



Rule

11.08.99.L1 Awarding of Posthumous Degrees

First Approved: August 17, 2006
Revised: March 6, 2017
July 19, 2019
August 1, 2024
Next Scheduled Review: August 1, 2029

Rule Statement and Reason for Rule

Texas A&M International University (TAMIU) may award a graduate or undergraduate degree posthumously when a student has substantially completed all requirements for the degree and was in good academic standing at the time of death.

This rule provides guidelines and requirements for the awarding of posthumous degrees as required by [System Policy 11.08, Awarding of Posthumous Degrees](#).

Procedures and Responsibilities

1. CRITERIA FOR AWARDING POSTHUMOUS DEGREES

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

- 1.1 The student must have been enrolled in courses that, upon successful completion, would have fulfilled the degree requirements at the time of death.

1.2 The student must have completed all other academic requirements for the degree but died prior to certification of degree completion. Guidelines for specific degrees are as follows:

1.2.1 Bachelor's Degrees

1.2.1.1 The student must have been enrolled in one of the semesters 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 his/her degree but was not enrolled during the first term, anticipated enrollment during the second term would be taken as fulfilling the enrollment requirement.

1.2.1.2 The student's grade point average must be a minimum of 2.0 on a four-point scale.

1.2.1.3 The degree must be recommended by the division/department head of the student's major and approved by the dean.

1.2.2 Graduate Degrees

1.2.2.1 Enrollment requirements are the same as for the bachelor's degree unless the student was writing a thesis, dissertation or had an internship or practicum to complete at the conclusion of all course work.

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

1.2.2.3 In the case of a culminating practicum or internship, the student must be enrolled in the practicum or internship in the last semester of coursework preceding the practicum or internship.

1.2.2.4 The student's grade point average must be a minimum of 3.0 on a four-point scale.

1.2.2.5 The degree must be recommended by the division/department head of the student's major and approved by the dean.

2. PROCEDURES FOR REQUESTING THE AWARDING OF POSTHUMOUS DEGREES

The division/department head of the student's major must present the academic record and recommendation for awarding the posthumous degree to the dean of the college. In the case of master's and doctoral students, the student's thesis or dissertation committee and the Dean of Graduate School should be consulted.

- 2.1 If the dean concurs with the recommendation that a degree should be awarded posthumously, the dean must forward the recommendation in writing, along with supporting documentation which must include an academic audit and documentation regarding the student's demise, to the University Registrar and Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs (Provost) or designee.
- 2.2 The Provost must review the recommendations and forward their recommendation to the President.
- 2.3 The President must make the final decision for the award of a posthumous degree and forward his/her recommendation to the Provost. The Provost must notify the University Registrar of the President's decision with a copy to the dean of the originating college.
- 2.4 Degrees awarded posthumously may be noted on the commencement program, and upon approval by the Provost, a member of the student's family may be permitted to participate in the commencement ceremony. A notation that the degree was awarded posthumously must be made on the student's transcript.

Related Statutes, Policies, Regulations, or SAP's

[System Policy 11.08, Awarding of Posthumous Degrees](#)

Contact Office

Office of the Provost and VP for Academic Affairs, 956-326-2240