



Committee on Accreditation Actions:

October 2023

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 October 18-19, 2023 meeting in Charlotte, NC:

Re-accreditation for a period of seven (7) years

Wayne State University, Detroit, MI

Reaccredited with no stipulations.

COA recognized the strong faculty, an effective advisory board, assessment plan and practicum program, strong administrative support, and a comprehensive Distance Education program as important factors in the decision.

East Mississippi Community College, Scooba, MS

Reaccredited with three (3) stipulations to be addressed by February 15, 2024.

- Provide a document retention policy for Funeral Service Technology specific student documents (i.e., case reports, etc.) that includes provisions for maintenance of the documents in cases of program staff changes. Standard 3.1.3.b.
- Provide proof that the new curriculum described in the response has been implemented. Standard 5.4
- Provide documentation that the course descriptions for all courses are uniform across all sources of information. Standard 3.1.2

Hudson Valley Community College, Troy, NY

Reaccredited with no stipulations.

By March 1, 2024 a progress report is required as evidence of professional training for faculty using the learning management system, Brightspace. (Appendix E: Standard 6)

Distance Education approved

Cape Cod Community College, Bridgewater, MA

Distance Education denied

Goodwin University, E. Hartford, CT

Additional information is required for consideration during summer 2024 site visit.

Substantive Change approved

Worsham College, Wheeling, IL – Associate of Science (AS) degree to replace existing Associate of Applied Science (AAS) and Diploma offerings.

Gupton-Jones College of Funeral Service, Decatur, GA - Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree to replace Associate of Science (AS) degree offering.

Distance Education substantive change application accepted

Miami Dade College, Miami, FL
virtual site visit required for approval

Distance Education substantive change application deferred

Milwaukee Area Technical College, West Allis, WI
additional information required

Accreditation decision deferred

Vincennes University, Vincennes, IN
Additional information is required for April 2024 consideration.

Removed from Probation: return to good standing

Malcolm X College, Chicago, IL
Probation concerns are satisfied and the program is granted reaccreditation for a seven (7) year period, effective October 2022, with two (2) stipulations.

The stipulations to be addressed by February 15, 2024 are:

1. Submit documentation that the current curriculum revision is completed.
2. Provide an updated assessment plan.

Probation

Mid-America College of Funeral Service, Jeffersonville, IN
The institution and accredited programs are on Probation status for one year during which issues regarding accreditation standards 1,3,5,6,9,10 are to be addressed.

Standard 1 – Provide evidence of a current and viable Advisory Board.

Standard 3 – Published materials must accurately reflect the states where the AAS and BSFS degrees meet licensure requirements.

- Demonstrate compliant transcript language for non-accredited programs.
- Provide evidence that students are aware that courses may change from on-ground to distance delivery.

Standard 5 – Update syllabi to accurately portray the college catalog and ABFSE B-6 curriculum distribution.

- Provide inspection documentation for off-campus instructional sites.
- Provide evidence of embalming competency certification by qualified faculty members and completion of funeral directing tasks.
- Provide evidence of assessment data and analysis demonstrating equivalent academic rigor for online and face-to-face courses.

- Submit an organized curriculum plan for the Bachelor degree offerings.
- Standard 6 – Provide evidence of student-teacher ratios compliant with the standard.
- Standard 9 - Demonstrate that pertinent students policies are provided before starting coursework.
- Standard 10 – Demonstrate that data collection and analysis is used for continuous program improvement.

Cypress College, Cypress, CA

Probation is the result of non-compliance with Standard 10.5.2 - graduation rates below 60%. Current accreditation is continued for one (1) year. The probation response must address the reason(s) for sub-standard graduation rates and how proposed improvements will lead to satisfactory results.

Nassau Community College, Garden City, NY

The Mortuary Science program is on Probation status for one year effective April 20, 2023. Probation status required the issues to be addressed in two stages - the first response due September 1, 2023 and the completed response by March 1, 2024. COA accepted the initial response. The second phase of the program's Probation response is to include completed copies of report templates.

Administrative Probation

Columbus Technical College, Columbus, GA

Failure to submit the required improvement plan for NBE examination pass rates at less than 60%.

Other actions taken by the Committee on Accreditation in October 2023 did not affect the accredited status of the programs involved.

The following institutions/programs will be considered for scheduled re-accreditation and related action via a formal review by the Committee on Accreditation at the next scheduled meeting April 9-10, 2024 in Boston, MA.

Re-accreditation:

Mt. Hood Community College, Gresham, OR

Fayetteville Technical Community College, Fayetteville, NC

Northwest Tennessee Community College, Southaven, MS

Community College of Baltimore County – Catonsville, Catonsville, MD
(postponed for 1 year)

Distance Education

SUNY – Canton, Canton, NY

The above schedule is subject to change.

Public comment regarding the above may be submitted to the ABFSE office prior to March 1, 2024.

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