Policy Title:	Posthumous Degree	**Effective Date:**	8/18/2020

Statement	In appropriate recognition of a student's academic achievement when the student's progress would have likely fulfilled the requirements of a degree at Park University, this policy/process is established to identify the requirements and procedures for awarding a posthumous baccalaureate or graduate degree or a degree in memoriam
Philosophy	This policy provides for the university to acknowledge the accomplishments of students who are prevented from completing their degree due to circumstances resulting in their untimely death
Procedures	I. Awarding of a Posthumous Degree The request for a posthumous degree to be awarded to a deceased student may originate from a family member, or a member of the university community. A written request should be sent to the Office of the Provost, and should include the student's name, and if possible, student ID number and academic standing. a. Eligibility i) General Requirements: At the time of the onset of a terminal illness, injury or death, the student must have: (1) Been actively pursuing a degree at Park University (2) Been in good academic standing (3) Completed coursework within the year prior (4) Not been subject to any disciplinary sanctions ii) Baccalaureate Degrees: (1) The student has completed at least 75% of the program; and (2) Had a cumulative residential GPA of 2.00 or higher (sufficient to earn the degree); and (3) At least 30 of those hours were completed at Park University iii) Graduate Degrees: (1) The student is in their last semester of coursework, no more than six (six) credit hours remaining and pending successful completion would be eligible to take the comprehensive exam; and (2) Had a cumulative residential GPA of 3.0 or higher (sufficient to earn the degree; and b. Process If approved by the Dean and Provost's Office, the Registrar's Office shall post the degree to the student's record, noting that the degree was posthumously awarded, and produce the diploma at no cost to the family. The diploma may be presented to the family of the deceased student at the next appropriate commencement ceremony or may be mailed to the family of the deceased student. The decision to participate in commencement will rest with the family. Posthumous degrees will be acknowledged in the respective commencement ceremony publication. At the discretion of the President in consultation with the Provost, a posthumous degree may be awarded to a student who has not met the criteria

	II. Awarding of Academic Recognition in Memoriam The University may also award a degree in memoriam to a student whose academic history does not meet the requirements necessary to be awarded a posthumous degree, but who fulfills the following conditions: i. Good academic standing, and was not subject to any disciplinary sanctions at the time of the onset of a terminal illness, an injury, or death. ii. Undergraduate student with at least thirty credit hours earned at Park, or a graduate student with at least fifteen credit hours earned at Park University. The request for academic recognition in memoriam to be awarded to a deceased student may originate from a family member, or a member of the university community. A written request should be sent to the Office of the Provost, and should include the student's name, and if possible, the following: student identification number, academic standing. The student must have been actively pursuing a degree at Park until the time of the onset of a terminal illness, an injury, or death. If approved, the Office of the Provost shall produce the certificate of recognition at no cost to the family.
Responsibility	The Office of the Registrar and the Provost's Office