



Health Care Compliance Certification Program Program Format and Curriculum

Program Format

Students earn a Certificate in Health Care Compliance by completing a thirteen-credit program. Eleven credits are earned through four core courses offered on Tuesday and Thursday evenings during the fall and spring semesters. Students are also required to complete two additional elective credits offered through the traditional semester format or by taking advantage of courses offered during the condensed January term (J-Term) or summer term.

First Semester

1. Introduction to Compliance Policies and Procedures (3 credits) **Lucinda Jesson, Tuesdays, 4:00 p.m. - 6:40 p.m.**

This course will cover the basic fundamentals of health care compliance administration, examining written compliance policies and procedures, descriptions of compliance oversight and committees, enforcement and reporting requirements, screening of employees and vendors, negotiating and enforcing corporate integrity agreements, and billing and coding basics. It will incorporate hands-on learning throughout the curriculum including drafting assignments, small group exercises, interviewing skills and project management tasks.

2. Compliance Laws and Regulations (3 credits) **Barb Colombo, Thursdays, 4:00 p.m. - 6:40 p.m.**

This course is designed to give students a practical understanding of the laws and regulations encountered by compliance professionals in daily practice. The course introduces students to the American legal system and the roles of different branches of government in creating, administering, and enforcing the law. Special attention will be given to the federal government's regulatory infrastructure along with a thorough examination of the False Claims Act, Anti-Kickback laws, Physician Self-Referral laws (STARK), EMTALA and access to health care, HIPAA privacy and confidentiality, as well as strategies for reducing medical errors, liability of health care professionals and entities, and health care provider licensure issues. The key objective of this course is learning how to apply a range of statutory, regulatory and common law principles to a variety of compliance situations. Students will utilize legal principles and theory through a variety of simulation-based exercises.

Alternative for J.D. Students: The alternatives to taking *Compliance Laws and Regulations* are: **1) Health Law Organization and Finance AND HIPAA Privacy OR 2) Health Law Organization and Finance AND Health Care Quality and Liability.**

Second Semester

1. Compliance Skills: Auditing, Investigating, and Reporting (3 credits)

Co-taught by Keith Halleland and Jennifer O'Brien, Tuesdays, 4:00 p.m – 6:40 p.m.

This course is designed to expose students to key legal and operational concepts in the health care corporate compliance field. Students will use knowledge gained in prior mandatory coursework and participate in simulated-based projects that will require them to perform audits, investigations and reporting activities to ensure compliance with applicable federal and state laws. Through reading derived from various sources: industry articles, regulations, specific chapters of text books, government reports and materials created by content experts who will be brought in to guest lecture, students will have the opportunity to explore not only the legal facets of the compliance field but the operational reality of working as a compliance professional in the health care industry

2. Governance and Ethics in Health Care Compliance (2 credits)

Co-taught by David Orbuch & David Schultz, Thursdays, 4:00 p.m -5:50 p.m.

Our health care system is plagued with high costs and inconsistent outcomes. This class will focus on the role of Boards of Directors in meeting these and other health care challenges. In addition to outlining governance structure and responsibilities, the course will review both the current state and federal laws that apply to our health care system, as well as tax policy with respect to tax exemptions for charitable entities and detail how that tax exemption is conferred. Special attention will be given to not-for-profit, as well as for-profit entities and the unique ethical and governance issues presented by various organizational structures. Additionally, the course will cover the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and the new or enhanced standards for all U.S. public company boards and management. We will examine the implications of tax -exempt status for boards and then look deeper to explore whether these health care providers markedly differ from for-profit providers in operations, attention to the benefit of the community, and levels of charity care. The class will also address selected ethical issues that arise in governance as more and more of our citizens cannot afford health insurance and close to half of the population suffers from chronic disease.

Electives (Two Credits)

Two additional credits are required to earn a Certificate in Health Care Corporate Compliance. These elective credits are designed to give students the opportunity to individually select coursework of interest. Students may fulfill this requirement by selecting health related coursework offered through the traditional semester format or by taking advantage of courses offered during the condensed January term (J-Term) or summer schedule. Possible courses for electives include Health Care Fraud and Abuse, HIPAA Privacy, Food and Drug Law, Elder Law, Comparative Health Law, Patients' Rights, Reproductive Technology and the Law, Complimentary and Alternative Medicine and the Law, and Law and Bioethics. It will also be possible for students with a particular interest in business management to take courses, with prior approval, from the Hamline University School of Business.

