

Committee Actions:

April 2018

The Committee on Accreditation of the American Board of Funeral Service Education took the following actions regarding these funeral service/mortuary science education programs at the April 10-11, 2018 meeting in Anaheim, CA:

Renewal of Accreditation

The following programs were found to be in compliance with the accreditation standards of the American Board of Funeral Service Education Committee on Accreditation and were granted re-accreditation for a period of seven (7) years:

Arapahoe Community College, Littleton, CO

Accreditation granted with no stipulations.

The program is commended for the quality of the facilities, the level of instructional support available, the relationship with clinical faculty and the leadership of the program director in the college and professional community.

An updated Mortuary Science Assessment Plan which includes graduation rate and job placement rate evaluation, is to be included with the 2018 Annual Report.

Carl Sandburg College, Galesburg, IL

Accreditation granted with the following stipulation:

- Provide evidence to demonstrate compliance with Standard 11.1.2.d. evaluation of faculty.

The program is commended for state of the art facilities, advisory committee involvement, consistent NBE results, library resources and the documentation of practicum courses.

Commonwealth Institute of Funeral Service, Houston, TX

Accreditation granted with no stipulations.

Commonwealth Institute of Funeral Service is commended for the evidence provided to document compliance with the standards and for the assessment process being utilized.

Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL

Accreditation granted with the following stipulations:

- Submit Substantive Change documentation for the degree completion track using distance learning
- Amend the program website to address potential discrepancies, specifically in the area of pre-requisites
- Submit an updated ABFSE Curriculum Distribution Form

An updated assessment plan is to be submitted with the 2018 Annual Report.

University of Arkansas CC at Hope, Hope AR

Accreditation granted with the following expectation:

- The assessment program will be the subject of continued attention with a focus on graduation rates. An updated assessment plan is to be included with the 2018 Annual Report.

The program is commended for the level of alumni interest, advisory committee support and the general support of the funeral service community.

Substantive Change Approval – Addition of Distance Learning

Mid-America College of Funeral Service, Jeffersonville, IN

Approved distance learning for delivery of the accredited AAS degree program with Focus Visit.

Wayne State University – Detroit, MI

Approved distance learning for delivery of the accredited degree program with Focus Visit.

Dallas Institute of Funeral Service – Dallas, TX

Approved distance learning for delivery of the accredited AAS degree program with Focus Visit.

Initial Accreditation

Northeast Texas Community College, Mt. Pleasant, TX

Initial Accreditation is granted for three years with the following stipulations which are to be addressed by September 1, 2018:

- Provide evidence to demonstrate compliance with Standards 6.9.1 – 6.9.5 and Standard 6.10 (documentation of clinical embalming and funeral directing for all potential first year graduates)
- Provide access to distance learning offerings for Fall 2018 semester to allow monitoring for ‘regular and substantive’ interaction.
- Provide evidence of Texas funeral service license for new staff member(s), as applicable.

The program is commended for the level institutional support, the leadership provided by the program director and the comprehensive nature of the program planning and assessment efforts.

Renewal of Accreditation – deferred

Ivy Tech Community College - Central, Indianapolis, IN

Accreditation decision was deferred until the October 2018 COA meeting pending:

- Demonstration of a continuous system of planning and assessment.
- Compile spreadsheet to document the clinical sites, dates visited and the deadline for the next visit.

Probation. Programs on Probation status for failure to meet Standard 11.4 must demonstrate improvement of average licensing examination rates by April 2019 or face ‘Show Cause’ status.

Amarillo College – Amarillo, TX

Program placed on Probation status for failure to comply with Standard 11.4.1 (3-year average pass rate on the national licensing examination less than 60%)

Arkansas State University – Mountain Home, AR

Program placed on Probation status for failure to comply with Standard 11.4.1 (3-year average pass rate on the national licensing examination less than 60%)

Fayetteville Technical Community College – Fayetteville, NC

Program placed on Probation status for failure to comply with Standard 11.4.1 (3-year average pass rate on the national licensing examination less than 60%)

Eastwick College – Hackensack, NJ

Program placed on Probation status for failure to comply with Standard 11.4.1 (3-year average pass rate on the national licensing examination less than 60%)

Lake Washington Institute of Technology – Kirkland, WA

Program placed on Probation status for failure to comply with Standard 11.4.1 (3-year average pass rate on the national licensing examination less than 60%)

Show Cause. Programs on ‘Show Cause’ status for failure to meet Standard 11.4.1 must demonstrate improvement of average national licensing examination pass rates by April 2019 or ‘Show Cause’ why accreditation should not be withdrawn.

Holmes CC – Ridgeland, MS

Program placed on Show Cause status for failure to comply with:

- Standard 11.4.1
Second consecutive year with 3-year average pass rate on the national licensing examination less than 60%

Vincennes University – Vincennes, IN

Program placed on Show Cause status for failure to comply with:

- Standard 11.4.1
Second consecutive year with 3-year average pass rate on the national licensing examination less than 60%

Program Closure

The following institution will cease instruction of the funeral service/mortuary science program and will not renew accreditation for the 2018/19 fiscal year. No new students were admitted to the accredited program in 2017/18.

Bishop State Community College – Mobile, AL

Current students are expected to complete the program prior to September 30, 2018.

Other actions taken by the Committee on Accreditation did not affect the accredited status of the programs involved.

The following institutions/programs will be considered for scheduled re-accreditation and initial accreditation through a formal review by the Committee on Accreditation at the October 10-11, 2018 meeting in Salt Lake City, UT.

Re-accreditation:

Arkansas State University – Mountain Home, Mountain Home, AR

Eastwick College, Hackensack, NJ

Jefferson State Community College, Birmingham, AL

Mercer County Community College, Trenton, NJ

Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science, Pittsburgh, PA

Ivy Tech Community College, Indianapolis, IN

The above schedule is subject to change.

Public comment regarding the above may be submitted to the ABFSE office prior to September 1, 2018.

Executive Director

Robert C. Smith III

992 Mantua Pike, Suite 108

Woodbury Heights, NJ 08097

Office: (816) 233-3747

E-mail: exdir@abfse.org