

**Graduation  
Requirements**

The Board of Trustees will establish graduation requirements in a manner consistent with applicable law. The College District catalog will address the degrees and certificates, the semester credit hours or continuing education units, and other requirements that must be satisfied to obtain each baccalaureate degree, associates degree, or certificate awarded by the College District.

To be eligible for graduation, a student should submit an application in accordance with procedures established by the District President or designee and published in the College District catalog.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the College District may graduate current and former students who have met graduation requirements with or without student consent.

**Award of Honorary  
Degrees**

Upon recommendation of the District President or designee, the Board of Trustees may award an honorary associate's degree as the highest form of recognition offered by the College District to individuals of exceptional distinction or in cases of extraordinary or compelling circumstances.

Honorary degrees may be awarded at commencement, in absentia, or at another designated event.

The following requirements will be met before the College District may award an honorary degree:

1. The individual has demonstrated a long-lasting commitment of noteworthy service to the College District.
2. The individual is determined to have made significant, noteworthy contributions to the College District or to the local area community at large. Specific contributions could include exceptional accomplishments in education, promoting educational opportunities, humanitarian efforts, extraordinary public service, or other extraordinary contributions to business, industry, professional, civic, or scholarly areas.
3. The individual has made special contributions to the College District student body or exemplifies the highest ideals of the College District for its students. If the individual is a student or former student, at the time of consideration, the student must have been in good academic standing, without a financial aid hold, and not under any disciplinary penalty for conduct violations.

**Award of  
Posthumous  
Degrees**

Current faculty, staff, and Board members are not eligible to receive an honorary degree. Faculty, staff, and Board members who have been separated from the College for at least six (6) years are eligible to be nominated for an honorary degree, and such time period may be waived for good cause and compelling circumstances.

Generally, the College will award no more than two honorary degrees in any academic year, unless the District President or designee finds good cause and compelling circumstances for additional awards.

The District President or designee will be responsible for developing and maintaining nomination and selection procedures of an Honorifics Committee for the award of honorary degrees consistent with this policy. The Honorifics Committee will be an advisory committee appointed by the District President or designee. The Honorifics Committee will be comprised of appointed representatives from the faculty, administration, staff, alumni, or student government association.

Upon recommendation of the District President or designee, the Board of Trustees may also award posthumous degrees that recognize the loss to the College District, family, and friends when a student is deceased while enrolled at the College District.

The award of a posthumous degree may be an appropriate recognition of a student's academic achievement when that student's progress would have likely fulfilled the requirements of a degree, but for the occurrence of death. Posthumous degrees may be awarded at commencement or at another designated event. Family members or other students are encouraged to notify the Office of the Registrar upon learning of the death of an enrolled student.

The following requirements will be met before the College District may award a posthumous degree:

1. The student must have been enrolled or on an approved leave of absence at the time of death.
2. The student was enrolled in courses that would complete degree requirements and had completed at least fifty percent (50%) of all course requirements for the degree at the time of death.
3. The student must have been in good academic standing with a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or higher, for all courses included in the degree program, at the time of death.

4. The student did not have a financial aid hold at the time of death.
5. The student was not under any disciplinary penalty for conduct violations at the time of death.
6. The request for a posthumous degree is made within two years of the student's passing.

An active member of the armed forces killed in the line of duty who was enrolled as a College District student at the time of his/her death or an inactive College District student due to deployment at the time of death, will receive a posthumous degree without regard to required criteria. All exceptions must be approved by the District President or designee.

Students who are not awarded posthumous degrees, may, upon determination by the District President or designee, be awarded a posthumous certificate or other special recognition by the College District.

The District President or designee will be responsible for developing and maintaining nomination and selection procedures for the award of posthumous degrees consistent with this policy.