



Reference: *Education Code Section 72122*

The District may award honorary degrees at commencement or some other equally appropriate time for the following reasons:

- To recognize excellence and extraordinary achievement in significant areas of human endeavor, within which are embodied the objectives and ideals of the District.
- To honor meritorious and outstanding service to the District, collectively, or to its colleges, individually; to the State of California; to the United States; or to humanity at large.
- To recognize individuals whose lives and significant achievements should serve as examples of the District's aspirations for its diverse student body.

Criteria for the Awarding of Honorary Degrees

- Honorary degrees may be awarded to recognize achievements in all parts of the world. Honorary degrees awarded should represent an appropriate balance between local and non-local, academic and non-academic recipients, and should represent a wide diversity of fields of endeavor.
- Nominations for honorary degrees must be distinguished in the respective fields, and the eminence of persons nominated must be widely recognized. Nominees must have demonstrated intellectual and humane values that are consistent with the aims of higher education and with the highest ideals of the person's chosen fields.
- Service or benefaction to the District alone does not justify the awarding of honorary degrees; however, nothing in these criteria shall preclude nominees who are in political life or benefactors of the District.

Procedures for Nomination and Selection

- Nominations for an honorary degree shall be submitted in writing to the Chancellor by the College President.
- The nomination should be no more than one page in length and should emphasize the contributions of the candidate to the District, as well as those listed above.
- The Chancellor will review the nomination and determine whether or not it is acceptable for consideration by the Board of Trustees.
- Once accepted, the Chancellor shall forward the nomination to the Board of Trustees for consideration.

The District encourages nominations of individuals who meet the above criteria and who would bring recognition to themselves and to the District.

Date: 2/15/11

Reviewed/Revised: 05/17/2022