Tarleton State University (Tarleton or university) awards honorary doctorates of letters to individuals who demonstrate exceptional academic, scholarly, artistic and/or philanthropic accomplishment which exemplifies the mission and scope of The Texas A&M University System (system); to individuals who have provided meritorious and outstanding service to the academic institution, the State of Texas, the United States, or to humanity at large; and/or to persons whose lives serve as examples of Tarleton State University’s aspirations for its students.

This standard administrative procedure (SAP) is specific to Tarleton provides guidelines in granting of honorary degrees and supplements System Policy 11.07 Granting of Honorary Degrees.

1. Nominations and Approvals
   1.1 Nominations for honorary degrees may be made by the faculty, the administration, or the Board of Regents (Board), by filing a completed, appropriate form with the Office of Academic Affairs. The selection committee will determine the information and documents necessary for a complete dossier.
   1.2 Nominations for honorary degrees will be submitted to the vice president for institutional advancement for organization and review in order to verify that the dossiers for nominees are complete and accurate.
   1.3 The verified dossiers will be forwarded to the provost and executive vice president for academic affairs for additional review prior to submission to the university selection committee.
   1.4 Upon approval by the selection committee, nominations will be submitted to the president for review and approval. Nominations must be submitted to the president no less than four (4) months prior to the date proposed for award of the degree.
1.5 Upon approval by the president, nominations are submitted to the chancellor and board for approval and authorization to award the honorary degree.

2. Selection Committee

The selection committee will be appointed on an ad hoc basis by the president with the following representation. If possible, academic college representation should align with the candidate’s academic background.

- provost and executive vice president for academic affairs (chair)
- vice president for institutional advancement or designee
- academic dean
- full professor
- associate professor
- president of the Faculty Senate
- vice president for student-affairs or designee

3. Limitations on Eligibility

3.1 Honorary degrees will not be awarded to current system employees, current board members, or individuals who have direct political, legal, or budgetary authority over Tarleton.

3.2 Any past, present, future gift or other benefaction to Tarleton should not be the sole consideration for awarding the honorary degree.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

Supplements System Policy 11.07 Granting of Honorary Degrees
Supersedes Tarleton Rule 11.07.99.T1, Granting of Honorary Degrees

Contact Office

Division of Academic Affairs
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