11.08.99.W1/AA

Awarding of Posthumous Degrees

Approved May 7, 2001 Revised May 18, 2017 Revised October 30, 2020 Next Scheduled Review October 30, 2025



Supplements Texas A&M University System Policy 11.08

Rule Summary

West Texas A&M University may award a posthumous degree in accordance with this rule and Texas A&M University System policy. This rule provides the means by which West Texas A&M University may award a posthumous degree.

Procedures and Responsibilities

1. AWARDING OF POSTHUMOUS DEGREES

West Texas A&M University may award a graduate or undergraduate degree posthumously when a student had substantially completed all requirements for the degree and was in good academic and citizenship standing at the time of death. For a posthumous degree to be awarded, the student should be enrolled at West Texas A&M University in the semester in which the degree would have been conferred. For graduate degrees requiring a research proposal, the proposal, at the time of the student's death, must have been signed by each committee member and a significant portion of the research proposal must have been reviewed by the committee and found to be acceptable. The degree would be awarded only upon the recommendation of the student's major department. The dean of the school or college, including the graduate dean if for a graduate student, where the student was pursuing the degree at the time of his/her death is responsible for ensuring that the procedures below are followed. The President must approve any exceptions to the rule or procedure on awarding of posthumous degrees.

2. APPLICATION

- 2.1 The division/department head of the deceased student's major should present the academic record and recommendation for awarding the posthumous degree to the dean of the college. The student must have been enrolled in courses that would fulfill degree requirements at the time of death.
- 2.2 If the dean concurs with the recommendation that a degree be awarded posthumously, the dean should forward the recommendation in writing, along with supporting documentation (academic audit and proof of the student's demise) to the Executive Vice President/Provost.

- 2.3 The Executive Vice President/Provost should transmit the request to the Registrar and the Vice President for Student Services for review and for recommendation to "Award" or "Do Not Award."
- 2.4 The Executive Vice President/Provost shall review the recommendations of the Registrar and the Vice President for Student Services and recommend "Award" or "Do Not Award" to the President.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

Texas A&M University System Policy 11.08, Awarding of Posthumous Degrees

Contact Office

Executive Vice President/Provost 806-651-2044

System Approvals*

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

Ray Bonilla General Counsel

Approved John Sharp Chancellor

0/28/2020

Date

2020

*System approvals are contingent upon incorporation of any and all System-required changes in the rule's final posting.