

SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY

A Member of the Texas State University System

SRSU Policy: Granting an Honorary Degree

SRSU Policy ID: APM 2.32

Policy Reviewed by: Director of Administration

Approval Authority: Executive Cabinet

Approval Date: September 1, 2015

Next Review Date: September 1, 2020

A. General

Sul Ross State University will accept nominations for candidates to receive an Honorary Doctorate Degree to recognize outstanding achievements and individuals whose lives are exemplary in relation to the University's aspirations for students.

B. Criteria

1. Persons eligible for an Honorary Doctorate from SRSU must have demonstrated distinguished and highly recognized national or statewide prominence or stature and sustained achievement in scholarship, public service, creative and performing arts or professional activity. Persons who have made especially outstanding and significant contributions to the Texas State University System, Sul Ross State University, or higher education may also be considered.
2. Faculty, staff, and administrators of the university and elected or appointed public officials, or candidates for public office, are ineligible for an SRSU Honorary Degree until one year after leaving their position.

C. Process

1. Annual announcements seeking nominations will be sent out in the Fall Semester of each academic year.
 - a. SRSU faculty, staff, students, and alumni may submit nominees
 - b. General Time Line: September Nomination Request; October Nomination Packets Due; November/December Honorary Degree Committee considers nominees and forwards recommendation to President; President submits motion to the TSUS Board in January, TSUS Board considers motion in February; Honorary degree awarded at May Commencement or December Commencement.
2. Nominations, including supporting materials, should be submitted to the Honorary Degree Committee, in care of the President's Office, by the stated deadline each Fall. Nominations will be kept for three years of consideration.
 - a. Nomination packets should include:
 - i. Nomination Form

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- ii. Nomination Statement – At least one page explanation of why the nominee should be considered.
 - iii. Supporting letters – At least 2 letters from qualified individuals who are familiar with the accomplishments and achievements of the nominee.
 - iv. Other supporting materials as deemed appropriate by nominator.
3. The Honorary Degree Committee will recommend candidates for the Honorary Doctorate to the President.
4. If approved by the President, the candidate’s credentials will be submitted to the TSUS Board of Regents for consideration.
 - a. The TSUS Board of Regents retains exclusive authority for the conferring of the Honorary Degrees. The granting of the degree shall be by unanimous consent of the Board of Regents members attending a regular or special called meeting of the Board.
 - b. The names of the nominees shall be kept confidential until approved by TSUS Board of Regents.
5. Presentation of the degree may be made at one of the University’s commencements or any other appropriate occasion.