



## ***Why HIPAA Academy?***

Here are some key differentiating facts about the HIPAA Academy programs:

- 1) HIPAA Academy was the FIRST organization in the world to introduce a certification and training program built on the HIPAA regulation. The HIPAA Academy program is the longest running program of its type in the world.
- 2) The HIPAA Academy program is the ONLY program EXCLUSIVELY ENDORSED by the American Hospital Association (AHA).
- 3) The HIPAA Academy program content and exams are based on "HANDS-ON" consulting experiences with HIPAA compliance at hundreds of healthcare organizations and business associates across the United States. The HIPAA Academy program is designed to truly enable healthcare, technology and other professionals to thoroughly understand the regulation and review solution options that exist for meeting established requirements.
- 4) HIPAA Academy was selected by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to create customized content delivered to its Information Security Officers across all VA hospitals. Testimonials from the State of Oregon, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and hundreds of other organizations are available at [www.HIPAAAcademy.Net](http://www.HIPAAAcademy.Net).
- 5) Tens of thousands of professionals have already been trained by the HIPAA Academy - making it one of the largest providers of HIPAA training worldwide.
- 6) CISSPs and Security+ professionals have attended and benefited from the HIPAA Academy program. Testimonials are available at [www.HIPAAAcademy.Net](http://www.HIPAAAcademy.Net).
- 7) Every business day, HIPAA Academy professionals are consulting and enabling healthcare and other organizations meet the compliance requirements of the HIPAA regulation. HIPAA Academy program content is available both on-line as well as in instructor-led classes delivered by Authorized Training Partners worldwide.
- 8) Only organization in the world that covers a very comprehensive end-to-end **Managed Services Compliance Program for HIPAA**. Information available at [www.ecfirst.com](http://www.ecfirst.com).

- 9) FIRST organization to introduce a certification program that covers major regulatory compliance and information security standards and frameworks – the Certified Security Compliance Specialist™ (CSCS™). Review CSCS™ program testimonials at [www.ecfirst.com](http://www.ecfirst.com).
- 10) Actively participates in major HIPAA and security conferences. One of the largest contributors to published content on the HIPAA legislation. Published works include Getting Started with HIPAA, HIPAA quick reference cards, HIPAA Certifications manuals and many HIPAA and information security white papers. All published content available at [www.HIPAAAcademy.Net](http://www.HIPAAAcademy.Net).



## ***HIPAA Academy: Rich in Hospital IT Experience***

HIPAA Academy has delivered integrated technology solutions to hospitals all across the United States in the areas of:

- Risk Analysis and Vulnerability Assessment
- Business Impact Analysis (BIA) and Contingency Planning/Disaster Recovery
- Single Sign-On/Context Management Products and Implementation Services
- Audit Services
- Managed Information Security Services (partial to full outsourcing)
- Managed HIPAA Compliance Services (partial to full outsourcing)
- Project Management
- Technical Professional Staffing (contractors and full-time employee placement)
- Information Security Policy Templates Customized for Compliance and Tailored for Hospitals
- HIPAA as well as Information Security Compliance Training and Certification

HIPAA Academy has a diverse portfolio of hospital clients. Our first hospital clients continue to further their relationship with our organization. A partial list of HIPAA Academy's hospital clients include:

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| • University of Pittsburgh Medical Center       | • Harborview Medical Center            |
| • Hahnemann University Hospital                 | • Northeast Medical Center Hospital    |
| • Sherman Hospital                              | • Condell Hospital                     |
| • Northwest Community Healthcare                | • Rockford Hospital                    |
| • National Naval Medical Center                 | • Samaritan Hospital                   |
| • U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Hospitals | • Edward Hospital                      |
| • Torrance Memorial Medical Center              | • Bay Area Hospital                    |
| • Cabrini Medical Center                        | • Bronson Methodist Hospital           |
| • University of Washington Medical Center       | • J. A. Doshier Memorial Hospital      |
| • San Juan Regional Medical Center              | • Lakeview Medical Center              |
| • Schuyler Hospital                             | • Memorial Hospital                    |
| • John Muir Medical Center                      | • Nassau University Medical Center     |
| • Sibley Memorial Hospital                      | • Pan American Hospital                |
| • Maury Regional Hospital                       | • St. Mary Medical Center              |
| • Bronson Methodist Hospital                    | • SUNY Upstate Medical University      |
|   | • The Queen's Medical Center           |
|   | • U.S. Naval Hospital Guam             |
|   | • Vanderbilt University Medical Center |

***Exclusively Endorsed by the American Hospital Association (AHA)***

AHA Solutions, Inc., the endorsement facility of The American Hospital Association (AHA) awarded the AHA endorsement to ecfirst.com, Inc.'s (ecfirst) HIPAA Academy as a resource for training to help hospitals comply with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) security regulations.

After its assessment of the marketplace, the AHA selected ecfirst.com because of its subject-matter expertise in healthcare, the technical excellence and depth of its HIPAA training programs, and its strong track record in serving the healthcare marketplace.

"Because of the complexity of HIPAA regulations and continuing challenges to the security environment, organizations have an ongoing need for training and education. We feel the endorsement of HIPAA Academy's training solutions, including their boot camp offerings, will help healthcare organizations maintain best practices through overall compliance," stated Tim Steffl, vice president of strategic alliances for AHA Solutions. "ecfirst.com, through its deep knowledge of legislations, such as HIPAA, and hands-on experience with solutions that help hospitals improve their compliance, provides an additional resource for AHA members who continue to face the challenges presented by the current regulatory environment."

The HIPAA security regulations require certain healthcare payors, providers and healthcare clearinghouses to establish procedures and mechanisms to protect the confidentiality, integrity and availability of electronic protected health information, and to ensure the restoration of lost data. Acquisition of expert knowledge about these mandatory federal regulations and understanding applicable options for complete compliance can be a challenge to resources at hospitals and other healthcare providers. Compliance with the security rule cannot be achieved through new information systems alone, and the AHA is pleased to bring additional HIPAA resources to the forefront for its members. Improving compliance will require attention from a hospital's legal, compliance, and information technology departments.

**About the AHA:**

The American Hospital Association is a not-for-profit association of health-care provider organizations and individuals committed to health improvement of their communities. The AHA is the national advocate for its members, which includes close to 5,000 hospitals, healthcare systems, networks, and other providers of care, and 37,000 individuals. Founded in 1898, the AHA provides education for healthcare leaders and is a source of information on healthcare issues and trends. For more information, visit [www.aha.org](http://www.aha.org).

## ***Strategic Partner to the Illinois Hospital Association (IHA)***

To assist Illinois health care providers with the security requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), Association Management Resources (AMR), an affiliate corporation of the Illinois Hospital Association (IHA) has selected HIPAA Academy ([www.HIPAAAcademy.Net](http://www.HIPAAAcademy.Net)) as its strategic partner for delivering HIPAA security compliance services. HIPAA Academy is a division of efirst.com. AMR selected HIPAA Academy as a provider for HIPAA security compliance services, which include HIPAA Risk Analysis, Vulnerability Assessment, Security Policies, Remediation, Advisor services, e-learning, HIPAA Training & Certification and HIPAA evaluation & audits.

"The AMR believes the HIPAA Academy's 'Seven Steps to HIPAA Security Compliance™' methodology exceeds the requirements of the HIPAA Security Rule and more than adequately safeguards Protected Health Information on behalf of patients," stated Brian Foster, President of AMR. "The HIPAA Academy's methodology is an excellent framework to consider as member hospitals launch HIPAA security initiatives and activities. AMR is working closely with the HIPAA Academy to help members address HIPAA Security Rule requirements such as risk analysis, security policies and training."

Among the HIPAA compliance services available to hospitals are:

- **Instructor Led Training:** Certified HIPAA Professional (CHP) and Certified HIPAA Security Specialist TM (CHSS) training helps you understand the core elements for defining the framework towards HIPAA security compliance.
- **HIPAA Security Risk Analysis:** Outlines potential threats to hospital and identify key gaps comparing the current security environment to what's required for compliance with the regulation along with the HIPAA Academy's recommendations for remediation activities.
- **Vulnerability Assessment:** The HIPAA Academy uses a number of tools in assessing the vulnerability of an organization's systems, networks and applications.
- **Security Policies Template:** HIPAA Academy has developed Information Security Strategy and a suite of 58 Security policies to help covered entities meet the challenges of creating HIPAA compliant security policies.
- **Remediation:** Implementation services for HIPAA security remediation including vulnerability management, application security, network security, physical security, access controls, authentication solutions, encryption, contingency planning and other HIPAA required and addressable areas.
- **Technical Access Controls:** Advisory services on remote access, wireless, single sign and access control solutions.
- **HIPAA Security Advisor:** Get immediate access to experienced HIPAA security professionals, without a long term commitment.
- **HIPAA e-learning:** provides Job Role based training to all employees in HIPAA Security rule and refresh privacy rule.
- **HIPAA Audits:** To verify compliance with the Audit Controls requirement in the legislation as well as assisting organizations with the Evaluation standard under Administrative Safeguards.
- **HIPAA Academy Certified Product Solution:** A rigorous review is conducted of software products to determine if they meet the requirements of the HIPAA Security Rule.

## ***Testimonial from U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs***



WASHINGTON, April 27, 2006 – The U. S. Department of Veteran's Affairs faced a daunting task – choosing an organization to train the nation's VA Hospitals' Privacy and Security Compliance officials on the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). Since each official was responsible for compliance with the federal regulation protecting patient data for their respective hospital, a comprehensive training program was required. HIPAA Academy, a division of [ecfirst.com](http://ecfirst.com), was chosen based on their reputation in the healthcare industry for high-quality and comprehensive HIPAA training solutions.

"HIPAA Academy is one of the finest educational organizations with whom I have had the pleasure to work. The staff are extremely knowledgeable and experienced both in private sector and government sector security legislation" stated Lydia Duckworth, HIPAA Security Project Manager for the VA.

Uday 'Ali' Pabrai, CEO of HIPAA Academy, was involved in the project from the beginning and delivered the security training. "During our work together, Ali Pabrai was able to impart best practices for developing disaster recovery plans, the technical specifications for public key infrastructure and other encryption based solutions, wireless security requirements and the general state of HIPAA Security compliance."

"I welcome the opportunity to work with HIPAA Academy again in the future and would recommend this organization to anyone looking to develop security or privacy training tailored to their particular environment whether you are a healthcare organization or a business associate of a health care organization", said Duckworth.

### **About the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs**

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is responsible for providing federal benefits to veterans and their families. Headed by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, VA is the second largest of the 15 Cabinet departments and operates nationwide programs for health care, financial assistance and burial benefits. VA's health care system now includes 154 medical centers, with at least one in each state, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia. VA operates more than 1,300 sites of care, including 875 ambulatory care and community-based outpatient clinics, 136 nursing homes, 43 residential rehabilitation treatment programs, 206 Veterans Centers and 88 comprehensive home-care programs. VA health care facilities provide a broad spectrum of medical, surgical and rehabilitative care.