



MASSEY UNIVERSITY COUNCIL HONORARY DEGREES AND AWARDS STATUTE

1. Title and Commencement

- 1.1 The Council of Massey University makes this Statute under sections 284 and 285 of the Education and Training Act 2020.
- 1.2 This Statute may be cited as the Council Honorary Degrees and Awards Statute.
- 1.3 This Statute comes into force on 27 February 2026.
- 1.4 The following regulations are repealed from the date that this Statute comes into force:
 - (a) Massey University Honorary Awards Regulations and Criteria.

2. Application

- 2.1 This Statute applies to:
 - (a) all staff; and
 - (b) any persons eligible to receive an Honorary degree, Massey University Medal and/or the title of Professor Emeritus/Emerita.

3. Purpose of this Statute

- 3.1 The purpose of this Statute is:
 - (a) to set out the overarching rules and procedures governing the conferral and revocation of Honorary Degrees, Massey Medals and Professor Emeritus/Emerita titles.

4. Honorary Degrees and Awards Conferred by Council

- 4.1 Council may at its discretion:
 - (a) Confer the following honorary degrees:

Doctor of Science	DSc (Honoris Causa)
Doctor of Literature	DLit (Honoris Causa)
Doctor of Commerce	DCom (Honoris Causa)
Doctor of Music	DMus (Honoris Causa)
Doctor of Fine Arts	DFA (Honoris Causa)
Doctor of Health	DHealth (Honoris Causa)
Doctor of Education	DEd (Honoris Causa)

and

(b) Award Massey Medals

and

(c) Confer the title of Professor Emeritus/Emerita.

5. Honorary Awards Committee

5.1 The Honorary Awards Committee is a committee established by the Vice-Chancellor that makes recommendations through the Vice-Chancellor to Council.

The Honorary Awards Committee shall consist of:

- Vice-Chancellor (Chair)
- Deputy Vice-Chancellor or Provost
- Pro Vice-Chancellor
- Up to three academic staff members of the Academic Board
- One Māori academic representative
- One external member

5.2 Academic Board appointments are made through recommendation of the Academic Board Chair. The Academic Board Chair will call for nominations to fill the position(s) and will recommend candidates to the Honorary Awards Committee for their consideration and approval.

5.3 All other appointments to the Committee are made at the discretion of the Vice-Chancellor.

5.4 Nominated members of the Committee shall hold office for a period of three years, with the option to be reappointed at the end of their term. All other members of the Committee are appointed as ex-officio members.

5.5 The quorum of the Committee shall be four members of whom there shall be present at least one member of the Academic Board and at least one member appointed by the Vice-Chancellor.

5.6 As per the Massey University Council Delegation Statute, the Honorary Awards Committee has the delegated authority to approve the conferment of Professor Emeritus/Emerita titles.

5.7 The Vice-Chancellor, as Chair of the Honorary Awards Committee shall determine the operating procedures for the Committee.

6. Honorary Degrees

6.1 Honorary Awards Committee may recommend to Council, for the conferment of an Honorary Degree any person who has shown:

- i. exceptional distinction particularly in scholarship, or
- ii. outstanding service to the University, or

iii. outstanding public service to regional, national or international communities.

7. Massey Medal

7.1 Honorary Awards Committee may recommend to Council, for the conferment of a Massey Medal any person who has shown outstanding service to the University (particularly) or to the community or to both.

8. Title of Professor Emeritus/Emerita

8.1 Honorary Awards Committee has the delegated authority to approve the title of Professor Emeritus/Emerita to be conferred on members of the professoriate:

- a) upon retirement; and
- b) who are recognized internationally as having been outstanding in their discipline; and
- c) who have made an outstanding contribution to scholarship or the University or both; and
- d) who are held in the respect and esteem of their colleagues; and
- e) who will maintain a continuing association with the University.

9. Preclusion

9.1 Current Council and/or staff members are precluded from the receipt of honorary degrees and awards. However, this shall not preclude the possibility that a former Council member and/or staff member may be nominated and presented an honorary degree or award.

10. Nomination

10.1 Nominations for honorary degrees and awards must be made confidentially by any person with the support of a member of one of the following:

- University Council
- Senior Leadership Team
- Massey University Professoriate
- Academic Board

10.2 Nominees should not be informed of their nomination as not all nominations may be successful.

10.3 Each nomination should include the required information as set out in the Honorary Awards Nomination Guidelines.

10.4 For all honorary degrees and awards, the Vice-Chancellor shall bring the recommendation of the Honorary Awards Committee before the Council, who shall determine whether the honorary degrees and/or awards proposed in the recommendation shall be conferred.

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10.5 All proceedings under this Statute shall be confidential and remain confidential until the offer is accepted.

11. Revocation Honorary Degrees and Awards

11.1 The Council reserves the right to withdraw at any time an offer and/or revoke the conferment or award of an honorary degree, Massey Medal or Professor Emeritus/Emerita title, if further information comes to light that, in the opinion of the Council, could bring the University into disrepute.