
MedCode Professional Career Academy **Nashville, Tennessee**

Jasmine Hall's first job in her teens was in medical collections, a role where she found a natural talent for understanding the terminology and explaining bills to patients. As a young mother, Jasmine was looking for a higher paying career that would also allow her to spend more time with her daughter. After seeing a commercial for medical coding school, she decided to put her talents to use and earn her Certified Professional Coder (CPC) certification.

Getting that certification, however, would come with a lot of sacrifice. But the long hours paid off and she was able to provide for her daughter in ways she hadn't been able to before. Soon, friends and family began asking Jasmine if she could teach them medical coding. She did some digging and decided to get certified and launch her own school. Her model would strip away the extra courses that for-profit schools include to more efficiently and cost-effectively prepare students to enter the job market. At her father's suggestion, Jasmine used the business plan template from SBA.gov to apply for her loan from Pathway Lending to open MedCode Professional Career Academy.

"I think going into a lender's office can be intimidating, but Pathway Lending was different. They were very supportive and so excited about my idea," says Jasmine. "They were very open to the idea and said 'let's do this together.' So after ten years of planning and working toward my dream, MedCode Professional Career Academy was born."



With a \$15,000 SBA microloan from Pathway Lending, Jasmine purchased the curriculum license, all the equipment she needed to teach, and started meeting with her Pathway Lending business advisor, Phylicia Coleman Moye. She and Jasmine meet regularly to "roll up their sleeves" and dig into QuickBooks, social media, business systems, and more.

"My meetings with Pathway have been essential to the growth of my business," says Jasmine. "I've spent hours in QuickBooks with Phylicia, making sure everything is set up correctly, that my business is growing, and that I'm accomplishing my goals."

Submitted by SBA Microloan Intermediary: Pathway Lending in Nashville, Tennessee