Policy 325 - Posthumous Degrees

Lower Columbia College may grant a posthumous degree to recognize the academic achievement of a student who completed a significant portion of their degree requirements but died before graduating.

Requests for a degree awarded posthumously must be submitted to the Registration Office. Requests may be initiated by a College employee or a family member of the deceased student.

To be eligible for a posthumous degree, the deceased student must meet the following criteria:

- Have been enrolled at the College within the previous academic year;
- Have completed a substantial portion of the requirements for their degree or certificate; and
- Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 at the time of death.

All posthumous degrees must be approved by the Academic Standards Committee (ASC).

Historic Information

- Approved by the Executive Leadership Team: November 25, 2026
- Reviewed by Operations Council: October 14, 2026
- Reviewed by UMCC: October 9, 2026
- Reviewed by Governance Council: October 7, 2026
- Reviewed by the Executive Leadership Team: August 12, 2026

Resources

Resource/Reference/Procedure	Unit Responsibility
Academic Standards Committee (internal.lowercolumbia.edu/organization/committees/academic-standards/)	Instruction
Deceased Student Notification - Administrative Policy 476 (lowercolumbia.edu/publications/administrative-policies/400/476/)	Instruction