



Category
HONORARY DEGREES - 2:06:00:00
Approval
Corresponding Policy: TBR Policy 2:06:00:00
Leadership Council Approved: December 9, 2016
Effective Date/Approved: December 9, 2016
Revised: February 20, 2007; December 9, 2016; February 3, 2017
Responsible Party: Vice President for Academic Affairs

I. PURPOSE

This Motlow State Community College policy provides a means to recognize and honor extraordinary individuals whose extraordinary achievements have set a standard that distinguishes them and benefits the institution and the communities it serves as well as society. The purpose for awarding honorary degrees is threefold:

- A. To honor persons whose careers reflect sustained and superlative achievement in the arts and professions, research, scholarship, public service, leadership, volunteerism, and/or cultural affairs, as well as new frontiers of human endeavor.
- B. To advance the educational missions, goals and programs of Motlow State Community College by developing associations with persons who embody the same ideals, values, and aspirations.
- C. To inspire students, faculty, staff, administrators, alumni, and members of the local, national, and world communities to emulate such standards of excellence, integrity, and commitment to enhance the public good.

II. SELECTION CRITERIA

- A. The honorary degree is distinctive and will be awarded only in exceptional circumstances.
- B. A maximum of two honorary degrees may be awarded each year.
- C. An individual may receive only one honorary degree from Motlow State Community College.
- D. Current faculty, staff, and regents are not eligible.
- E. Faculty, staff, and regents who have been separated from the Tennessee Board of Regents at least five years are eligible.
- F. Current elected and/or appointed public officials are not eligible.

- G. Current candidates and/or nominees for public elective and/or appointed offices are not eligible.
- H. Current or prospective benefactors of the College are not eligible unless they meet criteria outlined in Section 1.A of this policy.

III. LEVEL OF DEGREE AWARDED

Honorary degrees will be awarded at the Associate Degree level.

IV. SELECTION COMMITTEE

- A. The selection committee for the award will be composed of the following:
 - 1. Three faculty members appointed by the President.
 - 2. One administrative member appointed by the President.
 - 3. One staff member appointed by the President.
 - 4. Nominations will be solicited from all sources and deliberations will be confidential.
 - 5. The committee should use intense scrutiny of a nominee to insure continued integrity of the award process. The recipient must attend graduation to be awarded the honorary degree.

V. PRESIDENTIAL AUTHORITY AND NOTIFICATION

- A. The authority to award honorary degrees resides with the President.
- B. The President must approve any nominee for the honorary degree.
- C. The President will notify the Chancellor of the Tennessee Board of Regents with the selected recipient(s) of the honorary degree for review.
- D. Upon approval by the Chancellor, the President will notify the recipient(s).