



2026

NJFSEC

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION



New Jersey Funeral
Service Education
Corporation

P.O. Box L • Manasquan NJ 08736-0642
732.974.9444 • Fax 732.974.8144
www.njsfda.org/scholarships

NJFSEC Scholarship Eligibility and Application Requirements

Each year, the New Jersey Funeral Service Education Corporation (NJFSEC) awards scholarships to New Jersey residents enrolled in a program of funeral service education.

To qualify, applicants must be registered in a program of funeral service education accredited by the American Board of Funeral Service Education (ABFSE). (Applicants continuing or beginning their funeral service education program studies during the fall 2026 semester are eligible.)

Selection of scholarship recipients is at the discretion of the NJFSEC and based primarily on academic performance and a strong commitment to funeral service, rather than financial need. Please carefully review the following eligibility and application requirements:

1. Applicant must be a New Jersey resident who intends to become a New Jersey licensed funeral director and is currently registered as an intern with the New Jersey State Board of Mortuary Science.
2. Applicant must be registered in or attending a program of funeral service education accredited by the ABFSE for the fall 2026 semester. The scholarship is to help cover the costs of the program of funeral service education; preparatory programs are not eligible.
3. Applicant must have maintained at least a 3.0 grade point average on a scale of 4.0 in college/university programs. If applicant attended more than one university, the combined grade point average for all institutions must be at least 3.0.
4. A completed application form along with all required attachments must **be received in the NJFSEC office by close of business no later than June 30, 2026**. Email to scholarships@njsfda.org with the following subject line: 2026 Scholarship (Applicant's Last Name). All attachments must also include this subject line.

Incomplete, late and/or handwritten applications will not be considered.

A complete application includes:

- a. Completed Parts I and II of the application.
- b. All official college/university transcripts that clearly state the GPA. Transcripts must be emailed directly from the school(s) to the NJFSEC.
- c. At least two, but no more than three, confidential letters of recommendation from any of the following individuals, (excluding employers, co-workers, preceptors, relatives and guardians) with only one recommendation from any category listed below. Recommendations must be emailed directly to the NJFSEC.
 - an actively licensed New Jersey Practitioner of Mortuary Science (who is a member of the New Jersey State Funeral Directors Association, Inc. and who is not currently an NJFSEC Trustee)
 - a member of the clergy
 - an instructor
 - a professional caregiver
- d. A copy of intern ID card
- e. Proof of acceptance to or enrollment in a program of funeral service education accredited by the ABFSE for the fall 2026 semester

5. Applicants are **required** to participate in an in-person interview. All interviews are held at the NJFSEC headquarters in Wall, New Jersey, to be scheduled after June 30, 2026. Please note that the required interview is an important part of the application process. Applicants should come prepared to answer a series of questions regarding their career choice and their thoughts on funeral service. Anyone who fails to attend a prescheduled interview will be disqualified from consideration for a scholarship.

Final selection of scholarship recipients will be made no later than August 14, 2026. All applicants will be notified by email.

Scholarship recipients must attend the NJSFDA General Session, held during the 2026 Funeral Directors Convention and Expo in Atlantic City. The date and time of the General Session will be disclosed to the candidate during the in-person interview. Scholarship checks are mailed immediately following the Convention.

Disclosure

Scholarships are awarded at the discretion of the New Jersey Funeral Service Education Corporation (NJFSEC). Awards are based on completed applications. The decision of the NJFSEC is final. The NJFSEC reserves the right not to make an award if applicants do not meet scholarship standards. The NJFSEC also reserves the right to split awards.

The NJFSEC treats scholarship applicants without regard to race, creed, sex, age, color, national origin or ancestry, religion, disability or handicap, affectional or sexual orientation, marital status or NJSFDA member or non-member affiliation.

Any questions should be directed to the NJFSEC at 1.800.734.3712 or scholarships@njsfda.org.

College or University:

Name of School: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Dates Attended: _____ Degree: _____ GPA*: _____

Name of School: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Dates Attended: _____ Degree: _____ GPA*: _____

High School Attended:

Name of School: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Dates Attended: _____ Degree: _____ GPA*: _____

Name of School: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Dates Attended: _____ Degree: _____ GPA*: _____

** If GPA is not clearly indicated on the transcript, please attach a letter from the college registrar that states the GPA on a scale of 4.0.*

Extracurricular Activities: _____

Honors and Awards: _____

Community or Civic Activities: _____

With my printed signature, I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this application is correct and complete. It is my intention to continue my mortuary science education and to enter the field of funeral service in the State of New Jersey upon successful completion of professional education, examination and licensure. **I understand that I must participate in a mandatory in-person interview to complete this application. I also understand that I must attend the NJSFDA General Session meeting at the Funeral Directors Convention and Expo in Atlantic City if I am selected as an NJFSEC scholarship recipient.**

Signature of Applicant

Date

PART II: Personal Essay

As part of your application, please type a 200–300 word essay on one of the following topics (*please check topic selected*):

- Why have you chosen funeral service as a career?
- What do you feel you can contribute to funeral service? How do you feel you will make a difference in funeral service?

(Attach additional sheets if necessary.)



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