



## Association of International Medical Graduates of British Columbia

The Alternative Pathways Committee has been working along with the Vancouver Community College (VCC) to offer a few opportunities for IMGs in their [Medical Transcriptionist Program](#). For those who attended our previous session, you might remember we suggested to find a way to decrease time and cost of training for IMGs in this program.

If members of AIMGBC enrol in VCC's [medical transcriptionist program](#), there are a few ways to reduce training time and cost as follows:

1. If you can already touch type at 40 gross wpm on a 5-minute test with 5 errors or less, you can apply for Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (“PLAR”). That would permit you to skip the first level keyboarding course. There is a fee for a PLAR application, but it would be less than the tuition for the course, so that would save some money.
2. If you can already touch type at 50 gross wpm on a 5-minute test with 5 errors or less, then you can apply for Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (“PLAR”). That would permit you to skip the second level keyboarding course. There is a fee for a PLAR application, but it would be less than the tuition for the course, so that would save some money.
3. If you can already touch type at 60 gross wpm on a 5-minute test with 5 errors or less, then you can apply for Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (“PLAR”). That would permit you to skip the third level keyboarding course. There is a fee for a PLAR application, but it would be less than the tuition for the course, so that would save some money.
4. VCC could set up PLAR for the two Medical Terminology courses (which is currently not offered). That would permit you to write the final exams for those two courses. If you passed, then you would get PLAR for those courses. You would not have to attend, and you would save money.

There is a fee for PLAR applications, but it is less than tuition for the courses. Also, not having to take two courses would permit students to work during those time periods.

If you are interested, and if you already know how to keyboard, then you could apply to the program and ask for PLAR for five courses:

Medical Terminology for MT 1 (MEDC 1120)  
Medical Terminology for MT 2 (MEDC 1130)  
Medical Speed and Accuracy 1 (MEDC 1121)  
Medical Speed and Accuracy for MT 2 (MEDC 1131)  
Medical Speed and Accuracy 3 (MEDC 1241)

If successful, then your members would only have to take and pay for 11 courses instead of 16, and they would be free to work during much of the first term.

There is an **information session at our downtown campus at 4:00pm for the Medical Transcriptionist program scheduled (on Monday, August 14<sup>th</sup>)** if you would like more information about the program, or the opportunity to ask questions:

<http://www.vcc.ca/applying/apply-now/info-sessionstours/medical-transcriptionist/>

Best Regards,  
Alternative Pathway Committee  
Lorena Mota- Chair

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