

**Title: Awarding a Posthumous Degree or
Credit Certificate**

Effective Date: 6/13/18

Policy Statement:

This policy is designed to establish standard criteria and procedures under which posthumous degrees or credit certificates may be awarded. This policy allows the College a means to recognize the academic achievements of students who were enrolled at the time of their death and were on track to graduate.

Background:

A Posthumous Degree or Credit Certificate allows the College to recognize a student's connection to Reading Area Community College. A deceased student who was pursuing a degree at the time of his or her death but did not complete degree requirements may be eligible for a Posthumous Degree.

Individuals or organizations associated with the deceased student may submit a request to the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs/Provost, along with documentation of the student's death. This request will be forward to the appropriate Academic Division Dean who makes a recommendation based on the guidelines below to the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs / Provost who then has the authority to approve granting the degree posthumously.

Criteria:

1. The deceased student's records will confirm that:
 - a) The student was enrolled at RACC at the time of his/her death,
 - b) The student had been in good academic and disciplinary standing with a GPA of 2.0 or higher and making acceptable progress toward the completion of the degree or credit certificate requirements, and
 - c) The student has completed at the time of her / his death a minimum of 50% of the credits toward the Associate's degree or Credit Certificate.
2. If approved, the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs/Provost will forward the request for the degree to the College's Registrar.
3. The Office of the Registrar will prepare a Posthumous Degree / Credit Certificate diploma. The awarding of a posthumous degree or credit certificate will be posted on the student's record.
4. There will be no fee for this award.

SOURCE/LEGAL REFERENCE: E-17-22

RELATED POLICIES/REGULATIONS:

BOARD OF TRUSTEES HAS REVIEWED AND REAFFIRMS: 6/13/18

SUPERCEDES: A-16-05 DATE: 4/13/17