

Amy Machtay, one of ***Boughtin and Orndoff Consulting's*** Associates, recently earned her certification from the Health Information Management Systems Society (HIMSS) as a Certified Professional in Health Information Management Systems (CPHIMS). The CPHIMS program establishes standards for professional practice; creates a fair, valid and reliable examination process for professionals to demonstrate their knowledge and skills; and grants certification to those who meet the program's standards. CPHIMS became one of the few Air Force Medical Service Corps (MSC) board-certified credentials in the early 2000s for medical administrators working in areas such as logistics, resource management, IT, readiness, patient administration and other health care divisions.

Content in the CPHIMS exam focuses on the following topics: general health care and technology environments; systems analysis; design; selection, implementation, support and maintenance; testing and evaluation; privacy and security; and administration, leadership and management. These topics mirror the knowledge, skills and abilities required for HIT and management systems professionals to perform optimally on the job.

To be eligible for the CPHIMS examination, a candidate must fulfill one of the following requirements for education and work experience: a baccalaureate degree, plus five years of associated information and management systems experience, with three in health care, or graduate degree, plus three years of associated information and management systems experience, with two in health care. Associated information and management systems experience includes experience in the following functional areas: administration and management, clinical information systems, e-health, information systems or management engineering.