

BOARD POLICY No. 201-A

TITLE: Granting Posthumous Degrees and Certificates

DATE ADOPTED: October 20, 2020

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 20, 2020

SUPERSEDES: October 20, 2015

**Purpose:** In order to respect and honor the academic efforts of deceased students, Rowan College at Burlington County (RCBC) wishes to formalize the standards by which posthumous degrees and certificates are awarded. The college is committed to creating a community environment in which all

members are supported in times of success and sorrow. The policy establishes criteria for documenting the death of deceased students and awarding posthumous degrees and certificates.

## Establishing criteria for documenting the death of deceased students and awarding posthumous degrees and certificates:

Rowan College at Burlington County is committed to supporting families of deceased students. Upon learning of a student's death, all members of the college community, including students, faculty and staff are encouraged to notify the President's Office. The President's Office will notify the Registrar's Office of the death and direct college administrators to take all necessary and appropriate action.

<u>Posthumous Recognition</u>: Deceased students may be nominated for a posthumous degree by any member of the college community. The following criteria may be considered before awarding a posthumous degree:

- Student qualifies for application for graduation (minimum of 48 credit hours with at least 15 earned at Rowan College at Burlington County).
- Program requirements are complete.
- Minimum 2.0 GPA.
- No conduct alerts on their record.
- Any other fact or circumstances that the program coordinator, division dean, senior vice president and provost, and president deem relevant.



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Nominations for posthumous degrees are to be reviewed by the program coordinator, division dean, senior vice president and provost, and president. The decision to award a posthumous degree shall be made by the president, whose decision is final and unreviewable.

A member of the armed forces killed in the line of duty who was an active RCBC student at the time of his/her death or an inactive RCBC student as a result of deployment at the time of his/her death shall receive a posthumous degree, without regard to the criteria above.

Students who are not awarded posthumous degrees may, upon determination by the president, be awarded a posthumous honorary alumni certificate.

Once a posthumous degree is approved, the President's Office shall extend the offer to the family, seeking their permission to proceed. The degree may be presented publicly or privately.

05-11-2021

President Date:

Chairman Date: