



Medical Transcription Industry Facts

What Do Medical Transcriptionists And Editors Do?

Medical transcription professionals play a key role in providing accurate medical records. The industry is evolving to include two important and distinct roles:

- Medical transcriptionists who type (or transcribe) the dictations of doctor-patient interactions, creating the reports that are included in patients' medical records.
- Medical transcription editors who are specialized medical transcriptionists focused on correcting and editing the written reports generated by speech recognition software, which electronically transcribes dictations into text.

Where Do Medical Transcriptionists And Editors Work?

Medical transcription is primarily a work-from-home occupation, giving you the opportunity to have a professional career from the comfort of your own home. Most healthcare providers outsource their medical transcription work to national healthcare documentation companies, which hire medical transcription professionals from all over the country to transcribe and edit the records from their homes in an online, virtual work environment.

How Much Do Medical Transcriptionists And Editors Earn?

Medical transcription professionals are compensated in several different ways, and the amount each individual earns varies with

employer and experience level. However, these professionals are usually paid on a production basis, and the U.S. Department of Labor reports that they earn an average of over \$32,000 a year.

Is The Medical Transcription Field Growing?

There is a growing demand for well-trained medical transcription professionals. The 2010-2011 edition of the *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, published by the U.S. Department of Labor, estimates:

- A healthy job market as industry employment is projected to grow by 11% by 2018. Many current medical transcription jobs may also transition to editor roles.
- A high demand for transcription services, sustained by the continued need for easily shared electronic documentation. This high demand may also encourage more employers to transition to speech recognition technology.
- A growing number of professionals needed in the field to amend patients' records, edit documents from speech recognition systems, and identify discrepancies in medical reports.



"The program is very challenging but that is what makes it worthwhile. . . . The program prepared me so well that I was able to pass with High Honors and get a great job! My employer is very pleased with my progress so far on the job, and so am I."

- Lisa, Class of 2010



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