

Funeral Service

Program **FUNERAL.AAS**
CIP 120301

Associate in Applied Science Degree

The goals and objectives of the MCCC Funeral Service programs are: to provide students with professional training in preparation for licensure in Funeral Service; to prepare students to embark upon a career in a service-oriented, care-giving profession; to provide an academic environment which encourages student research and successfully integrates the theoretical, practical, and technical aspects of funeral service; and to foster the concept of education as a life-long process necessary to meet the demands of an evolving workplace with current emphasis on emerging ethical, environmental, and social issues.

Academic emphasis includes the areas of business management; public health; the social, behavioral, and natural sciences; as well as the legal, technical, and regulatory aspects of funeral service.

Students have two options for completion of their professional education: Funeral Service Certificate and Funeral Service Associate in Applied Science degree. Both programs can be completed either full- or part-time.

Following consultation with the Program Director, the A.A.S. degree program may be selected as a graduation option (not an admissions option) in order to ensure that candidates have the requirements for licensure in their selected state.

Students are responsible for securing part-time employment in an approved New Jersey or eastern Pennsylvania funeral home in order to complete the field experience and practicum courses. This requires the student to be registered as an Intern with the New Jersey State Board of Mortuary Science or as a Funeral/Student Trainee with the Pennsylvania Board of Funeral Directors.

Upon completion of all coursework, graduates will be eligible to take the National Board Exam (NBE). Following the NBE, graduates will be cleared to take state licensing examinations.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

- Evaluate the service needs for the pre-need, at-need, and aftercare time frames;
- Create and plan activities and ceremonies designed to meet the needs of those who mourn;
- Educate the consumer regarding funeral and cremation memorialization and merchandise options;
- Evaluate and describe solutions to current embalming and restorative art situations;
- Assemble and formulate appropriate information for death certificates, obituaries, and other necessary forms and documents;
- Evaluate legal, professional, and ethical issues facing funeral service;
- Demonstrate effective verbal and written communication skills in face to face meetings, in front of small groups, and via electronic means.

The annual passage rate of first-time takers on the National Board Examination (NBE) for the most recent three-year period for this institution and all ABFSE accredited funeral service education programs is posted on the ABFSE website (www.abfse.org).

A.A.S. Curriculum

Code	Course (lecture/lab hours)	Credits
FIRST SEMESTER		
ENG 101	English Composition I (3/0)	3
PSY 101	Introduction to Psychology (3/0)	3
CHE —	Chemistry elective ¹	3
MAT —	Mathematics elective ²	3-4
— —	General Education elective ³	3
SECOND SEMESTER		
ACC 106	Office Accounting I (3/0)	3
BIO 106	Human Anatomy (3/2) ⁴	4
BUS 107	Business Law I (3/0)	3
CSW 100	College Success and Personal Wellness (2/0)†	2
ENG 112	English Composition II with Speech (3/0)	3
THIRD SEMESTER		
FUN 203	Funeral Service Principles (3/0)	3
FUN 206	Introduction to Funeral Service (3/0)	3
FUN 215	Funeral Service Law (3/0)	3
FUN 247	Principles of Embalming I (3/0)	3
FUN 223	Funeral Service Pathology (3/0)	3
FUN 251	Embalming Lab and Practicum (0/3/2 days) ⁵	3
FOURTH SEMESTER		
FUN 217	Funeral Service Management (3/0)	3
FUN 227	Restorative Art (2/2)	3
BIO 215	Principles of Microbiology (3/0)	3
FUN 249	Principles of Embalming II (2/0)	2
FUN 229	Funeral Service Counseling (3/0)	3
FUN 220	Funeral Service Laws, Rules and Regulations (1/0)	1
FUN 295	Funeral Service Field Experience (2/0/2 days) ⁵	3
		66-67

NOTE: Enrollment in any FUN course requires approval of the Director of Funeral Service Programs. New Jersey and Pennsylvania students must complete 60 college credits before enrolling in FUN courses. At the conclusion of the program, the student will have a minimum of 96 credits.

¹ CHE 100 or higher.

² College (100-level or higher) math course.

³ Select course from the following general education categories: Humanities, Historical Perspective, Diversity and Global Perspective.

⁴ BIO 103 and 104 may be substituted.

⁵ In addition to lab and/or seminar, these courses include two days (16 hours per week) of supervised off-campus field experience in an approved funeral service firm for each semester. Students must also be registered as an intern with the New Jersey State Board of Mortuary Science or as a student trainee with the Pennsylvania Board of Funeral Directors. Registration with the New Jersey State Board of Mortuary Science enables the student to receive credit toward the New Jersey internship requirement.

† Some exemptions apply. Consult academic advisor for details.

The Funeral Service program at Mercer County Community College is accredited by the **American Board of Funeral Service Education (ABFSE)**
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NOTE: All program listings are subject to periodic updates. Please consult your program advisor, academic division, or www.mccc.edu/programs_degree