

Continuing Education – No Rollover Minutes

The Funeral Director Law requires that funeral directors complete a minimum of six hours of Continuing Education (CE) in courses approved by the board, within the two-year licensure period.

The six hours are a minimum requirement, and the board encourages all licensees to receive as much of the education and training they would like or need in order to deliver efficient, ethical and high-quality service to the public.

However, funeral directors should remember that there are no CE rollover minutes. If a licensee completes more than six hours during the biennium, the additional hours cannot be applied to the next licensure period. Each licensee starts at zero hours with the issuance of a renewed license.

There are several reasons why credit hours are not carried forward.

- First, the Funeral Director Law does not permit it.
- Second, the six-hour continuing education requirement is among the lightest CE requirements for any licensed profession in Pennsylvania. Carrying credits forward could produce large gaps in time between continuing education, which would defeat the purpose of the CE requirement to keep licensees current with the standards of professional knowledge and practices.
- Third, since learning is valued in this profession, continuing education should be a regular habit.

Military Interns Are Allowed To Interrupt Their Status When Called To Serve

The profession of funeral directors is proud to have individuals in this field who serve America in its armed services.

On occasion the call to duty may interrupt the training period of an intern, and several interns have expressed concern to the board about how this will affect their internships.

Board Chair Michael Yeosock, F.D., expressed his position at a meeting last year. He believed that if an internship is interrupted by military duty, the statement of policy that applies to the military duty of funeral supervisors and funeral directors should be applied to interns.

Under that statement of policy, an affected funeral establishment would notify the board in writing within 10 days of the intern's receipt of military orders. Upon the intern's return to civilian status, the intern should notify the board of the resumption of the internship.

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