

## **MISSION STATEMENTS**

### **Arkansas Tech University Mission Statement**

Arkansas Tech University, a state-supported institution of higher education is dedicated to nurturing scholastic development, integrity and professionalism. The university offers a wide range of traditional and innovative programs which provide solid educational foundation for life-long learning to a diverse community of learners.

### **Ozark Campus Mission Statement**

Arkansas Tech University-Ozark Campus, in partnership with the community, will provide a quality educational environment which will enable all students to learn the skills and acquire the knowledge necessary for them to become contributing members in the workforce and in society.

### **Health Information Technology Mission Statement**

Arkansas Tech University HIT program is committed to providing an intellectual climate that fosters the increasingly electronic environment through education, certification, and lifelong learning as well as to assist the student to achieve personal and professional goals regardless of cultural, racial, or ethnic background.

## **PHILOSOPHY OF THE HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM**

The faculty of the Health Information Technology program at Arkansas Tech University–Ozark Campus seeks through its health information technology associate degree program to implement the mission of the Ozark Campus of the University, a mission committed to prepare students to learn the skills and acquire the knowledge to contribute to the workforce and to society.

Individuals are complex beings with bio-psychosocial, emotional, spiritual, cultural, and environmental elements. The Associate of Applied Science in Health Information Technology program is committed to providing opportunities for students to enhance their critical thinking and communication skills in health information management. The graduate will utilize the health information technology process to assist individuals, families, and groups to meet their needs regarding the safety and security of their records while enabling them to use their records to promote better health and life decisions.

Learning is essentially manifested in a change or reorganization of behavior and is best accomplished through active inquiry and participation in the learning process. Learning is a lifelong, self-initiated process by which knowledge, skills, attitudes, and values are acquired. Learning occurs independently through perception, assimilation, formulation, and synthesis. The teacher functions as a facilitator by establishing a learning climate of mutual respect regarding beliefs, feelings, and opinions, and by providing learning opportunities and guidance with regard to individual differences. Learning experiences are designed to facilitate personal and

professional growth within the student's cognitive, affective, and psychomotor domains. The ultimate responsibility for learning rests with the learner.

Health information Technology education, an integral part of higher education, fosters the generation and application of scientific knowledge through the health information technology process. These learning experiences are organized for an orderly progression through an increasing complexity of health information technology situations. During the educational process, the student acquires knowledge of the independent and collaborative functions of the health information technologist.

Associate degree health information technology education prepares a graduate to function as an entry level health information technologist. The curriculum is designed to prepare the person for health information technology practice, to be competent, self-directed, and capable of demonstrating leadership in the application of the health information technology process in a variety of healthcare settings.

The graduate should demonstrate initiative for responsible change, the ability to think critically, and a lifelong quest for knowledge and growth, and will be encouraged at every step along the educational path to follow up this program by entering a baccalaureate program in health information administration to demonstrate this quest for knowledge and growth.