

Santa Clara University
Office of the Provost
April 3, 2025

University Policy on Faculty Completion of Terminal Degree Requirements

The ordinary educational requirement for tenured and tenure-track faculty is the doctorate or other appropriate terminal degree (Faculty Handbook 3.1.1).

The rank of Acting Assistant Professor is assigned to faculty who would otherwise be qualified for the rank of Assistant Professor but are still actively engaged in work for the doctorate or other terminal degree (Faculty Handbook 3.1.1.1).

Santa Clara University regards all requirements for the doctorate or terminal degree to be satisfied if the institution granting the degree confirms that the candidate has completed all required work. The degree itself need not have been conferred or issued, for example at a commencement ceremony, in order for this requirement to be met.