

WGU Newsroom

**News Releases** 

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# Health Informatics Earns Key Accreditation, 1/25/11

Western Governors University's B.S. in Health Informatics Now Accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM)

SALT LAKE CITY — Western Governors University's competencybased, online bachelor's degree in Health Informatics has received accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM). The accreditation, which is granted after extensive reviews based on industry-developed standards, helps increase certification eligibility and job marketability for graduates of WGU's Health Informatics program.

An independent accrediting organization, CAHIIM was created to evaluate the quality and integrity of health informatics and health information management programs. The accreditation process includes a voluntary peer review, an onsite visit, and a review of degree requirements that evaluate the course of study using CAHIIM standards. It also incorporates ongoing improvement reports and periodic reviews to assess program performance over time. Program accreditation by CAHIIM is necessary to be eligible for the Registered Health Information Administrator (RHIA) certification exam, a highly respected credential in the healthcare industry.

"Earning CAHIIM accreditation for our Health Informatics bachelor's degree program helps ensure that our graduates are learning the things they need to know to be successful in the health informatics field," said WGU Vice President of Marketing and Enrollment Patrick Partridge. "Our B.S. in Health Informatics, which is all online and very affordable at less than \$5,800 per year, is ideal for healthcare or IT professionals who wish to move into this high-demand career field."

Designed for current healthcare professionals, health information professionals, and information technology professionals, WGU's B.S. in Health Informatics combines concepts in healthcare, information technology, and leadership practice and includes two industryrecognized IT certifications. The program, which is part of WGU's College of Health Professions, is one of eight online bachelor's and master's degree programs, including nursing and MBA in Healthcare Management. For more information about WGU's online bachelor's degree in Health Informatics, go to

http://www.wgu.edu/healthinformatics.

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