

Funeral Director Apprentice Interview Questions

1. Share an experience in which you successfully shared a difficult piece of information. (Make sure that the candidate has open lines of communication.)

2. Describe an experience where you assisted coroners at death scenes or at autopsies, file police reports, and testified at inquests or in court.

3. What is the most challenging part of conforming to laws of health and sanitation and ensure that legal requirements concerning embalming are met?

4. In your opinion, what is key to serve as pallbearers, attend visiting rooms, and provide other assistance to the bereaved?

5. Walk me through how you conduct interviews to arrange for the preparation of obituary notices, to assist with the selection of caskets or urns, and to determine the location and time of burials or cremations.

6. Share an experience you had in dealing with a difficult person and how you handled the situation.

7. Tell me about a recent experience you've had working with your hands.

8. Share an experience when you applied new technology or information in your job. How did it help your company?

9. Tell me about an experience in which you analyzed information and evaluated results to choose the best solution to a problem.

10. Tell me how you organize, plan, and prioritize your work.

11. Share an experience in which your attention to detail and thoroughness had an impact on your last company.

12. In your experience, what is the key to ensuring your company was compliant with all laws, regulations and standards that were applicable to your area of responsibility?

13. What kind of experience do you have incising stomach and abdominal walls and probing internal organs,

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using trocar, to withdraw blood and waste matter from organs?

14. Share an example of when you went above and beyond the "call of duty". (Look for answers that show the candidate is dependable.)

15. Tell me how you make incisions in arms or thighs and drain blood from circulatory system and replace it with embalming fluid, using pump.

16. Describe an experience where you had to reshape or reconstruct disfigured or maimed bodies using dermasurgery techniques and materials such as clay, cotton, plaster of Paris, and wax.

17. Provide an example when your ethics were tested.

18. Describe methods you have effective to perform the duties of funeral directors, including coordinating funeral activities.

19. Have you ever had to perform special procedures necessary for remains that are to be transported to other states or overseas, or where death was caused by infectious disease? If so, share an experience.

20. Provide an experience in which you were sensitive to someone's needs or feelings. How did your helpfulness affect your work environment?

21. What is the most challenging part of supervising funeral attendants and other funeral home staff?

22. Provide an example of a time when you were able to demonstrate excellent listening skills. What was the situation and outcome?

23. Name a time when your patience was tested. How did you keep your emotions in check?

24. Name a time when your creativity or alternative thinking solved a problem in your workplace.

25. Please share an experience in which you presented to a group. What was the situation and how did it go?

26. Share a time when you willingly took on additional responsibilities or challenges. How did you

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successfully meet all of the demands of these responsibilities? (Make sure the candidate is a self-starter and can demonstrate some initiative.)

27. Tell me about a time when you developed your own way of doing things or were self-motivated to finish an important task.

28. Provide a time when you dealt calmly and effectively with a high-stress situation.

29. Provide an example of when you were persistent in the face of obstacles.

30. How do you balance cooperation with others and independent thinking? Share an example. (Try to determine if the candidate has a cooperative attitude or is otherwise good-natured.)

31. Share an example of when you established and accomplished a goal that was personally challenging. What helped you succeed?

32. Provide an example of a time when you successfully organized a diverse group of people to accomplish a task.

33. Give me an example of when you thought outside of the box. How did it help your employer?

34. Share an experience in which your willingness to lead or offer an opinion helped your company.

35. Share an experience in which you've successfully learned how to handle a new piece of equipment?

36. Provide an experience that demonstrates your ability to manage time effectively. What were the challenges and results?

37. Share an experience in which you successfully coordinated with others. How about a coordination effort that was not as successful?

38. Share an experience in which your ability to consider the costs or benefits of a potential action helped you choose the most appropriate action.

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39. Please share an experience in which you successfully taught a difficult principle or concept. How were you able to be successful?