



Manual of Policy and Procedures

<p>Title</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HONORARY DEGREES</p>	<p>Number</p> <p style="text-align: center;">107</p>	<p>Page</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1 of 2</p>
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PURPOSE

The Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees, in the name of a specific Vermont State College, may award Honorary Degrees to individuals worthy of such recognition. Thus, procedures and criteria for making such awards are required.

STATEMENT OF POLICY

Awarding an Honorary Degree is indication of the high esteem in which the Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees holds the recipient. To assure only the most worthy or appropriate receive Honorary Degrees, the following procedures and criteria shall apply:

A. Criteria for Awarding Honorary Degrees

The Board of Trustees, in the name of a specific Vermont State College, may award Honorary Degrees to individuals who have made significant contributions typically to higher education, to the Vermont State Colleges and/or to the State of Vermont. Criteria shall include but not be limited to the following:

- The nominee has some attachment/connection with the Vermont State Colleges and/or the State of Vermont.
- The nominee has a statewide, national and/or a worldwide reputation.
- The nominee has made significant contributions to a discipline or field of study offered within the Vermont State Colleges.

B. Prohibitions

Honorary Degrees shall not be awarded to persons serving in the following positions until three years after termination of such service:

- Trustees
- Vermont Governors
- Vermont State Legislators

- Vermont State Colleges employees
- United States Senators and Representatives from Vermont

C. Degrees Awarded

The following Honorary Degrees may be awarded:

- L.L.D. - Doctor of Laws
- Litt.D. - Doctor of Letters
- Sc.D. - Doctor of Science
- L.H.D. - Doctor of Humane Letters
- Other degrees as authorized by the Board

D. Time of Award

Normally, the colleges shall award Honorary Degrees at Commencement. The colleges may award Honorary Degrees at other appropriate times with the approval of the Board.

E. Number of Awards

The number of Honorary Degrees awarded in an academic year shall be determined by the Board of Trustees.

F. Review of Nominations

College presidents and other Vermont State Colleges constituents may nominate individuals for an Honorary Degree. Nominations are submitted to the Education/ Personnel/ Student Life (EPSL) Committee of the Board of Trustees. Nominations must include a detailed description of the nominee and justification for awarding the nominee an Honorary Degree. Normally, the EPSL Committee shall receive nominations for potential Honorary Degree recipients not less than 90 days prior to the date when Honorary Degrees may be awarded.

The EPSL Committee shall review nominations and recommend to the Board individual(s) to receive an Honorary Degree, should any be awarded.

G. Board Action

The final decision to award Honorary Degrees rests with the Board of Trustees.

Signed by: Timothy J. Donovan Chancellor
