

CHAPTER 901
LICENSURE OF FUNERAL DIRECTORS, FUNERAL ESTABLISHMENTS, AND
CREMATION ESTABLISHMENTS

[Prior to 9/21/88, see Health Department[470] Ch 147]

[Prior to 7/10/02, see 645—100.9(156) and 645—100.10(156)]

[Prior to 9/18/24, see Professional Licensure Division[645] Ch 101]

Chapter rescission date pursuant to Iowa Code section 17A.7: 5/22/29

481—901.1(156) Definitions. For purposes of these rules, the following definitions will apply:

“Active license” means a license that is current and has not expired.

“Board” means the board of mortuary science.

“Change of ownership” means a change of controlling interest ((1) an interest in a partnership of greater than 50 percent; or (2) greater than 50 percent of the issued and outstanding shares of a stock of a corporation) in a funeral establishment or cremation establishment.

“Full time” means a minimum of a 35-hour work week.

“Grace period” means the 30-day period following expiration of a license when the license is still considered to be active. In order to renew a license during the grace period, a licensee is required to pay a late fee.

“Inactive license” means a license that has expired because it was not renewed by the end of the grace period. The category of “inactive license” may include licenses formerly known as lapsed, inactive, delinquent, closed, or retired.

“Licensee” means any person licensed to practice as a funeral director in the state of Iowa.

“License expiration date” means the fifteenth day of the birth month every two years following initial licensure.

“Licensure by endorsement” means the issuance of an Iowa license to practice mortuary science to an applicant who is or has been licensed in another state.

“Occupational Safety and Health Act” means the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, 29 U.S.C. §651 et seq.

“Outer burial container” means any container which is designed for placement in the ground around a casket or an urn including, but not limited to, containers commonly known as burial vaults, urn vaults, grave boxes, grave liners, and lawn crypts.

“Reactivate” or *“reactivation”* means the process as outlined in rule 481—901.10(17A,147,272C) by which an inactive license is restored to active status.

“Reciprocal license” means the issuance of an Iowa license to practice mortuary science to an applicant who is currently licensed in another state which has a mutual agreement with the Iowa board of mortuary science to license persons who have the same or similar qualifications to those required in Iowa.

“Reinstatement” means the process as outlined in rule 481—506.31(272C) by which a licensee who has had a license suspended or revoked or who voluntarily surrendered a license may apply to have the license reinstated, with or without conditions. Once the license is reinstated, the licensee may apply for active status.

[ARC 7813C, IAB 4/17/24, effective 5/22/24; Editorial change: IAC Supplement 9/18/24; ARC 0466D, IAB 8/5/26, effective 9/9/26]

481—901.2(156) Requirements for licensure.

901.2(1) The applicant will be eligible to apply for a license to practice mortuary science by the board pursuant to subrule 901.2(2) when the applicant has completed the educational requirements and examination requirements, followed by a completed internship as prescribed below, in the following alphabetical order:

a. Educational qualifications.

(1) A minimum of 60 hours of college credit as indicated on the transcript from a regionally accredited college or university with a minimum of a 2.0 or “C” grade point average. The 60 college semester hours will not include any technical mortuary science course; and

(2) A program in mortuary science from a school accredited by the American Board of Funeral Service Education; and

(3) A college course of at least one semester hour or equivalent in current Iowa law and rules covering mortuary science content areas including, but not limited to, Iowa law and rules governing the practice of mortuary science, cremation, vital statistics, cemeteries and preneed services.

b. Examination requirements. The board will accept a certificate of examination issued by the International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards, Inc., indicating a passing score on both the arts and sciences portions of the examination.

c. Internship requirements as outlined in rule 481—901.3(147,156).

901.2(2) The applicant will complete an online application packet on the Iowa board of mortuary science website and pay the nonrefundable application fee.

a. If licensed in another jurisdiction, the applicant will complete the licensure by endorsement application. Submit a license verification document that discloses if disciplinary action was taken in the jurisdiction where the applicant was most recently licensed.

b. An application that is not completed according to guidelines will not be reviewed by the board.

c. A person who is licensed in another jurisdiction but who is unable to satisfy the requirements of licensure by endorsement may apply for licensure by verification, if eligible, in accordance with rule 481—501.1(272C).

d. An application will not be considered until official copies of the academic transcripts have been directly transmitted from the college to the board office that demonstrate the applicant has completed a program at an approved college of mortuary science.

e. Licensees who were issued their initial licenses within six months prior to the renewal will not be required to renew their licenses until the renewal month two years later.

f. Incomplete applications that have been on file in the board office for more than two years will be:

(1) Considered invalid and will be destroyed; or

(2) Maintained upon written request of the candidate. The candidate is responsible for requesting that the file be maintained.

901.2(3) Foreign-trained funeral directors will:

a. Provide an equivalency evaluation of their educational credentials by International Education Research Foundation, Inc. The professional curriculum must be equivalent to that stated in these rules. A candidate will bear the expense of the curriculum evaluation.

b. Provide a copy of the certificate or diploma awarded to the applicant from a mortuary science program in the country in which the applicant was educated.

c. Receive a final determination from the board regarding the application for licensure.

d. Successfully complete a college course of at least one semester hour or equivalent in current Iowa law and rules covering mortuary science content areas including, but not limited to, Iowa law and rules governing the practice of mortuary science, cremation, vital statistics, cemeteries and preneed.

[ARC 7813C, IAB 4/17/24, effective 5/22/24; Editorial change: IAC Supplement 9/18/24]

481—901.3(147,156) Internship and preceptorship.

901.3(1) Internship.

a. The intern must serve a minimum of one year of internship under the direct supervision of an Iowa board-certified preceptor. The beginning and ending dates of the internship will be indicated on the internship certificate. The intern will engage in the practice of mortuary science only during the time indicated on the internship certificate.

b. The intern will, during the internship, be a full-time employee with the funeral establishment at the site of internship except as provided in paragraph 901.3(2)“i.”

c. No licensed funeral director will permit any person in the funeral director’s employ or under the funeral director’s supervision or control to serve an internship in funeral directing unless that person has a certificate of registration as a registered intern from the department of inspections, appeals, and licensing. The registration will be posted in a conspicuous place in the intern’s primary place of practice.

d. Registered interns will not advertise or hold themselves out as funeral directors or use the degree F.D. or any other title or abbreviation indicating that the intern is a funeral director.

e. The intern will, during the internship, complete the requirements outlined in subrule 901.3(3), including to embalm not fewer than 25 human remains and direct or assist in the direction of not fewer than 25 funerals under the direct supervision of the certified preceptor and to submit reports on forms furnished by the department of inspections, appeals, and licensing. Work on the first five embalming cases, first five funeral arrangements, and first five funeral or memorial services must be completed in the physical presence of the preceptor. The first 12 embalming cases and the first 12 funeral case reports must be completed and submitted by the completion of the sixth month of the internship.

f. Before being eligible for licensure, the intern must have filed the 25 completed embalming and funeral directing case reports and a 6-month and a 12-month evaluation form with the department of inspections, appeals, and licensing. These reports will be answered in full and signed by both the intern and preceptor.

g. When, for any valid reason, the board determines that the education a registered intern is receiving under the supervision of the present preceptor might be detrimental to the intern or the profession at large, the intern may be required to serve the remainder of the internship under the supervision of a licensed funeral director who is approved by the board.

h. The length of an internship may be extended if the board determines that the intern requires additional time or supervision in order to meet the minimum proficiency in the practice of mortuary science.

i. The board views a one-year internship completed in a consecutive 12-month period as the best training option. If an internship is interrupted, the internship must be completed within 24 months of the date it started in order to be readily accepted by the board. Internships that are not completed within 24 months will be preapproved by the board on such terms as the board deems reasonable under the circumstances. The board may require any or all of the following:

(1) Completion of a college course or continuing education course covering mortuary science laws and rules;

(2) Additional case reports;

(3) Extension of an internship up to an additional 12 months depending on such factors as the number of months completed during the internship, length of time that has lapsed since the intern was actively involved in the internship program, and the experience attained by the intern.

j. Application for change of preceptor or any other alteration must be made in writing and approval granted by the board before the status of the intern is altered.

k. The intern must be approved and licensed following a successful internship before the intern may practice mortuary science.

901.3(2) Preceptorship.

a. A preceptor must have completed a training course within five years prior to accepting an intern. This training course will cover Iowa law and rule content areas including, but not limited to, Iowa law and rules governing licensure and the practice of mortuary science and human resource issues. The training course may be counted toward the continuing education hours required for the licensure biennium in which the training course was completed.

b. Any duly Iowa-licensed funeral director who has been practicing for a minimum of five years and who has not had any formal disciplinary action within the past five years with the board of mortuary science and has completed a preceptor training course detailed in paragraph 901.3(2) "a" will be eligible to be a preceptor.

c. The preceptor will be affiliated with a funeral establishment that has not had any formal disciplinary action within the past five years.

d. The preceptor will certify that the intern engages in the practice of mortuary science only during the time frame designated on the official intern certificate.

e. A preceptor's duties will include the following:

(1) Ensure the intern completes the training program outlined in subrule 901.3(3);

(2) Be physically present and supervise the first five embalming cases, first five funeral arrangements, and first five funeral or memorial services;

(3) Familiarize the intern in the areas specified by the preceptor training outline;

(4) Read, add appropriate comments to, and sign each of the 25 embalming reports and the 25 funeral directing reports completed by the intern;

(5) Complete a written six-month report of the intern on a form provided by the board. This report is to be reviewed with and signed by the intern and submitted to the board before the end of the seventh month; and

(6) At the end of the internship, complete a confidential evaluation of the intern on a form provided by the board. This evaluation will be submitted within two weeks of the end of the internship. The 12-month report will be submitted to the board for review and approval prior to the board's approval of the intern for licensure.

f. Failure of a preceptor to fulfill the requirements set forth by the board, including failure to remit the required six-month progress report, as well as the final evaluation, will result in an investigation of the preceptor by the board and may result in actions which may include, but not be limited to, the loss of preceptor status for current and future interns or discipline or both.

g. If a preceptor does not serve the entire year, the board will evaluate the situation; and if a certified preceptor is not available, a licensed funeral director may serve with the approval of the board.

h. No licensed funeral director or licensed funeral establishment will have more than one intern funeral director for the first 100 human remains embalmed or funerals conducted per year, with a maximum of two interns per funeral establishment.

i. With prior board approval, an intern may serve under the supervision of more than one preceptor under the following terms and conditions:

(1) A single preceptor must act in the role of the primary preceptor.

(2) The primary preceptor is responsible for coordinating all intern training and activities.

(3) The intern will be a full-time employee of the funeral establishment of the primary preceptor; however, compensation may be shared between preceptors.

(4) The primary preceptor may make arrangements with a maximum of two additional preceptors to share preceptor responsibilities for such purposes as providing an intern with a higher-volume practice or a broader range of intern experiences.

(5) Each preceptor will be individually responsible for directly supervising the intern's activities performed under the preceptor's guidance, but the primary preceptor remains responsible for coordinating the intern's activities and submitting all forms to the board.

901.3(3) Intern training requirements.

a. The board-approved preceptor will ensure that the intern is knowledgeable of each of the following items during the internship:

(1) The requirements of the Federal Trade Commission Funeral Rule.

(2) The requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Act.

(3) The requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

(4) The benefits of the Social Security and Veterans Health Administrations.

(5) The requirements of Iowa funeral law and forms (for example, preneed in Iowa Code chapter 523A, death certificates and Iowa burial transit permits in Iowa Code chapter 144, authorized person in Iowa Code chapter 144C, Iowa department of inspections, appeals, and licensing law and rules governing funeral practice, and the board's laws and rules).

b. The board-approved preceptor will ensure that the intern performs each of the following under the preceptor's direct supervision:

(1) Assists with or performs a minimum of ten transfers of human remains.

(2) Performs 25 embalmings of human remains to include:

1. Obtaining permission to embalm.

2. Placement of human remains on preparation table.

3. Pre-embalming analysis.

4. Primary disinfection.

5. Setting features.

6. Selection of injection/drainage sites and raising those vessels.

7. Selection and mixing of embalming chemicals and operation of the embalming machine.

8. Injection and drainage methods.
9. Cavity treatment.
10. Suturing techniques.
- (3) Prepares a minimum of ten human remains for viewing to include:
 1. Dressing.
 2. Cosmetizing.
 3. Casketing.
- (4) Assists with cremation procedures to include:
 1. Contacting the medical examiner.
 2. Completing required cremation forms.
 3. Preparing human remains for cremation.
- (5) Makes complete funeral arrangements with a minimum of ten families to include each of the following, as applicable:
 1. Presentation of funeral goods, products and services.
 2. Presentation of payment options for families.
 3. Contacting third-party suppliers of goods and services, such as clergy, cemetery personnel, outer burial container provider, cremation establishment, florist, and musicians.
 4. Completing the obituary.
 5. Presentation of general price list and associated price lists.
 6. Preparation and presentation of statement of funeral goods and services.
- (6) Coordinates, at a minimum, ten visitations to include:
 1. Preparing the chapel, visitation room or other facility.
 2. Setting up floral arrangements.
 3. Setting up register book and memorial folders or prayer cards.
- (7) Directs a minimum of 25 funerals or memorial services to include, as applicable:
 1. Greeting funeral attendees.
 2. Assisting casket bearers.
 3. Preparing for funeral procession.
 4. Driving a vehicle in procession.
 5. Assisting at graveside committal.
 6. Transporting flowers.
 7. Coordinating with officiant and family.

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481—901.4(156) Student practicum.

901.4(1) A student may participate in a student practicum in a licensed funeral establishment in Iowa if the student's school is accredited by and in good standing with the American Board of Funeral Service Education (ABFSE). The student practicum must meet the requirements of the ABFSE.

901.4(2) Students serving a practicum in Iowa will be under the direct physical supervision of a funeral director who meets the following requirements:

- a. Has completed the Iowa preceptor training course within the immediately preceding five years.
- b. Has not had any formal disciplinary action within the past five years.
- c. Is affiliated with a funeral establishment that has not had any formal disciplinary action within the past five years.

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481—901.5(156) Funeral establishment license or cremation establishment license.

901.5(1) A place of business devoted to providing any aspect of mortuary science or cremation services will hold an establishment license issued by the board. An establishment license will not be issued more than 30 days prior to the opening of a new establishment.

a. A funeral establishment or a cremation establishment will not be operated until it has obtained a license from the board. Each establishment will timely renew the license in order to continue operations.

b. A funeral or cremation establishment will surrender its license to the board if the establishment fails to engage in or ceases to engage in the business for which the license was issued, pursuant to Iowa Code section 156.15(2)“*d.*”

c. A funeral or cremation establishment license is not transferable or assignable.

d. A change in ownership will require the issuance of a new license. A change in ownership will be reported to the board prior to the date ownership will change or, in the case of change of ownership by death or other unexpected event, within 30 days following change of ownership. The board may request legal proof of the ownership transfer.

e. An establishment license will be issued for a specific physical location. A change in location or site of an establishment will require the submission of an application for a new license and payment of the fee required by 481—subrule 507.9(9). A new establishment license must be issued prior to the commencement of business in a new location.

f. A change in the name of an establishment will be reported to the board within 30 days. The establishment owner will pay the fee for reissuing the license.

g. A change in address or of the funeral director in responsible charge will be reported to the board within 30 days.

h. An establishment will have an employment or other relationship with one or more licensed funeral directors who will perform all mortuary science services for which licensure as a funeral director is required by Iowa Code chapter 156. A cremation establishment is not, however, required to employ or contract with a funeral director on an ongoing basis because a cremation establishment will not offer services directly to the general public. When a funeral establishment has an employment or other relationship with multiple funeral directors, the funeral establishment will designate the funeral director who will be in responsible charge of all mortuary science services performed at the funeral establishment. The funeral establishment will report to the board any change of the funeral director in responsible charge within 30 days of the change.

i. The board will not routinely issue more than one establishment license for a single location, but the board may do so if the multiple applicants provide proof, satisfactory to the board, that the establishments are wholly separate except for the sharing of facilities. If the board issues more than one establishment license for a single location, the licensees will ensure that the public will not be confused or deceived as to the establishment with which the public is interacting. A facility may have a funeral establishment license and a separate cremation establishment license at a single location.

j. The establishment license will be displayed in a conspicuous place at the location of the establishment.

k. Failure to comply with any of these rules will constitute grounds for discipline pursuant to 481—Chapter 904 and 481—Chapter 504 or civil penalties for unlicensed practice pursuant to 481—Chapter 905.

901.5(2) A funeral establishment or cremation establishment will be subject to applicable local, state and federal health and environmental requirements and will obtain all necessary licenses and permits from the agencies with jurisdiction.

901.5(3) License application. Complete an online application on the Iowa board of mortuary science website and pay the nonrefundable funeral or cremation application fee. If there is both a funeral establishment and a cremation establishment at the same location, two establishment license applications will be required, along with the payment of two establishment application fees. The application will contain all of the following:

a. The name, mailing address and telephone number of the applicant.

b. The physical location of the establishment.

c. The mailing address, telephone number, fax number and email address of the establishment.

d. The name, home address and telephone number of the individual in charge who has the authority and responsibility for the establishment’s compliance with laws and rules pertaining to the operation of the establishment.

e. The name and address of all owners and managers of the establishment (e.g., sole proprietor, partner, director, officer, managing partner, member, or shareholder with 10 percent or more of the stock).

f. The legal name of the establishment and all trade names, assumed names, or other names used by the establishment.

g. The signature of the responsible authority at the site of the establishment and an acknowledgment of the funeral director in responsible charge of mortuary science services at the funeral establishment that the funeral director is aware of and consents to the designation.

h. The names and license numbers of all funeral directors employed by or associated with the establishment through contract or otherwise who provide mortuary science services at or for the establishment. When a funeral establishment has an employment or other relationship with multiple funeral directors, the funeral establishment will designate the funeral director who will have responsible charge of all mortuary science services performed at the funeral establishment. No funeral establishment will be issued a license if it fails to designate the funeral director in responsible charge of the mortuary science services to be performed at the establishment.

i. All felony or misdemeanor convictions of the applicant and all owners and managing officers of the applicant (except minor traffic offenses with fines of less than \$500).

j. All disciplinary actions against any professional or occupational license of the applicant by any jurisdiction including, but not limited to, disciplinary action by the Iowa insurance division under Iowa Code chapter 523A or 523I or action by the Federal Trade Commission.

k. Further information that the board may reasonably require, such as whether the establishment includes a preparation room.

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481—901.6(156) Renewal of funeral director license.

901.6(1) The biennial license renewal period for a license to practice as a funeral director will begin on the sixteenth day of the licensee's birth month and end on the fifteenth day of the licensee's birth month two years later. The licensee is responsible for renewing the license prior to its expiration. Failure of the licensee to receive notice from the board does not relieve the licensee of the responsibility for renewing the license.

901.6(2) An individual who was issued a license within six months of the license renewal date will not be required to renew the license until the subsequent renewal date two years later. Continuing education hours acquired any time from the initial licensing until the second license renewal may be used. The licensee will be required to complete a minimum of 24 hours of continuing education per biennium for each subsequent license renewal, with 2 of the 24 hours covering current Iowa law and rules as identified in 481—paragraph 902.3(2) "f."

901.6(3) A licensee seeking renewal will:

a. Meet the continuing education requirements of 481—902.2(272C). A licensee whose license was reactivated during the current renewal compliance period may use continuing education credit earned during the compliance period for the first renewal following reactivation; and

b. Complete an online renewal application on the board of mortuary science website and pay the renewal fee before the license expiration date.

Persons licensed to practice funeral directing will keep their renewal licenses displayed in a conspicuous public place at the primary site of practice.

901.6(4) Upon receiving the information required by this rule and the required fee, board staff will administratively issue a two-year license. In the event the board receives adverse information on the renewal application, the board will issue the renewal license but may refer the adverse information for further consideration or disciplinary investigation.

901.6(5) A person licensed to practice as a funeral director will keep the license certificate displayed in a conspicuous public place at the primary site of practice.

901.6(6) Late renewal. The license will become late when the license has not been renewed by the expiration date on the renewal. The licensee will be assessed a late fee as specified in 481—subrule 507.14(4). To renew a late license, the licensee will complete the renewal requirements and submit the late fee within the grace period.

901.6(7) Inactive license. A licensee who fails to renew the license by the end of the grace period has an inactive license. A licensee whose license is inactive continues to hold the privilege of licensure in

Iowa, but may not practice as a funeral director in Iowa until the license is reactivated. A licensee who practices as a funeral director in the state of Iowa with an inactive license may be subject to disciplinary action by the board, injunctive action pursuant to Iowa Code section 147.83, criminal sanctions pursuant to Iowa Code section 147.86, and other available legal remedies.

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481—901.7(272C) Renewal of a funeral establishment license or a cremation establishment license.

901.7(1) Renewal.

- a. The renewal cycle will be triennial beginning July 1 and ending on June 30 of the third year.
- b. The renewal will be to complete an online renewal application on the Iowa board of mortuary science website and pay the renewal fee.

901.7(2) Failure to receive notice from the board will not relieve the license holder of the obligation to pay triennial renewal fees on or before the renewal date.

901.7(3) Funeral and cremation establishments will keep their renewal licenses displayed in a conspicuous public place at the primary site of practice.

901.7(4) Late renewal. If the renewal fee and renewal application are received within 30 days after the license renewal expiration date, the late fee for failure to renew before expiration will be charged.

901.7(5) When all requirements for license renewal are met, the licensee will be sent a license renewal card by email.

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481—901.8(272C) Inactive funeral establishment license or cremation establishment license.

901.8(1) If the renewal application and fee are not postmarked within 30 days after the license expiration date, the funeral establishment license or cremation establishment license is inactive. To reactivate a funeral establishment license or cremation establishment license, complete an online reactivation application on the Iowa board of mortuary science website and pay the reactivation fee.

901.8(2) A funeral establishment or a cremation establishment that has not renewed the funeral establishment license or cremation establishment license within the required time frame will have an inactive license and will not provide mortuary science services until the license is reactivated.

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481—901.9(17A,147,272C) Reinstatement of a funeral establishment license or a cremation establishment license. For a funeral or cremation establishment license that has been revoked, suspended, or voluntarily surrendered, the owner must apply for and receive reinstatement of the license in accordance with rule 481—506.32(272C) and must apply for and be granted reactivation of the license in accordance with rule 481—901.10(17A,147,272C) prior to offering mortuary science services from that establishment in this state.

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481—901.10(17A,147,272C) License reactivation. To apply for reactivation of an inactive license, a licensee will:

901.10(1) Complete an online reactivation application on the Iowa board of mortuary science website and pay the reactivation fee.

901.10(2) Provide verification of current competence to practice as a funeral director by satisfying one of the following criteria:

a. If the license has been on inactive status for five years or less, an applicant must provide the following:

(1) If licensed in another jurisdiction, the applicant will submit a licensure verification document from every jurisdiction in which the applicant is or has been licensed that discloses if disciplinary action was taken.

(2) Verification of completion of 24 hours of continuing education that meets continuing education standards defined in rule 481—902.3(156,272C) within two years prior to filing the application for reactivation; and

(3) Verification of completion of two hours of continuing education in current Iowa law and rules covering mortuary science content areas including, but not limited to, Iowa law and rules governing the practice of mortuary science, cremation, vital statistics, cemeteries and preneed. These 2 hours will be included as a part of the 24 hours required in 481—paragraph 902.3(2) “f.”

b. If the license has been on inactive status for more than five years, an applicant must provide the following:

(1) If licensed in another jurisdiction, the applicant will submit a licensure verification document from every jurisdiction the applicant is or has been licensed that discloses if disciplinary action was taken.

(2) Verification of completion of 48 hours of continuing education that meet continuing education standards defined in 481—subrule 902.3(1) and 481—paragraphs 902.3(2) “a,” “b,” “c,” and “e,” within two years prior to filing the application for reactivation. Independent study identified in 481—paragraph 902.3(2) “d” will not exceed 24 hours of the 48 hours; and

(3) Verification of completion of a college course of at least one semester hour or equivalent in current Iowa law and rules covering mortuary science content areas including but not limited to Iowa law and rules governing the practice of mortuary science, cremation, vital statistics, cemeteries and preneed.

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481—901.11(17A,147,272C) Reinstatement of a funeral director license. A licensee whose license has been revoked, suspended, or voluntarily surrendered must apply for and receive reinstatement of the license in accordance with rule 481—506.32(272C) and must apply for and be granted reactivation of the license in accordance with rule 481—901.10(17A,147,272C) prior to practicing as a funeral director in this state. The owner of a funeral home establishment whose establishment license has been revoked, suspended, or voluntarily surrendered must apply for and receive reinstatement of the establishment license and must apply for and be granted reactivation of the establishment license prior to reopening the funeral home establishment.

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481—901.12(156) Removal technician education and training requirements.

901.12(1) A removal technician will complete an in-person or live, real-time interactive media education training program that is approved by the board of mortuary science and provides education and training on the following:

- a. Requirements of the Federal Trade Commission Funeral Rule as defined in rule 481—900.1(156);
- b. Requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Act relevant to the removal technician’s duties;
- c. Iowa laws and rules relevant to removal technicians; and
- d. Pertinent equipment.

901.12(2) It is the responsibility of the removal technician to maintain documentation of successful completion of the education training program described in subrule 901.12(1).

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481—901.13(156) Removal technician supervision and requirements.

901.13(1) A removal technician will serve under the direct supervision of an Iowa licensed funeral director, will only perform removals at the direction of the supervising funeral director, and may act in place of a funeral director only in performing a removal. Another funeral director, who is authorized by the supervising funeral director, may direct the removal technician in the temporary absence of the supervising funeral director.

901.13(2) Any Iowa-licensed funeral director who meets the following conditions is eligible to be a supervisor:

- a. Has been practicing for a minimum of five years;
- b. Has not had any formal disciplinary action within the past five years with the board of mortuary science; and
- c. Is employed by a funeral establishment that has not had any formal disciplinary action within the past five years.

901.13(3) A removal technician seeking registration will complete an application on forms provided by the board and remit a fee in the amount of \$50 to the board. The application will include the applicant's full name, date of birth, and home address; the name and license number of the removal technician's supervising funeral director; and the name and address of the funeral establishment primarily employing the removal technician. A registration is effective for five years and may be renewed within 60 days of expiration. A removal technician will advise the board in writing of any change in supervisor or funeral establishment within 30 days.

901.13(4) The supervising funeral director will:

- a.* Ensure the removal technician completes the education training program described in rule 481—901.12(156) and is registered as a removal technician with the board;
- b.* Be physically present and directly supervise the removal technician's first five removals;
- c.* Ensure the removal technician performs its duties as outlined in subrule 901.13(5);
- d.* Not supervise more than three removal technicians; and
- e.* Not have more than six registered removal technicians employed by the same funeral establishment, or any funeral establishment owned, operated, or affiliated with that funeral establishment.

901.13(5) Removal technicians will:

- a.* Be employed full- or part-time by the Iowa-licensed funeral establishment;
- b.* Complete the requirements of rule 481—901.12(156) and have their first five removals completed in the physical presence of and directly supervised by their supervising Iowa licensed funeral director;
- c.* Comply with subrule 900.4(1) on behalf of their supervising licensed funeral director, including providing their signature and registration number when removing a human remains from a hospital, nursing establishment, or any other institution involved with the care of the public.

901.13(6) Removal technicians will not:

- a.* Advertise or hold themselves out as a funeral director or use the acronym "F.D." or any other title or abbreviation indicating that the removal technician is a funeral director;
- b.* Engage in any duties of a funeral director outside of performing a removal, including but not limited to the duties of a funeral director enumerated in 481—paragraphs 900.2(1) "b" through "f."

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