

Title: Award of an Honorary Degree	Number: 6Hx2-5.37
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GENERAL STATEMENT

Broward College (the “College”) may award an honorary bachelor degree to select individuals based on meritorious or distinguished service in a field or activity consistent with the mission and core values of the College.

The District Board of Trustees authorizes the President to award an honorary degree based on the distinctions or criteria herein described:

1. Distinguished or meritorious service in the field of education, academic scholarship, public or community service, governmental, human rights, artistic, legal, medical, religious, financial, or other field of human endeavor; or
2. An individual who the College distinguishes as significantly contributing to the mission and goals of the institution in their pursuits contributing to the access and success of its students.

The President may form an ad-hoc committee to review recommendations for the awarding of an honorary degree.

The honorary degree may be awarded at the commencement ceremony or any other officially sanctioned ceremony by the Board of Trustees or the College. The College expects the recipient to fully participate in appropriate conferral ceremonies, however, exceptions will be made for extenuating circumstances. The honorary degree may also be awarded posthumously.

College employees shall not be eligible for an honorary degree during their employment. In addition, currently serving elected officials and Broward College Board of Trustees members shall not be eligible for an honorary degree during their time of active service.

A recipient of an honorary degree shall not be charged a fee or receive compensation for the degree. However, the recipient may be compensated for appropriate travel and per diem expenses in accordance with Florida State Statute, and for services rendered.

With the permission of the potential recipient, the College may conduct a background investigation.

The conferral of an honorary degree may be revoked at the sole discretion of the College as further described in this policy.

THE POLICY AND THE STUDENT

The policy does not allow students the ability to authorize the award of an honorary degree.

History: Adopted as Policy 6Hx2-5.37 on May 22, 2012.

Approved by the Board of Trustees	Date: 5/22/2012	President’s Signature 	Date: 5/22/2012
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POLICY AND THE FACULTY AND STAFF

Faculty or staff may contribute to the recommendation or vetting for the awarding of the honorary degree to eligible recipients through the faculty senate, campus president, or vice president.

IMPLEMENTATION AND OVERSIGHT

The President has the authority to establish procedures to implement this policy. The Associate Vice President for Student Affairs/College Registrar, under the direction of the Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management is responsible for the implementation and oversight of policy compliance.

VIOLATION OF POLICY

In consultation with legal counsel, The College, at its sole discretion, may revoke an honorary degree and issue public statements to this effect and may rescind any privileges that may be granted pursuant to the honorary degree.

The College, at its sole discretion, may revoke an honorary degree if the College determines that conferral of the degree was based on fraudulent, misleading, or erroneous information that was considered in the initial assessment (even if such information was not provided by the recipient), or material omissions that should have been disclosed pursuant to a College request. In addition, the College, at its sole discretion, may revoke an honorary degree if the College learns of new information or behavior on the part of the recipient or her/his representative(s) that occurred before or after conferral of the honorary degree that causes the College to reconsider the appropriateness of the conferral, or any situation where the College, at its sole discretion, determines that continued endorsement of an honorary degree would be prejudicial to the College's reputation.

If the College revokes the honorary degree, the recipient must cease all statements indicating that she/he is a Broward College honorary degree holder.

The decision to revoke an honorary degree is not appealable.

DEFINITIONS

Honorary Degree – An academic degree for which the College has waived the usual requirements, such as matriculation, residence, study, and the passing of examinations. The degree may be awarded to someone who has no prior connection with the College.

Distinguished or Meritorious Service - Significant contributions in a field of study, service endeavor, or contributions to a specific field or society in general, or one where the College derives benefits by association with the person in question, a course of a career that resulted in accolades, awards, or recognition for excellence or benefits to the local, national or global community.

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