Medical Professional Coding

COURSE SYLLABUS | 2027 COURSE CYCLE

Legacy Medical Billing & Coding, LLC • Online instruction through Canvas • www.medicalbillcode.com/cpc

Course overview

The Medical Professional Coding program introduces outpatient physician and professional-fee coding and prepares learners to apply ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes, CPT procedure and service codes, and HCPCS Level II codes. Coursework builds coding-manual navigation, documentation interpretation, guideline application, sequencing, modifiers, and CPC-style problem-solving skills.

Course format	Live cohort or self-paced online
Live cohort duration	Weekday: 16 lessons across 18 weeks; Saturday: 12 lessons across 12 weeks. Live sessions are recorded.
Course access	16 months for both live and self-paced learners, subject to enrollment terms
Learning platform	Canvas
Completion standard	Complete all required assignments and achieve an overall course grade of at least 70%

Required course materials

- Buck's Step-by-Step Medical Coding, 2027 Edition (textbook)
- Buck's Workbook for Step-by-Step Medical Coding, 2027 Edition
- AMA CPT Professional, 2027 edition
- ICD-10-CM codebook, 2027 edition
- HCPCS Level II codebook, 2027 edition
- Legacy-approved coding tabs and course materials provided in Canvas

Coding manuals must be used alongside Buck's instruction; the textbook and workbook do not replace the official manuals or their instructions.

Learning outcomes

- Navigate the ICD-10-CM Alphabetic Index and Tabular List and apply coding and sequencing conventions.
- Locate and report professional services and procedures using CPT and HCPCS Level II.
- Apply modifiers, code-specific notes, bundling principles, and category-specific guidelines.
- Analyze clinical documentation to identify supported diagnoses and procedures.
- Explain coding decisions by tracing the coding pathway through the manuals.
- Practice time management, codebook preparation, and CPC-style examination strategies.

How instruction and assignments work

Read the assigned Buck's textbook chapters, complete the corresponding workbook activities, and finish the required Canvas lessons, quizzes, proficiency assessments, and coding exercises. For live cohorts, complete preparation before class; live meetings emphasize question-based application, manual demonstrations, and instructor-guided reasoning rather than repeating the chapter readings. Self-paced learners follow the same content sequence at their own pace.

16-week Instructional Guide — Self-Paced and Weekday Live

This 16-week guide provides the suggested sequence for self-paced study and the 16 instructional lessons in weekday live cohorts. Weekday live cohorts deliver those 16 lessons over 18 calendar weeks; the two additional weeks are scheduled according to the cohort calendar. Canvas contains exact assignments, meeting dates, and deadlines.

Week	Buck's chapter(s)	Instructional focus
1	1–2	Reimbursement, HIPAA, compliance; ICD-10-CM foundations
2	3–4	Outpatient ICD-10-CM rules; index-to-tabular workflow
3	5	ICD-10-CM chapter-specific guidelines: chapters 1–10
4	6–7	ICD-10-CM chapter-specific guidelines: chapters 11–22
5	8–10	CPT structure, HCPCS Level II, and modifiers
6	11	Evaluation and Management (E/M) coding
7	12–13	Anesthesia; surgery guidelines and general surgery
8	14–15	Integumentary and musculoskeletal systems
9	16–17	Respiratory and cardiovascular systems
10	18–19	Hemic/lymphatic, mediastinum, diaphragm; digestive system
11	20–21	Urinary and male genital; reproductive, female genital, maternity and delivery
12	22–23	Endocrine/nervous; eye, ocular adnexa, auditory and operating microscope
13	24–25	Radiology and pathology/laboratory
14	26	Medicine section; integrated CPT/HCPCS application
15	Review	Mixed ICD-10-CM, CPT, HCPCS, modifiers and complex chart notes
16	Review	CPC-style cumulative practice, coding-manual navigation and exam strategy

Saturday live cohort — 12-lesson instructional guide

Saturday cohorts complete the same core Buck's curriculum in 12 weekly lessons. Multiple chapters are combined where appropriate; all required Canvas assignments remain in place. The cohort calendar controls individual lesson dates and pacing.

Lesson	Buck's chapter(s)	Instructional focus
1	1–3	Coding foundations, ICD-10-CM conventions and outpatient guidelines
2	4–5	ICD-10-CM application and chapter-specific guidelines, chapters 1–10
3	6–7	ICD-10-CM chapter-specific guidelines, chapters 11–22
4	8–10	CPT organization, HCPCS Level II and modifiers
5	11–12	Evaluation and Management and anesthesia
6	13–15	Surgery guidelines; integumentary and musculoskeletal
7	16–17	Respiratory and cardiovascular
8	18–19	Hemic/lymphatic, mediastinum, diaphragm and digestive
9	20–21	Urinary, male and female genital, maternity and delivery
10	22–23	Endocrine, nervous, eye, ear and operating microscope
11	24–26	Radiology, pathology/laboratory, medicine and final content review
12	Review	Cumulative CPC-style questions, coding-manual skills and exam preparation

Buck's Chapter 27 (Inpatient Coding) is available as supplemental enrichment. Legacy's core CPC preparation focuses on professional/outpatient coding rather than inpatient facility coding.

Live course schedule is subject to change.

Weekly study expectations

For each assigned chapter, learners should review key terms and chapter objectives, complete required textbook and workbook exercises, apply relevant manual guidelines, submit assigned Canvas work, and review missed questions with attention to the coding pathway. Learners should expect additional independent study outside the live sessions.

Assessments and course completion

Grades are based on required Canvas assignments and assessments. Every required assignment must be completed, and the overall course grade must reach at least 70% for completion. Instructor feedback and coaching help learners identify missed concepts; the

exact assignment weights and submission requirements are displayed in Canvas. Course completion and eligibility for any separately purchased certification benefits are distinct from passing an external certification exam.

Course Participation & Learner Support

Live-session participation

Learners are expected to prepare before attending, participate in case-based question reviews, and use their coding manuals during demonstrations. Sessions are recorded for review. Live participation and recordings supplement, but do not replace, completing required Canvas assignments.

Instructor support

Coaching and academic support are available throughout active course access. Standard office hours are Monday–Friday, 7:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. Pacific Time; phone availability is generally Monday–Friday, 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. Pacific Time. Allow up to 48 business hours for responses, excluding weekends and holidays. Learners can request one-on-one coaching and use Legacy's study resources.

Coding accuracy and academic expectations

Assign only codes supported by the documentation and applicable coding instructions. Confirm proposed codes in the appropriate codebook, follow instructional notes and sequencing requirements, and cite the coding pathway when an exercise calls for an explanation. Submit your own work and use feedback to strengthen independent coding judgment.

Course pacing and access

Course access is 16 months for both self-paced and live learners, subject to the enrollment agreement. The 16-week instructional guide is a suggested study sequence and is not the duration of Canvas access. Weekday live cohorts include 16 lessons over 18 weeks; Saturday live cohorts include 12 lessons over 12 weeks. Self-paced learners may adjust their study pace within their access period.

Certification preparation

The program develops skills relevant to the AAPC Certified Professional Coder (CPC) examination; successful course completion does not itself grant CPC certification. Examination registration, eligibility, fees, vouchers, membership, and any other certification resources depend on the learner's purchased package and the certifying organization's current requirements.

Important dates & course communications

For live learners, the specific cohort calendar and Canvas announcements establish class dates, any scheduled non-instruction weeks, assignments, and deadlines. Learners are responsible for checking Canvas and email for updates, including coding-year changes and supplementary lessons.

Optional remote coding internship

Legacy offers an optional, unpaid, remote coding internship for eligible Legacy learners who have completed the CPC certification process and met the separate internship admission requirements. The internship consists of 560 coding charts, may be completed on a flexible schedule, and must be finished within one year of internship enrollment.

Current internship eligibility includes passing the CPC examination and meeting the minimum performance standard in both Legacy coursework and PractiCode. The current stated minimum is 80% in each; Legacy will confirm the applicable requirements and availability when reviewing applications. PractiCode is a separate component and becomes available after passing the CPC exam, subject to the learner's package and activation terms.

The internship is not required to complete the Medical Professional Coding course or to receive the course completion credential. Participation does not guarantee employment, certification, or removal of an apprentice designation; any professional experience credit is determined by the applicable certifying organization.