



The HITECH portion of the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act of 2009 (ARRA) provided funds for institutions of higher education to train health care and information technology workers. The eHealth Workforce Development Workgroup report projects that approximately 9,000 additional highly skilled health information technology (HIT) workers with a broad range of skill sets will be required to support California over the next five years.

The Los Rios Community College District was recently notified by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) that it has been named the lead institution in a \$5.4 million grant involving a consortium of 14 colleges in California, Hawaii, Arizona and Nevada.

The program is designed to get people trained quickly in the kind of computerized health information systems that are being installed by hospitals and medical offices across the western states. The electronic systems will replace inefficient paper records and allow health providers to quickly review and update a patient's medical history. Patients who have had to move, change doctors or required emergency medical attention know the importance of getting medical records transferred quickly and how difficult that is to accomplish in a paper-based system.

Some of the categories of Health IT workforce roles covered in this grant include:

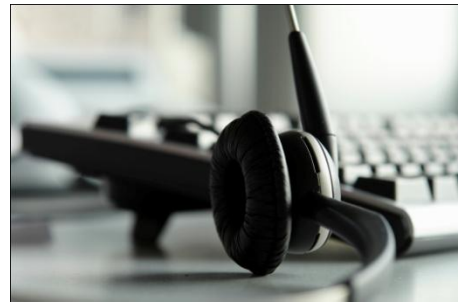
Implementation Support Specialist Certificate

Workers in this role provide on-site user support for the period of time before and during implementation of health care IT systems in clinical and public health settings. The previous background of workers in this role includes information technology or information management. Workers in this role will:

- Execute implementation project plans, by installing hardware (as needed) and configuring software to meet practice needs
- Incorporate usability principles into design and implementation
- Test the software against performance specifications
- Interact with the vendors as needed to rectify problems that occur during the deployment process

Technical Support Specialist Certificate

Workers in this role maintain systems in clinical and public health settings, including patching and upgrading of software. The previous background of workers in this role includes information technology or information management. Workers in this role will:



- Interact with end users to diagnose IT problems and implement solutions
- Document IT problems and evaluate the effectiveness of problem resolution
- Support systems security and standard

Note: additional roles/certificates may be added to the program in the future.

Cosumnes River College is the only college in the Sacramento region participating in this grant and space is limited. Interested students should view the [Online Orientation](http://www.crc.losrios.edu/Health_IT_Grant.htm) at http://www.crc.losrios.edu/Health_IT_Grant.htm for additional information. There is a link to the application inside of the Orientation.

For the Fall 2010 program the material submission timeframe is September 7th to the 23rd by 7:00PM (2010). For the Spring 2011 program the material submission timeframe is September 24th to December 16th by 7:00PM (2010). A total of ninety (90) students will be admitted to each program. Additional students will be put on a Wait List.

