Applications and nominations for the Maryland Board of Morticians and Funeral Directors are being accepted through November 13, 2020.

The Board is accepting applications for the following Board seats with a term start date of July 1, 2021:

- 1 Practitioner (Licensed Mortician or Funeral Director)
- 1 Consumer Member

Interested candidates should carefully review all membership criteria and the time commitment noted below before applying. Applicants are responsible for ensuring that all application documents are submitted by November 13, 2020.

Criteria:

The criteria for members is outlined in the MD Code, Health Occupations §7-202 which is attached. Terms are for four years. The applicant must meet the criteria noted below and be a resident of Maryland.

**Mortician members must:**

- Be a licensed mortician whose license is in good standing with the Board; and
- Have practiced mortuary science actively for at least 5 years immediately before appointment.

**Funeral director members must:**

- Be a licensed funeral director whose license is in good standing with the Board; and
- Have practiced funeral direction actively for at least 5 years immediately before appointment.

**Consumer members:**

- Shall be a member of the general public;
- May not be or ever have been a mortician, funeral director, or apprentice;
- May not have a household member who is a mortician, funeral director, or apprentice;
- May not participate or ever have participated in a commercial or professional field related to the practice of mortuary science;
- May not have a household member who participates in a commercial or professional field related to the practice of mortuary science; and
- May not have had within 2 years before appointment a substantial financial interest in a person regulated by the Board.
- While a member of the Board, a consumer member may not have a substantial financial interest in a person regulated by the Board.
Board member duties:

- Attend monthly Board meetings which are held on the second Wednesday of each month at the Board office located at 4201 Patterson Ave, Baltimore, MD 21215. The meeting includes a closed and a public (open) session. Members receive a stipend of $60 per meeting plus mileage per current state traf. Members receive documents in advance of the meeting for review. There are attendance requirements in order to remain a board member.
- Members serve on various Board committees including:
  - Complaint Committee
  - Establishment Committee
  - Licensure/Examination Committee
  - CEU Committee
  - Pre-Need Committee
- Committees meet once a month.
- Members participate in disciplinary hearing and case resolution conferences.
- Board members may be asked to testify before the General Assembly regarding legislation that affects consumers and/or licensees.
- Board members are subject to the State Ethics Law and are required to file an annual financial disclosure with the Maryland State Ethics Commission.

Please note that all applicants are thoroughly vetted and may be interviewed by the Office of Appointments. The Governor appoints all board members with the advice of the Secretary of the Department of Health, and advice and consent of the Senate.

All interested applicants are required to submit a formal application through the Governor’s Appointments Office website at http://govappointments.maryland.gov/ no later than November 13, 2020.

Please be aware that one of the application documents, Appointee Exemption Disclosure (AED) form, is required by the Maryland State Ethics Commission (MSEC) to document any potential conflicts of interest. On the AED form, applicants should request an employment exemption for all current employment. Applicants that are self-employed, own or co-own a business should also request a financial exemption on the AED form.

If a licensed applicant is serving in an official capacity with a profession related Board/Association, the applicant should list their role and note their willingness to resign immediately if appointed to the Board of Morticians and Funeral Directors. Applicants may contact the MSEC at 410-260-7770 with questions or to request guidance.

Any additional questions regarding applications may be addressed to Kim Bennardi at kim.bennardi@maryland.gov or 410-409-0417.
NAME OF BOARD.COMMISSION:

Maryland State Board of Morticians and Funeral Directors

BOARD MISSION:

The mission of the Maryland State Board of Morticians and Funeral Directors is to protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Maryland by:

- Licensing qualified and competent morticians, funeral directors, surviving spouse, apprentices, funeral establishments, mortuary transporters, mortuary transport services, and crematory operators;
- Discipline violations of the Maryland Morticians and Funeral Directors Act in accordance with Title 7 of the Maryland Code Annotated, Health Occupations Article.

MEMBERSHIP COMPOSITION:

TOTAL NUMBER: 11 Board Members

PROFESSIONAL: 6 Board Members (Morticians and/or Funeral Directors)

CONSUMER: 5 Board Members

REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS:

DAY: Wednesday
TIME: 1:00 p.m.
LOCATION: 4201 Patterson Ave, Baltimore, MD 21215
FREQUENCY: Monthly on the second Wednesday, except the month of August.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS including frequency:

Committee meetings are held monthly on the morning of regular board meetings. Specific times are arranged by committee chair(s).

Complaint Committee
Establishment Committee
Licensure/Examination Committee
CEU Committee
Pre-Need Committee

Family Security Trust Fund Committee meetings are held at least twice per year at a time and place that the Committee determines.

DETAIL OF TIME COMMITMENT:
The average time commitment ranges from 5-7 hours per month. Most board members serve on two committees.

**OTHER DUTIES OF MEMBERS: (Types of Committees, Exams, etc.)**

Proctors for Jurisprudence Exam and Practical Exam. Some members may testify in Annapolis during legislative session.

**MEMBER COMPENSATION: (Stipend/Travel/Other)**

Stipend - $60.00; plus, mileage based on current state rate.

For additional information on the Board of Morticians and Funeral Directors, please visit our website at: [https://health.maryland.gov/bom/Pages/Home.aspx](https://health.maryland.gov/bom/Pages/Home.aspx).

Additional Relevant information:

Reference: Tenure and Removal

H.O. Article 7-202(h)(1) – the term of an appointed member is 4 years;
H.O. Article 7-202(i)(1) The Governor may remove an appointed member for incompetence or misconduct.
H.O. Article 7-202(i)(2) Upon the recommendation of the Secretary, the Governor may remove an appointed member whom the Secretary finds to have been absent from two successive board meetings without adequate reason.

Reference: Officers

H.O. Article 7-203 (a) – From among its members the Board shall elect a president, a first vice president, and a second vice president.

**Date:** October 25, 2019

(a)(1) The Board consists of 11 members.

(2) Of the 11 Board members:
   (i) 6 shall be licensed morticians or licensed funeral directors; and
   (ii) 5 shall be consumer members.

(3) All Board members shall be residents of the State.

(4) The Governor shall appoint each member with the advice of the Secretary, and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

(5) The Board may not have more than one member who is employed by or affiliated with, directly or indirectly, the same corporation, professional association, or other entity, that owns, directly or through a subsidiary corporation, professional association, or other entity, one or more funeral homes.

(b)(1) **Mortician members.** – Each mortician member shall:
   (i) Be a licensed mortician whose license is in good standing with the Board; and
   (ii) Have practiced mortuary science actively for at least 5 years immediately before appointment.

(2) In this subsection, "good standing" means that the Board has not reprimanded the licensee, suspended, or revoked the mortician's license or placed the licensee on probation within 5 years' time prior to or after confirmation to the Board.

(3) To qualify for appointment to the Board, the licensee must meet all other qualifications required for renewal of a mortician license under this title.

(c)(1) **Funeral director members.** - Each funeral director member shall:
   (i) Be a licensed funeral director whose license is in good standing with the Board; and
   (ii) Have practiced funeral direction actively for at least 5 years immediately before appointment.
(2) In this subsection, "good standing" means that the Board has not reprimanded the licensee, suspended, or revoked the funeral director's license or placed the licensee on probation within 5 years' time prior to or after confirmation to the Board.

(3) To qualify for appointment to the Board, the licensee must meet all other qualifications required for renewal of a funeral director license under this title.

(d)(1) **Notice of mortician or funeral director vacancies.** - For each licensed mortician or licensed funeral director vacancy, the Board shall send by electronic mail or regular mail a notice of the vacancy to:

   (i) Each mortician and funeral director licensed by the Board; and

   (ii) Each professional association that represents morticians and funeral directors in the State and requests that the Board send it solicitations for nominations to fill vacancies.

(2) A notice sent under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall include:

   (i) The type of member vacancy;

   (ii) The qualifications for the member vacancy; and

   (iii) A detailed explanation of the process for applying for the member vacancy.

(e) **Consumer members.** - Each consumer member of the Board:

   (1) Shall be a member of the general public;

   (2) May not be or ever have been a mortician, funeral director, or apprentice;

   (3) May not have a household member who is a mortician, funeral director, or apprentice;

   (4) May not participate or ever have participated in a commercial or professional field related to the practice of mortuary science;

   (5) May not have a household member who participates in a commercial or professional field related to the practice of mortuary science; and

   (6) May not have had within 2 years before appointment a substantial financial interest in a person regulated by the Board.

(f) **Financial interest.** - While a member of the Board, a consumer member may not have a substantial financial interest in a person regulated by the Board.
(g) **Oath.** - Before taking office, each member of the Board shall take the oath required by Article I, § 9 of the Maryland Constitution.

(h)(1) **Tenure; vacancies.** - The term of an appointed member is 4 years, except that the initial term of 1 of the consumer members is 3 years.

(2) The terms of appointed members are staggered as required by the terms provided for members of the Board on July 1, 1981.

(3) At the end of a term, an appointed member continues to serve until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

(4) A member who is appointed after a term has begun serves only for the rest of the term and until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

(5) To the extent practicable, the Governor shall fill any vacancy on the Board occurring during the term of an appointed member within 60 days of the date of the vacancy.

(6) A member may not serve more than 2 consecutive full terms.

(i)(1) **Removal of appointed member.** - The Governor may remove an appointed member:

   (i) For incompetence or misconduct; or

   (ii) Who, because of events that occur after the member's appointment or reappointment to the Board, causes the Board to be in violation of the prohibition set forth in subsection (a)(5) of this section.

(2) Upon the recommendation of the Secretary, the Governor may remove an appointed member whom the Secretary finds to have been absent from 2 successive Board meetings without adequate reason.

**Credits**


Formerly Art. 43, §§ 339, 340.