

Funeral Service Education Program

Technical Standards / Essential Functions

The following essential, non-academic requirements have been developed to ensure compliance with ABFSE Funeral Services program accreditation standards and to prepare students for the professional responsibilities of funeral service practitioners

Essential Behavioral Attitudes

Students in the Funeral Service Education (FSE) program must demonstrate the following:

1. Ability to engage in all program activities consistent with safe and ethical funeral service practice without demonstrated behaviors of addiction to, abuse of, or dependence on alcohol, drugs (including controlled substances), prescription medications, or over-the-counter substances that may impair behavior or judgment.
2. Capacity to exhibit responsibility and accountability as a student and future funeral service professional, including integrity, respect for self and others, and projecting a professional demeanor appropriate to the funeral service setting.
3. Ability to work effectively under mental and physical stress, including the ability to maintain concentration despite frequent distractions and interruptions.
4. Critical thinking skills necessary to perform, evaluate, interpret, document, and communicate complex funeral service procedures and client needs accurately.
5. Flexibility and adaptability to changing environments, with the ability to prioritize tasks and respond promptly to urgent situations.

Physical Demands

Students in the FSE program must be capable of:

1. Performing moderate physical tasks such as lifting and carrying funeral equipment and supplies, with or without assistance, as typically required in funeral service settings.
2. Assisting in moving or positioning deceased persons and equipment safely.
3. Stooping, kneeling, reaching, sitting, standing, and walking as required in funeral service operations.
4. Performing delicate manual tasks that require fine motor skills, such as restorative art and embalming procedures.
5. Identifying and distinguishing colors, crucial for embalming, restorative art, and other technical procedures.
6. Visual acuity sufficient to see details clearly at various distances, including close-up work and depth perception, to safely and effectively perform technical tasks.
7. Hearing and tactile abilities necessary to detect environmental cues and perform procedures accurately.

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8. Reading, comprehending, and applying complex technical materials related to funeral service laws, procedures, and equipment.
9. Expressing and exchanging ideas clearly and effectively through spoken and written English, as well as through digital communication systems.
10. Demonstrating increasing independence and professional judgment while completing supervised clinical internships in funeral service settings.

ADA Statement and Request for Accommodation

The Funeral Service Education Program is committed to providing equal access to educational opportunities for students with disabilities, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Students who believe they may need reasonable accommodations to meet these technical standards are encouraged to contact the college's **Office of Accessibility Services** as early as possible. Reasonable accommodations will be made on an individual basis, in accordance with institutional policies and applicable law, without compromising the essential requirements of the program.