



Policy: Honorary degrees

Purpose

To outline the standards which underpin the awarding of honorary degrees at ANU.

Overview

This policy sets out principles that underpin the awarding of honorary degrees to highly eminent individuals in recognition for their significant contribution to the work, reputation or standing of the University; for their outstanding achievement as a scholar; or for their outstanding contribution in the service of society.

Scope

This policy is to apply to all nominations and awards of honorary awards under the [Honorary Degree Rules 2015](#).

Policy statement

1. The University confers four kinds of honorary doctorate:

Honorary Award	Honorary Doctor of Science	Honorary Doctor of Letters	Honorary Doctor of Laws	Honorary Doctor of the University
Postnominals	HonDSc	HonLittD	HonLLD	HonDUniv
Eligibility	Highly eminent individuals who have made an exceptional contribution to science that is recognised	Highly eminent individuals who have made an exceptional contribution to a disciplinary or interdisciplinary field or endeavour, including legal learning but	Highly eminent individuals who have made an exceptional contribution in public service or the practice of law that is recognised nationally or	Highly eminent individuals who have made an exceptional contribution to the work, standing or reputation of the University that is recognised

	internationally	excluding science that is recognised internationally	internationally	nationally or internationally
Conferral term	Title is retained for life	Title is retained for life	Title is retained for life	Title is retained for life

Use of title

2. Use of the title “Dr”, associated with an honorary degree of the University, is only permitted when participating in an activity or event associated with the University.

Limitations on eligibility

3. An Honorary Doctor of Science is to be awarded only with regards to the disciplinary fields of science, technology, engineering or mathematics.

4. The award of an honorary degree to a serving politician or public servant, is only considered in exceptional circumstances.

5. The award of an honorary degree to a person who is when nominated, a member of the staff of the University, is only considered in exceptional circumstances.

Conferral

6. An honorary degree is not conferred in absentia.

7. An honorary degree is conferred posthumously if the secretary of the Honorary Degrees Committee had received the relevant proposal before the death of the nominee.

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