




**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS
Program Termination or
Placement on Inactive Status**

Use this form to request termination or inactive status for an existing program (graduate program, undergraduate major or minor, certificate, or specialization). The Board of Regents, Executive Director, and/or their designees may request additional information about the proposal. After the university President approves the proposal, submit a signed copy to the Executive Director through the system Chief Academic Officer. Only post the form to the university website for review by other universities after approval by the Executive Director and Chief Academic Officer.

UNIVERSITY:	DSU
DEGREE(S) AND PROGRAM:	Health Care Coding Certificate
CIP CODE:	51.0713
UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:	Health Informatics & Information Management
BANNER DEPARTMENT CODE:	DHIM
UNIVERSITY DIVISION:	College of Business and Information Systems
BANNER DIVISION CODE:	DBUS

University Approval

To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this proposal, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.

Signed by:

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10/21/2024

 President of the University

 Date

1. Program Degree Level (place an "X" in the appropriate box):

Associate Bachelor's Master's Doctoral

2. Category (place an "X" in the appropriate box):¹

Certificate Specialization Minor Major

¹ Note: Certificates, specializations, and minors may only be terminated and not placed on inactive status due to limitations in the student information system.

3. The program action proposed is (*place an “X” in the appropriate box*):²

Inactive Status Termination
See question 4 *See questions 5 and 6*

4. INACTIVE STATUS

- A. Provide a justification for inactivating the program:
- B. If there are current students in the program, what are the implications of placing the program on inactive status?
- C. What is the last date (day/month/year) by which a student can graduate in the program?
- D. What is the proposed date (day/month/year) inactive status takes effect (the proposed date for inactive status is also the last date a student may enroll in or declare the program)?

5. TERMINATION WITH ENROLLED STUDENTS

- A. Provide a justification for terminating the program:
Low enrollment
- B. What is the plan for completion of the program by current students?
Current students’ plan of study have been mapped and students should be able to fully complete the program by end of Fall 2026 semester.
- C. What is the proposed date (day/month/year) program termination status begins (program status in the database changes to *Phasing Out* and last date a student may enroll in or declare the program)? December 31, 2024
- D. What is the last date (day/month/year) in which a student may enroll in the program (program status in the database changes to *Phase Out*)? December 31, 2024
- E. What is the last term or date (day/month/year) by which a student can graduate from the program? December 31, 2026
- F. What are the potential cost savings of terminating the program and what are the planned uses of the savings?
There are very limited cost savings in terminating the program. There will be a reduction in

² Note: An inactive program is a program a university has authority to offer, but the program is not admitting new students and has not formally terminated. A presumption exists that inactive status is a temporary status; universities review inactive programs periodically to determine the feasibility of reactivating or terminating the program. Programs can remain inactive for five (5) consecutive years at which time a university must terminate the program. A terminated program is a program for which a university ceases to have authority to offer. Reinstatement of a terminated program requires university and BOR approval through the prescribed new program approval processes.

3 healthcare diagnosis and procedure coding courses (2 taught by adjunct faculty, one taught by full time HIIM faculty).

G. What are the resulting employee terminations and other possible implications including impact on other programs?

One adjunct professor will not be utilized to teach two courses in the certificate program. One course currently taught by adjunct faculty will be taught by full-time HIIM faculty and two courses will be eliminated.

This program historically has been a feeder program for the AS and BS HIIM programs at DSU, which are CAHIIM accredited programs being inactivated concurrently. Students typically graduate with at least an AS HIIM degree concurrently and are prepared to sit for several coding credentials through both AHIMA and AAPC. In addition, those who also enroll in the AS HIIM degree program concurrently can sit for AHIMA's RHIT exam, which prepares them for entry level inpatient coding positions. Local job opportunity announcements prefer candidates with a coding certificate and RHIT or RHIA credential.

This program, along with the AAS degree in Medical Coding has been duplicated by Southeast Technical College where courses are available through free and reduced tuition incentives and dual credit courses to prepare students for outpatient coder positions making it nearly impossible to compete for admissions.

The number of coders in outpatient settings with less complicated coding will be impacted by AI with reductions in workforce projected. The impact of AI to date requires inpatient coders to audit, validate, or correct the AI assisted coding assignments for more complicated diagnoses and procedures typically seen in inpatient coding settings.

A small gap in SD labor market will exist in training healthcare coders for inpatient coding positions with DSU's programs being the only training in-depth enough for inpatient coding competency. Employers will need to recruit graduates through other AHIMA approved coding programs or CAHIIM accredited AS and BS HIM programs within surrounding states to fill more complex coding jobs or will provide their own on the job training programs

6. TERMINATION WITHOUT ENROLLED STUDENTS

- A. Provide a justification for terminating the program:**
- B. What is the proposed date (day/month/year) for the program to terminate (program status in the database changes to *Deleted*)?**
- C. What are the potential cost savings of terminating the program and what are the planned uses of the savings?**
- D. What are the resulting employee terminations and other possible implications including impact on other programs?**