

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Graduates of the Medical Coder Program Continue to Strengthen Vermont's Workforce and Economy

RUTLAND, VT, June 7, 2016 — On Saturday, June 11, MedAssets-Precyse will celebrate the on-boarding of 18 medical coding graduates who recently completed an intensive pre-apprenticeship education program.

Earlier this year more than 350 unemployed or underemployed Vermont residents applied to be selected for one of the slots in Vermont HITEC's Certified Medical Coder Program. The program prepares the students for the American Academy of Professional Coders (AAPC) medical coding certification exam, and upon graduation from the program participants are provided a certified medical coder apprentice position at MedAssets-Precyse. These positions receive full wages and benefits.

"We are so pleased that MedAssets-Precyse has chosen to bring these jobs to Vermont, and to partner with our Agency of Commerce, Vermont Department of Labor, and Vermont HITEC to train Vermonters in this high-demand, high-growth area of business services," said *Vermont Governor Peter Shumlin*. "This is a great example of private-public partnership, and has led to 32 new jobs for Vermont – and more job growth potential here in Vermont. We were also excited that the most recent recruit-class was held in Rutland, and that more training classes and jobs are likely to be sited here. I congratulate the Rutland class on their hard work and great success."

The Certified Medical Coder Program is a collaborative effort involving the U.S. Department of Labor, Vermont Department of Labor, Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development, Vermont HITEC and MedAssets-Precyse. The program was created in 2014 via the Vermont Employment Growth Incentive (VEGI) and is offered at no cost to applicants who reside in Vermont. The first program (class of 2015) successfully resulted in employment for 14 Vermont residents.

"This program fills the gap between motivated individuals who lack specific job skills and employers looking for well-trained and qualified staff. This is a perfect example of the type of services that we want to do more of and showcases the Certified Medical Coder Program as a great role model for all communities to enable health care organizations to thrive," said *Joel Hackney, CEO of MedAssets-Precyse*.

Saturday's event celebrates the graduation of these 18 students (class of 2016) and their upcoming one-year paid apprenticeship with MedAssets-Precyse. In attendance at the graduation will be MedAssets-Precyse leadership and colleagues, state representatives, past and current graduates and their families. Representatives from all partners of this initiative will be available to answer questions from the press.

MedAssets-Precyse

The combined MedAssets-Precyse enterprise is the leader in providing end-to-end revenue cycle services, technology and education solutions. The integrated companies offer extensive capabilities to improve organizations' operational health grow business and ultimately improve the quality of healthcare. The companies are in the process of becoming fully integrated, a process that is expected to be completed in 2016. For more information, visit: www.medassets-precyse.com.



Vermont HITEC

Vermont HITEC is a 501C (3) non-profit organization with a mission to educate, train and employ Vermonters in a variety of fields. Over the past 16 years, *Vermont HITEC* has partnered with over 30 Vermont and New Hampshire businesses to employ over 1,300 individuals in the healthcare, information technology and advanced manufacturing fields. For more information, visit: <http://www.vhitec.org/>.

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