



Information about... Funeral Service Education

GENERAL INFORMATION

Funeral science utilizes skills from the fields of science, health occupations, public relations and business. Three main job activities of a funeral service professional are embalming, funeral direction and management (mhcc.edu). As described on the Web page of the National Funeral Directors Association (www.nfda.org) [2010], a funeral service professional:

- Provides support to the bereaved during initial stages of their grief.
- Arranges and directs funeral ceremonies.
- Arranges for removal of the deceased from the place of death.
- Prepares the body according to the wishes of the survivors and requirements of the law.
- Secures information for legal documents.
- Files death certificates and other legal papers.
- Assists survivors with details for filing claims for death benefits.
- Helps individuals adapt to changes in their lives following a death through post-death counseling and support group activities.
- Is involved in the community

Typically, students may complete about nine to twelve EvCC courses to prepare for transfer to a mortuary science program, depending on the transfer institution. Students may also remain enrolled at EvCC for more courses in order to complete an Associate degree at EvCC, but it is not necessary. Consult with an advisor concerning the appropriate degree program.

Regional Funeral Service Education programs:

Lake Washington Institute of Technology
www.lwtech.edu/explore_our_programs/funeral_service_education
This program requires high school graduation or GED and at least 9 credits of college level (above 100) courses.

Mt. Hood Community College: phone 503-491-7272
www.mhcc.edu/funeralserviceeducation
Advisor: Doug Ferrin, Doug.Ferrin@mhcc.edu

Lake Washington Institute of Technology has the only Funeral Services Education program in the state of Washington. The program is completed in 2 years (including prerequisites, which can be taken before transfer).

Mount Hood Community College is a regional program serving students from the Pacific Northwest, California and Nevada. A limited number of students are accepted each year with preference given to applicants who have experience working as an apprentice at a funeral home or related facility. About 25% of the students admitted to the program already have a Bachelor's degree.

PROGRAM ADVISORS

It is helpful to consult with Funeral Service Education college advisors, as well as EvCC advisors. Please contact an EvCC advisor to help you map out your program of study:

- ◆ Jackie Hedgpeth, SHK 123, 425-388-9482
jhedgpeth@everettcc.edu

CAREER OPTIONS

Students interested in this field should be prepared to work with a diversity of clients on a flexible schedule. Their written, verbal and personal communications skills should be strong.

A degree in Funeral Service Education or Mortuary Science can be used for a career in embalming or in owning or managing a funeral home. The occupational outlook for graduates of mortuary science programs is positive, as the number of graduates is lower than the growing demand. The increasing move toward corporate ownership of funeral homes is allowing for more career opportunities, as well as specialization toward specific clientele.

Generally, following completion of a mortuary science program, a state license exam must be passed. In Washington, prospective funeral directors are required to complete one year (1800 hours) of intern training under the supervision of a licensed funeral director.

GETTING STARTED AT EVCC

Our Enrollment Services Office provides information about application, advising, orientation and registration for new and continuing students. New degree-seeking students must complete entry advising prior to registering for first quarter classes. Contact:

- ◆ Enrollment Services, Parks Student Union 201, 425-388-9219, admissions@everettcc.edu;
- ◆ Advising Center, Rainier 108, 425-388-9339, www.everettcc.edu/advising

RECOMMENDED COURSES (for admission as a second year student at MHCC or LWIT)

ENGL& 101, English Composition I
 MATH 098 and &107
 CHEM& 121, Intro to Chemistry
 HLTH 102, Applied Anatomy and Physiology
 CL 101, Computer Literacy
 PEHW 203, Lifetime Health and Wellness
 CMST &210 or &220 or 204D (communications)
 ACCT 110, Small Business Accounting or ACCT& 201, Principles of Accounting I
 BUS& 201, Business Law
 CMST& 220, Public Speaking
 HLTH 100, Medical Terminology (MHCC only)
 PSYC& 100, Intro to Psychology (MHCC only)
 One additional Social Science course
 Two additional Humanities courses

SUGGESTED COURSE SEQUENCE

This plan assumes the student is academically ready for college level Math, English and Chemistry courses.

Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer
MATH 098 ENGL& 101 or 101D CL 101	MATH& 107 HLTH 100 PSYC& 100	CMST &210, &220 or 204D CHEM& 121 ACCT 110 or &201	HLTH 102 BUS& 201 PEHW 203

These courses are required by Mt Hood Community College. Students interested in attending LWIT are encouraged to contact the transfer institution to apply there directly.

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For more information, call 425-388-9219, Everett Community College, 2000 Tower Street, Everett, WA 98201, www.everettcc.edu