



News Release

Missouri Western State College • 4525 Downs Drive • St. Joseph, MO 64507 • 816-271-5649

Contact: Kristy Hill

Phone: (816)-271-5649

Title: Public Relations/Marketing Director

Email: hillk@mwsc.edu

WESTERN CELEBRATES NATIONAL HEALTH INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY WEEK

St. Joseph, Mo. — Oct. 29, 2004 — Missouri Western State College will commemorate National Health Information and Technology (HIT) Week Nov. 7-13. This annual event recognizes the work of health information management professionals who maintain and protect the health information of Americans nationwide. In observance, Western's HIT program will have a panel of health information management professionals visit Western to talk about their job responsibilities, employment opportunities and to answer student questions.

This year marks Western's 10th anniversary of the start of HIT program. Western offers a one-year certificate program and a two-year associate of applied science degree program with a major in HIT. The HIT program is accredited by the Commission on the Accreditation of Allied Health Educational programs (CAAHEP) in collaboration with the American Health Information Management Association's (AHIMA) Council on Accreditation.

The HIT occupation offers a variety of work settings and includes diverse career options including health data management, clinical coding specialist, patient information coordinator, records technician specialist and physicians practice manager.

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Missouri Western State College is a four-year public institution providing a blend of traditional liberal arts and professional degree programs. The college offers student-centered, high quality instruction that focuses on experience-based learning, community service, and state-of-the-art technology. Western is located in St. Joseph, Mo. and is committed to the educational, economic, cultural and social development of the region it serves.