Funeral Service
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.

Program offerings are designed to meet the needs of those who mourn. The American Board of Funeral Service Education (ABFSE) accredited funeral service education programs are posted on the ABFSE website (www.abfse.org). The annual passage rate of first-time takers on the National Board Exam (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).

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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 Funeral Service program at Mercer County Community College is accredited by the American Board of Funeral Service Education (ABFSE) 992 Mantua Pike, Suite 108 Woodbury Heights, NJ 08097 816-233-3747 / exdir@abfse.org / www.abfse.org

NOTE: All program listings are subject to periodic updates. Please consult your program advisor, academic division, or www.mccc.edu/programs_degree