

California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

Academic Senate Report

AS-2954-212-AA

Posthumous Degree Policy

Academic Senate Action:

Adopted:

December 1, 2021

Final Disposition:

Transmitted to President:

December 2, 2021

RECOMMENDATION:

The Academic Senate recommends the approval of the following proposed policies for awarding undergraduate and graduate student posthumous degrees:

Policy XXXX, Posthumous Baccalaureate Degree Award

A posthumous baccalaureate degree may be awarded to a student who, at the time of death, had completed a substantial portion of the requirements for graduation, defined as follows:

The student was enrolled at the university at the time of death, on an approved leave of absence, or was an active-duty member of the U.S. Armed Forces, federal military reserve forces, and/or National Guard.

The student meets one of the following conditions:

- The student was within 15 semester units of completing the minimum number of semester units for their degree
- The student had satisfactorily completed at least 120 semester units of coursework and/or had completed at least 85% of all degree requirements and is in good standing.
- The student had a grade point average of 2.0 or higher for all units used in calculating the grade point average.

Under exceptional circumstances (such as outstanding service to the university), the President may, upon consideration of the recommendations of the faculty within the deceased student's major or concentration, that School's Dean, and the Provost, confer a posthumous bachelor's degree to a student who, at the time of death, had not completed the requirements set forth above. The Department Chair and the Dean of the student's major will be responsible for evaluating the request against the criteria above in consultation with the Registrar's Office, Office of Student Success, and Dean of Students. If the request is granted, the Office of Student Success will partner with the Dean of Students to contact the deceased's family to arrange for presenting the diploma.

Students who do not qualify for a posthumous bachelor's degree may be awarded a Certificate of Achievement if the student was in good standing and had been enrolled at CPP within the past three semesters prior to their death. The approval process for the Certificate of Achievement is the same as for the posthumous degree.

Policy XXXX, Posthumous Graduate Degree Award

A posthumous graduate degree may be awarded to a student who, at the time of death, had completed a substantial portion of the requirements for graduation, defined as follows:

The student was enrolled at the university at the time of death, on an approved leave of absence, or was an active-duty member of the U.S. Armed Forces, federal military reserve forces, and/or National Guard;

The student meets one of the following conditions:

- The student was within 15 semester units of completing the minimum number of semester units for their degree
- The student had satisfactorily completed at least 85% of all degree requirements with a C or better in all classes and is in good standing.
- The student had a grade point average of 3.0 or higher for all units used in calculating the grade point average

Under exceptional circumstances (such as outstanding service to the university), the President may, upon consideration of the recommendations of the faculty within the deceased student's major or concentration, that School's Dean, and the Provost, confer a posthumous degree to a student who, at the time of death, had not completed the requirements set forth above. The Department Chair and the Dean of the student's major will be responsible for evaluating the request against the criteria above in consultation with the Registrar's Office, Graduate Studies, and Dean of Students. If the request is granted, Graduate Studies will partner with the Dean of Students to contact the deceased's family to arrange for presenting the diploma.

Students who do not qualify for a posthumous bachelor's degree may be awarded a Certificate of Achievement if the student was in good standing and had been enrolled at CPP within the past three semesters prior to their death. The approval process for the Certificate of Achievement is the same as for the posthumous degree.