11.08.99.C1 Awarding of Posthumous Degrees

Revised: November 21, 2024
Next Scheduled Review: November 21, 2029
Revision History

Rule Summary

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi (TAMU-CC) may award graduate and undergraduate degrees posthumously in accordance with the criteria and process outlined in this rule.

Rule

1. CRITERIA FOR AWARDING POSTHUMOUS DEGREES

TAMU-CC may award a graduate or undergraduate degree posthumously when a student has substantially completed all requirements for the degree and was in good academic and conduct standing at the time of death. For a posthumous degree to be awarded, one of the following circumstances must have occurred:

1.1. The student completed all academic requirements for the degree, but the student died prior to certification of degree completion.

1.2. The student was enrolled in courses that, upon successful completion, would have culminated in the awarding of the degree. Requirements for specific degrees follow.

1.2.1. Bachelor's Degree

(a) The student was a senior enrolled at TAMU-CC in the semester in which the degree would have been conferred. In the case of summer graduation, enrollment in the first summer term would meet this requirement. If the student lacked only one summer term to complete their degree but was not enrolled during the first term, anticipated enrollment during the second term will be taken as fulfilling the enrollment requirement.

(b) The student's grade point average was a minimum of a 2.0 on a four-point scale.

(c) The degree must be recommended by the student's major

department and the dean/director of the academic unit (e.g., college, school).

1.2.2. Master's Degree

(a) Enrollment requirements are the same as for the bachelor's degree unless the student was writing a thesis.

(b) If the student was writing a thesis, all course work must have been completed with passing grades. Substantial progress toward the completion of the thesis should have been made.

(c) The student had a minimum grade point average of 3.0 on a four-point scale for their graduate work.

(d) The degree must be recommended by the student's major and minor professors, major department, and the academic unit dean/director.

1.2.3. Doctoral Degree

(a) Enrollment requirements are the same as for the bachelor's degree.

(b) All course work and qualifying exams were satisfactorily completed.

(c) Substantial progress was made toward the completion of the dissertation and the student was admitted to candidacy.

(d) The degree must be recommended by the student's doctoral committee, major department, and the academic unit dean/director.

1.3. The student was in the final year of their studies and was representing the university in an institution-sponsored activity at the time of death.

2. PROCESS FOR AWARDING POSTHUMOUS DEGREES

2.1. The dean/director of the academic unit in which the student was pursuing the degree at the time of death is responsible for ensuring that the process below is followed.

2.2. The chair of the department in which the student was pursuing the degree is responsible for reviewing the student's academic record and consulting with the student's professors or, if applicable, the student's doctoral committee. The department chair should forward their written recommendation, along

with the academic record, to the dean/director of the academic unit. Any recommendations provided by the student's professors or the doctoral committee should also be forwarded to the dean/director.

2.3. The dean/director of the academic unit should review the recommendations. The dean/director of the academic unit should forward their own written recommendation along with supporting documentation (academic audit, proof of death, and other relevant materials) to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs (Provost).

2.4. The Provost will review the materials and decide whether to include the individual on the list of degree recipients.

2.5. Any exceptions to this rule or the process of awarding of degrees posthumously must be approved by the President.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

System Policy *11.08, Awarding of Posthumous Degrees*

Contact Office

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