APPLYING WORK EXPERIENCE TOWARD PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

The Health Information Technology (HIT) program includes a professional practice experience (PPE) course. The PPE course applies previously acquired skills and knowledge by means of clinical experiences in the technical procedures of health record systems and discussion of clinical situations.

The HIT program at Northwood Tech does not honor past work experience as credit toward the hours required within the PPE course. However, if a student currently works within an HIT-related department at a health care organization, they may receive credit toward the hours required within the PPE course, up to 25% of the required hours. The student must complete the remaining 75% of the PPE hours in different areas of the HIT (or HIT related) departments.

Example Scenario:

>   Student works as a coder at Northwood Tech Hospital and has the opportunity to complete her PPE at Northwood Tech Hospital. The student may apply her current coding workload toward the required hours of the PPE, up to 25% of the hours (for example, if 40 hours are required, the student may apply that current coding work experience as 10 of those hours). The remaining 75% of the hours (30 hours) must be completed in non-coding areas of Northwood Tech Hospital (in HIT related departments).

Other requirements/guidelines:

- If work experience is applied to the total PPE hour requirement, those hours should still be documented on the PPE hours log and approved by the PPE site mentor.
- Current work experience must be discussed with and approved by the PPE instructor prior to the start of the PPE.

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