

Mortuary Science

9200 Valley View St. Cypress, CA 90630-5897

The Mortuary Science Department has been at Cypress College since 1977. The program prepares individuals for a career that cares for the dead and comforts the living. Students are prepared for employment as funeral directors and embalmers through courses in funeral service administration and management, embalming, funeral directing, restorative art, funeral service science fundamentals, funeral service counseling and mortuary jurisprudence.



Accreditation Statement

Cypress College is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, (3402 Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa CA 95403; 707-569-9177), an institutional accrediting body recognized by the Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation and the U.S. Department of Education. The college and its instructional programs are also approved by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges and by the State Department of Education for training veterans. A college or university is accredited if it has been evaluated by recognized accreditors and determined by their peers to meet acceptable levels of educational quality. Courses offered at an accredited institution generally are transferable to other institutions and qualify for financial aid. The Mortuary Science Degree Program at Cypress College is accredited by the American Board of Funeral Service Education (ABFSE) 992 Mantua Pike, Suite 108, Woodbury Heights, NJ 08097; Phone 816-233-3747. Web: www.abfse.org. The ABFSE is the only agency recognized and approved by the U.S. Department of Education to accredit funeral service education programs. **National Board Examination pass rates, graduation rates (beginning in 2015), and employment rates (beginning in 2015) for this and other ABFSE-accredited programs are available at www.abfse.org. To request a printed copy of this program's rates, go to the Mortuary Science Department, Technical education III Building, Room 215, by telephone (714) 484-7278, or by e-mail: MortSci@cypresscollege.edu**

Division of
Health Science

Note: If you have been convicted of any offense other than a minor traffic violation you will be required to declare this on your state application to write the licensing exams. It may affect your eligibility to write these exams.

ACCREDITATION STATUS

Program Information

Year	Total enrolled	# of new students	#of Grads	Timely grad	Graduation rate	Did not finish	Overall % employed	Employed in Funeral Service
2020	153	69	26	20/26	38%	17	92%	67%
2019	123	47	26	23/26	55%	16	85%	77%
2018	137	66	46	42/46	70%	13	83%	72%
2017	111	59	27	20/27	46%	23	78%	78%
2016	102	55	29	22/29	53%	7	90%	62%

National Board Statistics

3 Year Average	% Pass Arts	% Pass Sciences
2020 - 2018	79%	86%
2019 - 2017	80%	89%
2018 - 2016	89%	94%
2017 - 2015	92%	95%
2016 - 2014	95%	95%

National Board Examination - Arts

Year	First-time Test Takers	First-time Test-takers who passed	Passing Rate
2020	26	22	85%
2019	25	14	56%
2018	46	41	89%
2017	28	24	86%
2016	29	27	93%

National Board Examination - Sciences

Year	First-time Test Takers	First-time Test-takers who passed	Passing Rate
2020	26	22	85%
2019	25	19	76%
2018	46	42	91%
2017	28	27	96%
2016	29	28	96%

ACCREDITATION STATISTICS

PROGRAM AIMS

The Mortuary Science Program has as its central aim recognition of the importance of funeral service personnel as:

1. Members of a human service profession;
2. Members of the community in which they serve;
3. Participants in the relationship between bereaved families and those engaged in the funeral service profession;
4. Professionals knowledgeable of and compliant with federal, state, and local regulatory guidelines and;
5. Professionals sensitive to the responsibility for public health, safety and welfare in caring for human remains.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES AND PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES (PLO's)

1. Explain the importance of funeral service professionals in developing relationships with the families and communities they serve.
2. Identify standards of ethical conduct in funeral service practice.
3. Interpret how federal, state, and local laws apply to funeral service in order to ensure compliance.
4. Apply principles of public health and safety in the handling and preparation of human remains.
5. Demonstrate technical skills in embalming and restorative art that are necessary for the preparation and handling of human remains.
6. Demonstrate skills required for conducting arrangement conferences, visitations, services, and ceremonies.
7. Describe the requirements and procedures for burial, cremation, and other accepted forms of final disposition of human remains.
8. Describe methods to address the grief-related needs of the bereaved.
9. Explain management skills associated with operating a funeral establishment.
10. Demonstrate verbal and written communication skills and research skills needed for funeral service practice.

ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREE

Upon successful completion of the Mortuary Science major coursework, the general education requirements, and the National Board Examination, the student will be eligible for an Associate in Science Degree in Mortuary Science. Graduation from the ASMS Degree Program will enable students to write the California Embalmer's Examination and the California Funeral Director's Examination.

Please see the Program Director for questions regarding licensure in states other than California.

A. MINIMUM STANDARDS TO APPLY

1. Apply to Cypress College to obtain a Cypress College student ID#. The email address used on the Cypress College application will be used within your Health Science Application and for all email interactions between the college faculty and staff, clinical sites, and any other program related email interactions.
2. **Official** high school transcript, **Official** GED test with an average score of 450 on the five-test battery transcript, or **Official** high school proficiency examination transcript.
3. Evidence of good physical and mental health.
4. English 100C or ENGL 101C or ESL 110C College Writing with a letter grade of "C" or better, or in progress.
5. BIOL 210C Anatomy & Physiology (with lab) or BIOL 231C Anatomy (with lab) with a letter grade of "C" or better within the last 5 years, or in progress.
6. MATH 040C Intermediate Algebra or higher with a letter "C" grade or better, or in progress.
7. A minimum GPA of 2.0 in all college courses attempted.

B. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

1. Before the application opens online, review and follow the instructions on the [Checklist and Sample Application](#) on the [Mortuary Science home page](#).
2. Apply to Cypress College to obtain a Cypress College student ID#. Once a Cypress College Student ID# has been received, submit required official transcripts to Cypress College Admissions and Records. Required items will be listed on the Health Science Applications confirmation email after applying to the program. Cypress and Fullerton College transcripts do not need to be submitted to the admissions office.
 - Digitally (directly from school to school) – send to incomingtranscripts@cypresscollege.edu Attn: Transcripts
 - Through mail (unofficial if opened) -
Cypress College
Admissions and Records - Transcripts
9200 Valley View St.
Cypress, CA 90630
3. Application must be completed **online** during the month of **February-March** for Fall enrollment and **September-October** for Spring enrollment. Application deadlines may be extended depending on space availability. Please see the Mortuary Science home page for more information and application deadlines. <https://careers.cypresscollege.edu/programs/mortuary-science/>
4. Submit needed documents following the instructions on the application.
5. Determination of acceptance is based upon the selection criteria. (SEE SPECIFICS BELOW)

C. GENERAL EDUCATION AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The following General Education/Graduation areas are required for the Associate Degree. For options refer to the Associate Degree requirements in the catalog. All required courses must be completed with a "C" or better. Please refer to the Cypress College Catalog for current Native General Education requirements.

ARTS AND HUMANITIES - Arts (minimum 3 units) and Humanities (minimum 3 units)

SOCIAL SCIENCE (minimum 6 units)

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY/HEALTH (1-3 units)

GRADUATION REQUIREMENT - Social Justice, Equity and Sustainability (formerly known as Cultural Diversity) and Reading Proficiency

D. CANDIDATE SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Students will be selected using a point system based on the number of General Education/Graduation courses completed at the time of application. Priority will be given to the students who have completed the pre-requisites.
2. Selection of students for acceptance is based on the point system then the date of completed application, which includes submission of all transcripts and required documents.
3. A total of 25 new students are selected for each cohort.
4. Applicants may exceed the available seat space.
5. F-1 visa students will not be accepted for admission into any program when applications by qualified U.S. citizens exceed space available (AP 5012 1.4.).

MORTUARY SCIENCE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

The Mortuary Science Program courses that make up the Associate in Science Mortuary Science (ASMS) program are listed below:

Semester I (13 units)	Units	Semester III (9 units)	Units
† MORT 201C Funeral Directing	5	MORT 215C Embalming.....	5
MORT 202C Funeral Service Administration I....	4	MORT 236C Funeral Service Ethics and Laws II ...	4
MORT 203C Methods of Disposition	4		
Semester II (13 units)	Units	Semester IV (9 units)	Units
MORT 204C Funeral Service Administration II....	4	* MORT 216C Restorative Art	5
MORT 214C Funeral Service Sciences	5	* MORT 288C Funeral Service Capstone.....	4
MORT 234C Funeral Service Ethics and Laws I... 4	4	**General Education Categories A through E <i>including</i>	
		Social Justice, Equity and Sustainability (formerly	
		known as Cultural Diversity) & Reading Proficiency	25
Intersession After Semester II (6 units)	Units	Total Units Required for Graduation	75
† MORT 248C Funeral Service Thanatology	6		

* Note: MORT 288C must be taken in the last semester prior to graduation.

† Requires funeral home clinical site.

** See listing in college catalog.

EXPENSES

TEXTBOOKS, SUPPLIES, EQUIPMENT AND EXAMINATIONS: Textbook, supplies and laboratory equipment for individual use are required in the program and vary from year to year. The National Board Examination fee may be obtained from the International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards, Inc. or by visiting their website (www.theconferenceonline.org). The California Department of Consumer Affairs Cemetery and Funeral Bureau regulates the California Embalmer's and Funeral Director's examinations. The fee for those exams may be obtained from the Bureau's website (www.cfb.ca.gov).

NON-RESIDENT TUITION: Students who have been determined to be non-residents of California shall be required to pay a non-resident tuition fee per semester unit plus the regular student enrollment fee. These fees vary from year to year so any out-of-state person interested in attending Cypress College should call the Office of Admission and Records for a quote of the current fees.

ENROLLMENT FEES: While all efforts have been made to present complete and accurate fee information, uncertainties in state funding may result in fee changes. See the Cypress College Schedule of Classes or the official school website (www.cypresscollege.edu) for current information.

HEALTH FEE: Pursuant to the Education Code of California and District policy, Cypress College has a mandatory health fee. The health fee is currently a nominal fee for each student regardless of the number of units the student might be taking. See catalog for exemptions.

CAMPUS ID CARD: There is a \$2.50 non-refundable service fee for campus ID Card. This fee is payable at time of registration.

PARKING: Only those students who wish to use campus parking are required to pay the optional parking fee.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Graduates of the Mortuary Science Program at Cypress College can find rewarding careers as Funeral service managers, embalmers, funeral directors, funeral attendants, funeral arrangers, crematory managers, and other health science professionals.

Health Science Counselors

Division of Health Science
Cypress College
9200 Valley View St.
Cypress, CA 90630-5897
(714) 484-7015

Health Science Applications Office

Health Science Building/TE3-217
Cypress College
9200 Valley View St.
Cypress, CA 90630-5897
(714) 484-7270
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