



Associate Degree in Funeral Service

Achieve a rewarding career honoring human life

Since the earliest days of humankind, funeral rites have been an important part of the grieving process. Funeral service professionals provide invaluable support to loved ones during this difficult time — ensuring that the deceased is laid to rest with the utmost respect and dignity. At Goodwin University, our Funeral Service program is offered on campus and online — so you can prepare for an in-demand career in this esteemed field on your time.

Earn your Funeral Service degree on your timetable

We offer two flexible pathways to earn your degree:

- **On-ground program:** Ideal for those who prefer in-person instruction and a campus-based experience.
- **Fully online program:** Designed for students seeking maximum flexibility with minimal on-campus requirements.

Both formats feature a 65-credit curriculum that can be completed in as few as 16 months full-time.

Gain career-ready experience

Our comprehensive program will teach you to address a range of funeral service processes, from the initial pronouncement of death to the final disposition of the deceased. Through your internship experience at funeral homes across the state, you will gain exposure to embalming, restorative art, and business management. All internships must include participation in ten embalming operations, funeral directing, first calls, and removals of human remains.

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Entry-level requirements

ENG 101	English Composition
ENG 1XX	English Elective
CAP 115	Learning and Working Through Digital Technologies
MATH 1XX	Mathematics (MATH)
BIO 120	Human Biology
	Humanities (HIS, PHIL, SPAN, HUM)
BUS 101	Introduction to Management
BIO 235	Microbiology

Programmatic requirements

First semester

FNS 202	Funeral Service Management and Communication
FNS 216	Funeral Service History and Merchandising
FNS 207	Funeral Service Psychology and Counseling

Second semester

FNS 209	Funeral Service Law and Socio-Ethics
FNS 218	Embalming I and Thanato-Chemistry
ACC 101*	Principles of Accounting I

Third semester

FNS 205	Restorative Art with Lab
FNS 220	Embalming II and Cremation
SCI 124*	Humans and Disease

Fourth semester

FNS 297	Funeral Service Internship
FNS 298	Funeral Service Seminar

Total credits: 65

Admissions process

Our associate degree in Funeral Service is a selective admission program. Admission is based on a point system, detailed by the Goodwin University catalog.

All general education and pre-requisite requirements must be completed prior to acceptance. Scan the QR code below to learn more.



Enter a field with flexible opportunities

Goodwin's associate degree in Funeral Service prepares you to sit for the International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards. Upon successful completion of the Arts and Sciences section of this exam, graduates will secure a year-long paid apprenticeship. After completing your apprenticeship, you will qualify to take the state board exam.

After passing your state board exam, you will be ready for a variety of Funeral Service careers, including:

- At-need and pre-need funeral arrangement consultant
- Funeral service practitioner
- Licensed embalmer
- Licensed funeral director
- Mortician
- Mortuary transporter

Goodwin University is a nonprofit institution of higher education and is accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE).

The Funeral Service associate degree program at Goodwin University is accredited by the American Board of Funeral Service Education (ABFSE), 992 Mantua Pike, Suite 108, Woodbury Heights, NJ 08097, (816) 233-3747. Web: www.abfse.org.