

AAPC



CASE STUDY

NY Medical Coding Academy

Training and certifying
medical coders since 2017.



Heather Johnson

Director of Content



Background

Myrtle Walcott has been a Health Information Management Director for both acute and long-term care facilities. With more than 20 years of experience, Myrtle knows the value of medical coders. In fact, she calls them “the heartbeat” of every healthcare organization. She also knows the difficulty in finding qualified medical coders. She tried the search on her own, she used recruiting agencies, but the problem remained: qualified coders were few and far between.

So, she decided to take matters into her own hands. Myrtle set out to train the next generation of coders.

“I don’t play when it comes to coding, you must pay attention to details, or you’ll lose revenue.”

Professor Myrtle Walcott

MSA, BS, CPC, CPC-I

President at New York Medical
Coding Academy





Goals

Knowing the industry and the need for qualified candidates, Myrtle was determined to develop coders who were prepared for the workforce. Her goals:

- 1 Provide quality education that prepares students to pass the CPC® exam
- 2 Provide an internship that develops those skills and prepares CPC® graduates for career success
- 3 Create a pathway for CPC® graduates to obtain employment as coders



**“Experience is important.
Nothing is multiple choice at work.”**

Professor Myrtle Walcott

MSA, BS, CPC, CPC-I

President at New York Medical
Coding Academy



"I'm going to develop these coders the way I want them to be developed, the right way."

Professor Myrtle Walcott

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President at New York

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Solution

Myrtle became a licensed education partner with AAPC and took on the role as CEO and president of the New York Medical Coding Academy. Located in Long Island City, the training program would provide the knowledge and experience students need to succeed as medical coders.

Recognizing busy schedules, the need for flexibility, and the benefits of online classes, Myrtle offered lessons in the evenings via Zoom, giving her students the opportunity to learn from the comfort of home. In addition, she provided students with a 3-month internship to gain real-world experience with medical terminology, operative reports, and applying coding guidelines.

Once her students demonstrate their expertise and gain their CPC® credential, Myrtle helps them find a coding job, either on her team or with another reputable healthcare facility.



Results

Since 2017, Myrtle has helped more than 100 students acquire their CPC® certification and obtain employment in hospitals, doctors' offices, and clinics. 95% of her students have passed the CPC® exam and 85% passed on their first try, far above the national average of 27%. Boasting a 5-star rating, students of New York Medical Coding Academy are happy with their experience.

"I passed the Medical Coding certification exam in March 2018. Ms. Walcott was instrumental to my success. In addition to the tutorials that I received from her, she kept reminding me of the need to add the AAPC certification to my baggage. In a nutshell, she is a talented teacher and I would recommend the CPC® program to anyone who has an interest in becoming certified."

Gideon Barrah, MBA, CPC,
Graduate of New York Medical
Coding Academy

"Professor Walcott is a tremendous source of knowledge and resources to ensure your success in this course. She guided me from beginning to end and kept me on track to successfully achieve certification. If you allow her to lead you through this program, you will achieve your goals and be prepared for a successful career in coding."

Donahue Milton, CPC,
Graduate of New York Medical
Coding Academy

"I have learned so much about Medical Coding from Ms. Walcott and Ms. Gloria Valencia-Terra [another instructor at New York Medical Coding Academy] that prepared me well to pass the CPC® exam from AAPC. They believed in me and gave me the support needed to complete the program successfully. "

Nadeige Jean-Baptiste, CPC,
Graduate of New York Medical
Coding Academy



And they're not the only ones.

Recognizing the quality of her training, healthcare providers actively seek out New York Medical Coding Academy graduates. In fact, alumni of Myrtle's program are now employed at some of the most renowned healthcare facilities in New York, including Interfaith Medical Center, Jacobi Hospital, and NYU.

Takeaway

Myrtle calls partnering with AAPC "the best choice I've made in my career." She is proud of the success of her coding academy and looks forward to its continued growth.

"I want to thank AAPC for providing me the tools to teach a successful coding program. The education partnership not only provides the tools needed to teach effectively, but the rationales are a great aid for the students."

Professor Myrtle Walcott

MSA, BS, CPC, CPC-I

President at New York Medical Coding Academy

**To learn more about AAPC's curriculum
or to become a certified instructor, visit**



<https://www.aapc.com/organizations/schools.aspx>



or call 866-200-4157

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