

# CCDIP Examination Blueprint

Certified Clinical Documentation Improvement Professional (CCDIP)

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Date	Version	Review Cycle	Contact
April 2026	v1.0	Annual	info@gihqs.com

## 01 Certification Purpose

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The Certified Clinical Documentation Improvement Professional (CCDIP) certification validates the knowledge and competencies required to lead, manage, and sustain clinical documentation improvement programs in healthcare delivery organizations.

The certification focuses on documentation integrity, CDI program operations, physician engagement, compliant query methodology, regulatory compliance, coding alignment, quality reporting, denial prevention, AI-assisted analytics, risk adjustment documentation, and CDI professional leadership.

The CCDIP certification supports healthcare professionals responsible for improving the accuracy, completeness, and compliance of clinical documentation — ensuring that records accurately reflect clinical complexity and support coding accuracy, reimbursement integrity, and quality reporting outcomes.

The certification aligns with the mission of the Global Institute for Healthcare Quality & Safety (GIHQS) to advance healthcare quality and patient safety through professional certification, education, and accreditation of programs that strengthen high-reliability healthcare systems.

*The CCDIP certification is designed for CDI specialists, documentation improvement professionals, coding compliance leaders, and clinical documentation managers responsible for improving documentation quality, supporting coding accuracy, and sustaining CDI program excellence in healthcare organizations.*

## 02 Certification Development

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The CCDIP certification framework, Examination Blueprint, and Exam Content Outline (ECO) were developed with input from professionals working in clinical documentation improvement, health information management, coding compliance, revenue integrity, and CDI program leadership.

The certification domains reflect competencies required to support accurate, complete, and compliant clinical documentation across a range of healthcare settings and CDI program models.

GIHQS periodically reviews certification frameworks to ensure continued alignment with evolving coding guidelines, regulatory requirements, CDI technology developments, and professional practice standards.

## 03 Examination Overview

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The CCDIP examination evaluates professional knowledge required to improve clinical documentation integrity, lead CDI programs, apply compliant query methodology, ensure coding compliance, and leverage AI-assisted analytics for documentation improvement. Domain 05 — Regulatory Compliance, Coding Guidelines & Documentation Alignment — carries the highest examination weight at 15%, reflecting its critical importance to audit readiness and organizational compliance.

CCDIP	Certified Clinical Documentation Improvement Professional
Exam Format	Multiple-choice examination
Number of Questions	150 scored questions
Time Allowed	3 hours (180 minutes)
Question Format	Four-option multiple-choice questions, one correct response per question
Examination Delivery	Online proctored examination using secure examination technology with monitoring mechanisms to protect examination integrity
Scoring Method	Scaled scoring system ranging from 200 to 800
Minimum Passing Score	600

## 04 Job Task Analysis

The CCDIP certification domains are informed by professional practice areas involved in clinical documentation review, physician query management, coding compliance, CDI program leadership, and revenue integrity in healthcare organizations.

The domains reflect competencies required for CDI specialists, documentation improvement professionals, health information managers, coding compliance leaders, and CDI program directors responsible for improving and sustaining clinical documentation quality.

The examination domains represent key knowledge areas and professional responsibilities relevant to clinical documentation improvement across acute, ambulatory, and post-acute healthcare settings.

## 05 Examination Domains

The CCDIP examination is organized into ten domains. Domain 05 carries the highest weight at 15%, reflecting the critical importance of regulatory compliance and coding alignment to CDI professional practice. The table below presents all ten domains and their relative examination weightings.

#	Domain	Exam Weight
01	Clinical Documentation Integrity Foundations	12%
02	CDI Program Management & Operations	11%
03	Physician Engagement & Documentation Improvement Education	10%
04	Compliant Query Methodology & Clinical Validation	11%
05	<b>Regulatory Compliance, Coding Guidelines &amp; Documentation Alignment</b>	<b>15%</b>
06	Quality Reporting, Patient Safety Indicators & Clinical Documentation	9%
07	Denial Prevention, Clinical Validation & AI-Supported Revenue Integrity	8%
08	CDI Data Analytics, AI-Assisted Documentation Review & Performance Intelligence	8%
09	Risk Adjustment Documentation & Hierarchical Condition Categories (HCC)	8%
10	CDI Leadership, Ethics & Professional Practice	8%

Total	100%
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*Domain 05 — Regulatory Compliance, Coding Guidelines & Documentation Alignment — carries the highest examination weight at 15%. Candidates should allocate proportionally greater preparation time to this domain while maintaining broad competency across all ten areas.*

## 06 How Candidates Should Use This Blueprint

The Examination Blueprint provides candidates with a structured overview of the CCDIP examination domains and their relative weighting. Candidates should use this blueprint to understand examination emphasis and prioritize preparation accordingly.

Candidates are encouraged to:

- Review all ten domains and their weightings to understand the full scope of the examination
- Allocate preparation time proportionally, with greater emphasis on Domain 05 and other higher-weighted domains
- Use the CCDIP Study Guide and Exam Content Outline (ECO) for detailed knowledge and task statement review
- Supplement preparation with official coding guidelines, query standards, regulatory frameworks, and current CDI practice literature
- Complete available CCDIP practice examinations to assess readiness and identify areas for further development

The CCDIP Study Guide, practice examinations, and preparation materials are fully aligned with these ten domains to support comprehensive, structured examination readiness.