

Career Profile for Mortuary Science

General Program Description: The **Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree in Mortuary Science** includes studies in public health, business management, natural sciences, legal, ethical and regulatory concerns, and clinical requirements associated with the mortuary field. The program is accredited by the American Board of Funeral Service Education (ABFSE). Graduation from this program prepares the student to sit for the National Board Examination and begin State Internship requirements.

State and National Certification: All states require funeral directors to have a license. Requirements vary by state. In Arizona, applicants must: pass a national exam; pass a state exam; and have held an active license as an embalmer for at least one year and have assisted in the arranging and directing of at least 25 funerals. The license must be renewed each year. Funeral directors must complete 12 hours of continuing education credits per year.

Advancement options: Advancement opportunities generally are best in larger funeral homes. Funeral directors may earn promotions to higher paying positions such as branch manager or general manager. Some directors eventually acquire enough money and experience to establish their own funeral home businesses.

Projected Job Growth: As the population grows older and passes away, the demand for funeral and memorial services will increase. However, the number of small funeral homes is declining. They are being bought out by large corporations. In the past, each funeral home had one or more funeral directors. Now, a smaller number of funeral directors may work at all the funeral homes that are owned by a single corporation.

Location	Pay Period	Bureau of Labor Statistics - 2006 Salaries*		
		Entry-level	Median	Experienced
United States	Hourly	\$13.66	\$23.86	\$44.14
	Yearly	\$28,400	\$49,600	\$91,800
Greater Phoenix	Hourly	\$10.90	\$20.91	\$43.87
	Yearly	\$22,700	\$43,500	\$91,200
Arizona	Hourly	\$10.82	\$19.15	\$35.47
	Yearly	\$22,500	\$39,800	\$73,800

For more career information for Funeral Director, visit:
www.bls.gov/oco, www.maricopa.edu/workforce,
<http://www.acinet.org/>, or
www.mc.maricopa.edu/students/career/

For MCC program information, contact
Dr. Tom Taggart – 480-988-8501
Mortuary Science Department, chair
 or visit <http://www.mc.maricopa.edu/dept2/mortuary/>

*Labor market information provided by AZ Dept of Economic Security in cooperation with the U.S. Dept of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Wages will vary depending on the employer, location, hours worked, experience, responsibility and other factors. Career and Re-Entry Services will collaborate with academic and occupational program departments to develop internship and career experience opportunities.

Sample Job Titles: Funeral Director, Mortician, Undertaker

Types of Employers: Funeral Homes, Mortuaries

Local Employers who posted related jobs on the Maricopa Career Network

Messenger Mortuaries, Melcher's Mission Chapel, Mountain View Memorial Gardens

Professional Associations

The National Funeral Directors Assoc.

<http://www.nfda.org>

For current job openings, go to

Maricopa Career Network

<http://mcmaricopa.jobing.com/>.

The Arizona State Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers

<http://www.funeralbd.state.az.us/>

Funeral Director Overview At-A-Glance

- Organize and direct funeral services
- May perform many tasks, from embalming to accounting
- May work on an on-call basis
- Work with customers during a difficult time
- Training usually lasts three years
- Need a license
- May need to take continuing education courses
- About 20 percent are self-employed

For additional information on Mortuary Science careers or to watch occupational videos, visit:

Arizona Career Information Systems (AzCIS)

www.azcis.intocareers.org

User name: mesacc; Password: 4azcis02

Career Voyages

www.careervoyages.gov

Internships are supervised practical training in a short-term or temporary position with an emphasis placed on instruction, training, mentoring, networking and gaining applied work experience. These positions may be paid or unpaid. Contact Career and Re-Entry Services for internship information: 480-461-7430.

Internship Completed: _____ Dates: _____ Location: _____

Service-Learning is a teaching and learning method that connects meaningful community service with academic learning through guided reflection. Contact the Center for Service- Learning for more information: 480-461-7393.

Service-Learning Completed: _____ Dates: _____ Location: _____

Transfer Options: Contact Transfer Services for more transfer information: 480-461-7452.

Career Assessments Completed:

Career Assessment / Results	Date Completed	Reviewed by

Career Readiness Workshops / Activities Completed:

Workshop Name / Activity	Date Completed	Follow Up Contact (s)
Resume Writing Workshop		
Resume completed and reviewed by:		
Participate in Mock Interview		
How To Prepare for a Career Fair		
Attend Career Fair / Job Expo Location:		
Joined Professional Association:		

MCC Career and Re-Entry Services
Providing Guidance for Career and Workplace Success

For more Career Profiles, visit

<http://www.mc.maricopa.edu/students/career/careerprofiles.html>

Meet with a Career Advisor in Bldg #36, Room SS5N - adjacent to the Kirk Student Center, 480-461-7430

