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Online & Special Programs  
**Office of the Provost**

Lifelong Learning from the University of Houston  
Newsletter



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# Welcome Letter

*Welcome to our first newsletter! We are thrilled that you are considering the University of Houston for your online education journey. We created this newsletter with future Coogs in mind, and we hope you will find it insightful.*

*Our online certificate programs are designed to provide you with the flexibility and support you need to make a change in your career or grow your skills.*

*At the University of Houston, we offer a diverse range of online professional education programs that cater to various interests and career aspirations.*

*We are committed to helping you achieve your career goals and look forward to helping you find the right program.*

*If you have any questions or need more information, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.*

*Warm regards,*

*Sandra Lozano*

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*University of Houston*

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# Boost Your Career: The Impact of Non-Credit Certificate Programs on Houston's Job Market

*by Kei-lah Dowdy*

Non-credit certificate programs offer numerous benefits for job seekers, including skill enhancement, cost-effectiveness, and time efficiency. These programs provide flexible schedules, making them ideal for those with other commitments. They also offer valuable networking opportunities and practical experience, which can boost career prospects. Employers often recognize and value the specialized training from these programs, making them a smart choice for anyone looking to advance or shift their career quickly and affordably.

Our partnership with ed2go ensures that you get the help you need to start a new career or advance in your current one. These programs offer flexible enrollment and 24/7 access to course materials, allowing you to learn at your own pace. Spanning 6 to 12 months, the courses provide an immersive experience in your chosen field.

In a competitive job market, obtaining a certificate can be a game-changer, especially in a dynamic city like Houston. Here are a few ways that a certificate can help you land a job and advance your career.

***"The certificate offered me a competitive edge in the work field, and I already have a full-time remote position lined up!" -Emily Fitch, Medical Billing & Coding | 2024***

## **1. Specialized Skills and Knowledge**

Certificate programs are designed to provide specialized training in specific fields. Whether it's healthcare, technology, or skilled trades, these programs equip you with the practical skills and knowledge that employers are looking for. Our [Medical Billing and Coding \(Voucher Included\)](#) program is perfect for those wanting to switch careers into the in-demand healthcare field. This program can lead to a well-paying job in the healthcare industry, which is one of the fastest-growing sectors in Houston.

## **2. Cost-Effective and Time-Efficient**

Compared to traditional degree programs, certificates are often more affordable and can be completed in a shorter time frame. Many of our programs can be finished within 6 to 12 months, allowing you to quickly enter the workforce. This is beneficial for those looking to switch careers or enhance their current skill set without the financial burden of a full degree.

### 3. Increased Job Opportunities

Houston's job market is thriving! There is significant growth in sectors like healthcare, technology, and construction.

Certificates in these fields can open doors to numerous job opportunities. Our [Web Applications Developer](#) program will prepare students for an entry-level career in web app development. Learning everything from the basic HTML, CSS, and PHP to SQL, XML, and WordPress.

### 4. Higher Earning Potential

Many certificate programs lead to careers with competitive salaries. For instance, HVAC technicians and web designers, can complete their certification in a few months, often earn salaries well above the national average. This makes certification a smart investment for long-term financial stability. Our [HVAC/R Certified Technician \(Voucher Included\)](#) program can be completed within 12 months and prepare students for the industry- recognized HVAC Excellence or NATE certification.

In a bustling job market like Houston's, obtaining a certificate can significantly enhance your employability and career prospects. By providing specialized skills, cost-effective education, and increased job opportunities, certificates are a valuable tool for anyone looking to advance their career. Check out our [Career Training](#) page for more information.

***"The certificate program has provided me with essential knowledge and practical skills to confidently pursue a career in freight brokerage."*** -

**Terrence Underwood,  
Freight Broker/  
Agent Training |  
2024**

***"The hands-on projects made me feel confident about the skills I gained."*** - **Danina Tate,  
Cybersecurity Boot Camp |  
2024**



# UH's Popular Career & Skill Training Programs

The office of Online & Special Programs at the University of Houston offers over 400 career training programs and over 800 skill training courses. Whether you are looking to switch careers or get certified in your current one, UH has what you need. Here are our top 2 skill and career training courses that students love!

## **Career Training:**

Courses range from six to eighteen months and often include certification exam vouchers.

1. Medical Billing & Coding (Voucher Included)
2. Freight Broker/Agent Training

## **Skill Training:**

These courses are offered via instructor-moderated or self-guided method. Courses range from six weeks to three months.

1. A to Z Grant writing
2. Personal Finance

Have any questions? Contact us at 713-743-1060 or email at [outreach@uh.edu](mailto:outreach@uh.edu). Ready to register? Click on the button below to get started!

[\*\*\*Register Today\*\*\*](#)

## **Launch a High-Demand, High-Paying Career in Cybersecurity**

Cybersecurity is one of the fastest growing and most lucrative fields in today's job market. With cybercrime projected to cost the world \$10.5 trillion annually by 2025 (Cybersecurity Ventures), organizations are urgently seeking skilled professionals to protect their digital assets.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, cybersecurity analyst jobs are expected to grow by 33% through 2033, far outpacing the average for all occupations. In the Houston-Pasadena-The Woodlands area, job openings for information security analysts are projected to grow by 32.2% by 2034, with average salaries around \$113,825, and entry-level roles in The Woodlands averaging \$118,765 (ZipRecruiter).

### **Get the Skills Employers Want**

The Intensive Cybersecurity Training Program, powered by Infosec and offered through the University of Houston, is designed to help you break into this high-demand field. In just 24 weeks, you'll gain:

- 640 hours of hands-on, industry-driven training
- Live, online classes led by cybersecurity experts
- Real-world labs and portfolio-building projects
- One-on-one career coaching and resume support
- A CompTIA Security+ exam voucher and Certificate of Completion

### **Top Cybersecurity Skills You'll Learn**

To stand out in the job market, you'll develop essential skills such as:

- Network Security - Secure infrastructure and analyze traffic
- Incident Response - Detect, respond to, and recover from threats
- Ethical Hacking - Identify vulnerabilities before attackers do
- Risk Management - Evaluate and mitigate cybersecurity risks
- Cloud Security - Protect data in cloud environments
- Compliance Knowledge - Understand regulations like HIPAA and GDPR
- SIEM Tools - Monitor and respond to security events in real time
- Programming - Use Python and other languages to automate and analyze

### **Ready to Get Started?**

With multiple start dates and flexible financing options, now is the perfect time to invest in your future. Join a national network of learners and launch your cybersecurity career with confidence.

[\*Learn More Today\*](#)

# FAQ

Here are some frequently asked questions (FAQs) about our non-credit certificate programs through ed2go.

## **1. How long does it take to complete a certificate program through UH?**

- The duration of certificate programs varies, but most career training programs can be completed within 6-12 months. Most of our career training programs are self-paced and open enrollment, which means you can start and finish at your own pace (within the allotted time frame). Our skill training courses can be completed within 6 weeks to 3 months depending on if you have selected self-paced or instructor-moderated learning.

## **2. Are these online certificate programs taught through UH?**

- The office of Online & Specials Programs at the University of Houston has a partnership with ed2go, an educational learning service that provides career and skill training programs. Students will receive their certificate of completion from the University of Houston but will be taught by instructors from ed2go.

## **3. What is the difference between a certificate and a certification?**

- A certificate is awarded upon completion of an educational program, while a certification typically involves passing an exam and meeting industry standards to demonstrate professional competence. Upon completion of your career and skill training programs, you will receive a digital certificate of completion from the University of Houston. Some of our career training programs lead to a certification in the field. Programs that have "Voucher Included" typically allows students to sit for the certification exam once they are finished with the program.

## **4. Will my employer reimburse me for my certificate program?**

- It is important to check with your HR department. Most employers will reimburse you for enrolling in a certificate program through UH. In addition to your certificate of completion, we will provide a verification letter for your employer if needed.