Meet the demand for health informatics professionals and researchers.

Professionals and researchers who understand the relationship between information technology, people, health, and the healthcare system are in short supply. With Northeastern University’s interdisciplinary graduate programs in health informatics, you have an opportunity to gain the knowledge and skills needed to use information technology to improve healthcare delivery and outcomes—and to advance your career in this growing field.

Each of Northeastern’s health informatics degree and certificate programs seek to provide:

- The expertise of both the Khoury College of Computer Sciences (http://www.ccs.neu.edu/about/) and Bouvé College of Health Sciences (http://www.northeastern.edu/bouve/)
- Faculty (https://www.khoury.northeastern.edu/programs/health-informatics-ms/) who are senior leaders in the field
- The ability to communicate effectively with clinicians, administrators, and IT professionals and to understand each of their needs and constraints
- Strong industry connections
- The opportunity to learn from students with backgrounds in healthcare or technology—nurses, pharmacists, physicians, programmers, project managers, analysts, and others
- Flexible course schedules and formats designed to meet the needs of both working professionals and full-time students
- Research opportunities and an academic lead-in to the PhD in Personal Health Informatics (http://phi.ccs.neu.edu/)

Northeastern’s master’s degree and certificate programs additionally also seek to provide:

- The ability to communicate effectively with clinicians, administrators, IT professionals, and patients and to understand each of their needs and constraints
- Flexible course schedules and formats designed to meet the needs of both working professionals and full-time students

Northeastern’s doctoral program in personal health informatics provides students training for research-based careers in a cutting-edge new field within health, focused on the use of technology to help support health and wellness throughout the life span.

Whether you want to take on new responsibilities in your current workplace or to launch a new career, Northeastern’s graduate degree and certificate programs in health informatics are designed to prepare you for leadership and specialist roles in a variety of health-related organizations. And you’re ready to make an immediate impact on healthcare.

Doctor of Philosophy in Personal Health Informatics

Northeastern’s Doctor of Philosophy in Personal Health Informatics is an interdisciplinary doctoral program focused on educating top researchers in the theoretical underpinnings, design, evaluation, and dissemination of consumer- and patient-focused health systems. Personal health technologies are those that non–health professionals interact with directly, both in and out of a clinical setting and in various life stages of illness and wellness.

Examples include:

- Assistive technologies that aid persons with disabilities
- Consumer wellness promotion technologies
- Patient education and counseling systems
- Interfaces for using and reviewing personal health records
- Advanced ambulatory monitoring for supporting health
- Automated elder care systems that monitor health and support independent living
- Social networking systems connecting families and their social and medical support networks

Students study the fundamentals of personal health informatics, ranging from theory to system development, as well as research methods that enable them to conduct transformative research. Students learn how to conduct research studies with patients and consumers with a wide range of backgrounds in different contexts using a variety of media, while ensuring that fielded technologies are effective, reliable, and responsive to the needs of at-risk and patient populations. Critical skills and knowledge covered in coursework include needs assessment, theories of interface design and health behavior, rapid prototyping and implementation, experimental design with human subjects in challenging settings, advanced research methods for evaluating interventions, and statistical data analysis and validation. Students conduct research working with, or leading, transdisciplinary teams.

The interdisciplinary nature of the program targets students who are interested in improving health and wellness using novel technologies that directly impact the lives of consumers and patients. This is a program for students who are not only technically strong but also socially conscious, design oriented, and interested in rigorously evaluating the technologies they imagine and build. The program provides a path for technical students to acquire more experience in the deployment and evaluation of health technologies in the field but also a path for students with health backgrounds to develop the technical skills needed to prototype and assess creative ideas they envision for improving care. The expected length of study is five years after the bachelor’s degree.

Master of Science in Health Informatics

Northeastern’s interdisciplinary Master of Science in Health Informatics was the first MS in the field. The program seeks to prepare students to address the combined clinical, technical, and business needs of health-related professionals. Successful students graduate with the knowledge of how technology, people, health, and the healthcare system interrelate; the ability to use technology and information management to improve healthcare delivery and outcomes; and the skills to communicate effectively among healthcare practitioners, administrators, and information technology professionals.

Programs

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

- Personal Health Informatics (http://catalog.northeastern.edu/graduate/computer-information-science/health-informatics/personal-health-informatics-phd/)

Master of Science (MS)

- Health Informatics (http://catalog.northeastern.edu/graduate/health-sciences/interdisciplinary/health-informatics-ms/)
Graduate Certificate

- Health Informatics Management and Exchange (http://catalog.northeastern.edu/graduate/health-sciences/interdisciplinary/health-informatics-management-exchange-graduate-certificate/)
- Health Informatics Privacy and Security (http://catalog.northeastern.edu/graduate/health-sciences/interdisciplinary/health-informatics-privacy-security-graduate-certificate/)
- Health Informatics Software Engineering (http://catalog.northeastern.edu/graduate/health-sciences/interdisciplinary/health-informatics-software-engineering-graduate-certificate/)