



MEMO

To: ICFSEB Membership

From: Dalene Paull, Executive Director

Re: Change in Committee on Accreditation Standards regarding the National Board Examination

Date: November 4, 2014

The Committee on Accreditation (COA) for the American Board of Funeral Service Education (ABFSE) met during the ABFSE mid-year meeting October 12-13, 2014, In Nashville, TN. At that meeting, the COA voted to amend the requirement that each student of an ABFSE-accredited program sit for the National Board Examination (NBE) as a prerequisite for graduation. The International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards (The Conference) supports the ABFSE and the COA decision to remove this requirement. It strengthens the licensure process by allowing candidates to sit for the NBE after all educational requirements have been met thereby helping preserve the security of the examination program and differentiate between an entry level licensure exam and an educational capstone.

President Bart Burton stated, "Both the educational and the examination components are integral to funeral service licensure. The Conference Board of Directors is pleased to be working in conjunction with the COA to further solidify the respective roles of each."

Revisions to the Standards of the ABFSE were effective October 13, 2014, however, a transition period is expected as the decision affects internal policies of some ABFSE programs.