

(3) Except as otherwise provided in this section, has graduated with an associate of arts degree in mortuary science or its equivalent from a school accredited by the American Board of Funeral Service Education or approved by the Board, OR HAS ACQUIRED AT LEAST AN ASSOCIATE OF ARTS DEGREE AND COMPLETED A COURSE IN MORTUARY SCIENCE THAT IS ACCREDITED BY THE AMERICAN BOARD OF FUNERAL SERVICE EDUCATION OR APPROVED BY THE BOARD;

(4) Has passed the national board examination administered by the Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards of the United States;

(5) Has passed a written examination on Maryland law and regulations governing the practice of mortuary science and a practical examination demonstrating competency in embalming and sanitary science; and

(6) Has submitted an application to the Board on the required form and has paid [to the Board an examination fee of \$100] A FEE SET BY THE BOARD.

[(c) (1) The applicant shall have graduated from 4 years of high school or have the equivalent of 12 years formal education certified by a state department of education. Evidence of a high school or general education diploma shall be presented to the Board and made a part of the applicant's record.

(2) The applicant shall demonstrate to the Board the intention of fulfilling the educational requirements for licensure.

(3) The applicant shall appear before the Board with the applicant's sponsor. The sponsor shall hold a current valid mortician license in Maryland and shall be employed by the same funeral home that employs the apprentice.

(4) The practical experience of an apprentice shall include:

(i) Participation in at least 25 funerals;

(ii) Assistance in the embalming of at least 25 dead human bodies; and

(iii) Completion of 2,000 working hours in a licensed funeral establishment under the direct or indirect supervision of a licensed mortician. Supervision may include instruction by other licensed morticians employed or supervised by the sponsor.

(5) On termination of the sponsor-apprentice relationship, both the sponsor and the apprentice shall independently notify the Board of:

(i) The date of termination;

(ii) The name, date, and place of death of each funeral service and embalming that the apprentice participated in; and

(iii) The total number of working hours of practical experience completed by the apprentice.