

REGENTS' POLICY
PART X – ACADEMIC POLICY
Chapter 10.03 - Degree, Certificate and Award Approval

P10.03.010. Degree and Certificate Candidate and Recipient Approval.

- A. Candidates for degrees and certificates approved by the board will be recommended by the faculties and academic deans, certified by the registrars as having met all applicable requirements for the degree or certificate, and endorsed by the respective chancellor and by the president. All degrees and certificates are conferred by the board.

- B. The official lists of degree and certificate recipients will be established by the chancellors immediately after the official closing date of each term. The combined lists for the spring and preceding fall and summer terms will be transmitted by the president to the board after the spring session. This official list of degree and certificate recipients will be presented to the board for their approval at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

(02-16-96)

P10.03.020. Honorary Degrees.

Honorary degrees may be conferred upon approval of the Board of Regents.

Nominations for award by a university campus will follow the process as outlined below.

A. Criteria

The criterion for individuals to receive an honorary degree from the University of Alaska is evidence of a significant and lasting contribution to the university, to the State of Alaska, or to the individual's discipline or profession.

B. Campus Procedure

The chancellors of each MAU will establish a faculty committee and a procedure for nominating individuals for honorary degrees that provides for an open process for suggesting prospective nominees, and respect for a prospective nominee's privacy. Each year the chancellors may forward the nominee's names and supporting information to the president. No current regent or current university employee may be a prospective nominee.

C. President Review

The president will investigate the qualifications and character of each nominee. The president may forward nominees for an honorary degree to the board.

D. Board of Regents' Conferral

The board may award an honorary degree to a nominee. The board will confer each honorary degree at the MAU that grants the degree. An honorary degree may not be awarded in absentia, but may be awarded posthumously if the board approved the recipient before their demise.

(09-25-09)

UNIVERSITY REGULATION
PART X – ACADEMIC POLICY
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R10.03.020. Honorary Degrees.

Nominations for honorary degrees may be made by members of the Board of Regents, campus advisory councils, members of the university community, or citizens of the state. The MAU will acknowledge the receipt of such nominations to the nominator. The nominator may request to appear before the committee to speak to the nomination.

In order to afford members of the Board of Regents an opportunity to attend committee meetings if they wish, chancellors will notify the Board of Regents' Office of committee meeting schedules to be transmitted to members of the board.

The board will act on awards for the spring commencement at the first meeting of the board in the preceding fall semester. Under exceptional circumstances, the board will consider nominations submitted at other times.

In order to accommodate arrangements necessary to invite commencement speakers upon whom an honorary degree is to be conferred, or awardees who cannot immediately attend a commencement, nominations may be approved up to four years prior to the actual award. If the nominee has not accepted the award by that time, their name will be removed from the list of approved nominees.

Announcement of honorary degree recipients prior to the award ceremony will be at a time determined by the appropriate chancellor.

While commencement will be the usual ceremony at which awards are to be conferred, other occasions may be substituted upon approval by the board.

Nominations will include a brief statement of the following information on each candidate:

1. name and pertinent personal information;
2. education (degrees received);
3. contributions to the university, and/or the state, or the nominee's discipline or profession;

4. rationale for recommendation for honorary degree;
5. person making the nomination; and
6. supporting letters.

The type of honorary degree to be awarded should be one of the following:

Doctor of Laws (LL.D.)	for persons distinguished in general service to the state, to learning, and to humankind.
Doctor of Education (D.E.)	for persons who have distinguished themselves in the field of education.
Doctor of Fine Arts (D.F.A.)	for persons who have distinguished themselves in the fine arts, including artists and musicians.
Doctor of Letters (Litt.D.)	for persons distinguished in scholarly work of a somewhat restricted nature; usually conferred upon scholars in particular disciplines.
Doctor of Science (Sc.D.)	for persons who have made distinguished contribution and performed services in the sciences.
Doctor of Humane Letters (L.H.D.)	for persons who have distinguished themselves in the humanities.

(09-25-09)