



**Title of Policy:** Honorary Degrees Policy

**Applies to (check all that apply):**

Faculty \_\_\_\_\_ Staff \_\_\_\_\_ Students \_\_\_\_\_

Division/Department \_\_\_\_\_ College  X

**Topic/Issue:**

Awarding Honorary Degrees

**Background to Issue/Rationale for Policy or Procedure:**

**(For procedures, cite appropriate approved College Policy addressed)**

To award honorary degrees to deserving candidates recommended by the President of the College and approved by the Board of Trustees.

**State/Federal Regulatory Requirements (cite if applicable):**

N/A

**Policy Language:**

It is the policy of Baltimore City Community College to award honorary degrees to deserving candidates recommended by the President of the College and approved by the Board of Trustees. The College seeks to recognize truly notable achievement through the awarding of honorary degrees. Honorary degrees are granted by the trustees of Baltimore City Community College and may be granted at commencement, convocation or special events. Current honorary degrees to be awarded are Associate in Arts, Associate in Science, or Associate in Applied Science. An honorary degree is the highest accolade the College can bestow on an individual who is not currently employed as a member of its faculty or staff. It is given to honor an individual who possesses outstanding qualities and talents, who has made exceptional contributions to the field of his or her endeavor, and who exemplifies the highest standards of personal integrity and civic responsibility.

The criteria for awarding an honorary degree shall be:

- Significant personal or professional accomplishments that exemplify the mission of Baltimore City Community College.
- Academic excellence in the individual's field of endeavor.
- Outstanding or meritorious public service to the College, community, Baltimore City or the State of Maryland.
- Achievement of local, state, national or international distinction by significant contributions through one's chosen occupation; excellence in scholarly fields such as humanities and the arts or sciences; service to others; contributions which have enhanced society and its quality of life; or philanthropy.

Honorary degrees may not be awarded to currently elected or appointed officials at the local, state or national levels to whom the College is directly or indirectly answerable; persons who are announced candidates for such offices; current employees or members of its Board of Trustees of Baltimore City Community College, or any other individual for whom the awarding of this degree would constitute a conflict of interest.

**Approved by the Board of Trustees: October 19, 2006**

**Originator/Division: Board of Trustees**

**Reformatted: August 4, 2008**