Leadership and Management, which explores leadership and management styles and covers topics such as planning, communication, organization and decision-making.

Upon graduation, UMA students are able to sit for the CMM certification exam. Those who pass will earn the Certified Medical Manager–Academic (CMM-A) designation.

Graduates who possess both a UMA degree and CMM-A certification are positioned to compete for entry-level jobs in a variety of healthcare settings.

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The CMM Examination and Qualifications

The CMM program was established to recognize the achievements of healthcare managers. Individuals who pass the CMM exam have demonstrated an understanding of 18 distinct areas of medical practice management.² Among the topics covered in the exam are:

- Billing and Collections
- Healthcare Law
- Managed Care
- Conflict Management
- Compliance
- Practice Accounting
- Managing and Leading
- Risk Management
- Third-Party Reimbursement
- Systems Analysis and Design
- Human Resources

CMM qualifications include a minimum of three years experience in the healthcare field; however, graduates of UMA's Healthcare Management degree program may apply to sit for the CMM exam. Those who pass the exam but do not yet have the necessary work experience will be awarded the CMM-A designation. Upon achieving three years of healthcare experience, they will attain full CMM certification.

To achieve CMM certification, candidates must have completed 12 college credit hours in healthcare or business management, be a PAHCOM member in good standing and pledge to uphold the standards established by the PAHCOM Professional Code of Ethics. Eligibility for recertification requires continuous PAHCOM membership and completion of 24 hours of continuing education every two years.

Benefits of Obtaining CMM Certification

Because CMM status ensures a level of competency in medical practice management, many healthcare providers prefer applicants with formal training as well as CMM certification. Earning the CMM-A designation indicates that you have a solid grasp of medical management skills, which can potentially give you an edge when competing for entry-level healthcare roles. In addition, obtaining CMM-A certification demonstrates to employers that you are committed to continually improving your knowledge, updating essential skills and upholding high standards of honesty and integrity.

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Prepare for an In-Demand Healthcare Management Career with UMA

Not only will successful completion of the [AS in Healthcare Management degree](http://www.ultimatemedical.edu/programs/healthcare-management-degree) give you training in industry-relevant skills, but it will also provide you with access to UMA's Think, Build, Live, Success™ life skills and self-empowerment curriculum. This career-focused program prepares you for entry-level positions with opportunities to advance into medical office management.

If you are interested in the business side of the expanding healthcare industry, have good organizational and communication skills and excel in a team environment, you should consider pursuing formal training and healthcare management certification. UMA's online Healthcare Management degree program is designed to teach the skills employers need and prepare you for the CMM certification exam.

Thousands of graduates have completed [UMA's healthcare training](http://www.ultimatemedical.edu) since 1994, and have embarked on a wide variety of rewarding careers in the allied health field. When you enroll in UMA's healthcare management program, you can be on your way to joining their ranks in as few as 18 months.

1 U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2010-2011 Edition. "Medical and Health Services Managers." <<http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos014.htm#outlook>>

2 Professional Association of Health Care Office Management website; CMM "Certification" page. <<http://www.pahcom.com/cmm/cmm.html>>

For information on student graduation rates, retention and placement rates, and student financial obligations, visit

www.ultimatemedical.edu/consumerinfo (<http://www.ultimatemedical.edu/consumerinfo>).

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