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**Resolution:** Priority Registration for Undergraduate Active Duty Service Members of the University of San Diego

**Author(s):**

*Aashika Arasu*, Chair of the Academics Committee, Camino and Founders Residential Senator

*Sabrina Richards*, San Buenaventura Residential Senator

*Connor Nichols*, At-Large Senator

**Sponsoring Senator(s):**

*Chloe Holm*, Valley B Residential Senator

*Valentina Rodriguez*, College of Arts and Sciences Senator

**April 4, 2022**

**Whereas**, the Associated Student Government of the University of San Diego is committed to the recruitment and development of programs supporting the University's mission of advancing academic excellence, as well as the academic excellence of the undergraduate population at the University of San Diego as stated in the university's core values of expanding professional and liberal knowledge, creating an inclusive and diverse community, and preparing the highest qualities of compassion and ethics in the leadership of tomorrow;

**Whereas**, To reaffirm the resolution "Priority Registration for Undergraduate Active Duty Service Members of the University of San Diego," which was created in 2019 and approved by the Associated Student Government, but has yet to be executed, we ultimately encourage and emphasize the need for this to be instituted before registration for Spring 2023 commences. The majority of students serving on active duty with the Armed Forces must make significant



commitments to uphold the security of our Nation, making it increasingly difficult to balance their service and scholastic commitments in the space of a day;

**Whereas,** We have an active duty military community with extracurricular responsibilities that necessitate flexibility and forethought. Priority registration for active duty students will be essential in order to be consistent with an inclusive approach to schedule planning and to be courteous of those who have non-negotiable responsibilities outside of class. Furthermore, it is essential to empower our active duty students, which is why our school policies should be created with them in mind;

**Whereas,** Enrolling in certain classes can be difficult due to reasons such as small class numbers and a restricted selection of classes. Depending on the degree program, this could prevent a student from graduating on time. Due to a lack of time, active duty service members are unable to select courses that are both compulsory and of interest to them, ultimately, making graduation difficult.

**Whereas,** It is the common practice of the University of San Diego to allow students with pressing commitments, such as student-athletes, student-veterans, and students who work more than 20 hours a week while receiving the Pell Grant, to have priority when registering for classes so that their academic pursuits do not become a burden on their lives as a whole;

**Whereas,** the Student Senate of the Associated Students of the University of San Diego bears in mind its responsibility to the undergraduate population, and believes that priority registration for undergraduate students who are serving on active duty would hold the university true to its commitment to the greater San Diego military community;



**Whereas,** the process for requesting VA certification through the Military and Veterans Program has been enhanced in conjunction with the university's Office of Financial Aid. It is an approximately 30-day process, resulting in a 30-day payment deferment request for the student's tuition and fees. Priority registration would further enhance this process for both the active duty students and the university;

**Be it resolved,** that the Student Senate of the Associated Students of the University of San Diego calls for emphasizing the implementation of priority registration for students serving on active duty;

**Be it further resolved,** Associated Students will work with the Registrar's Office, Military and Veterans Program, and other pertinent university administrators to implement priority registration for active duty service members modeled after the priority registration system used by veteran students, to be executed before Spring 2023 registration begins;

**Be it further resolved,** that this resolution shall be delivered to the following individuals for comment and action: Dr. James Harris, President, University of San Diego; Dr. Gail Baker, Vice President and Provost; Ms. Charlotte Johnson, Vice President for Student Affairs; Dr. Regina Dixon-Reeves, Vice Provost, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; Dr. Cynthia Avery, Assistant Vice President for Student Life; Elizabeth Silva, University Registrar; Mr. Nelson Chase, Director, Military and Veterans Program; Dr. Timothy Keane, Dean, Knauss School of Business; Dr. Noelle Norton, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences; Dr. Chell Roberts, Dean, Shiley-Marcos School of Engineering.





4/04/2022

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**Aashika Arasu, Co-Author**

Date



4/04/2022

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**Sabrina Richards, Co-Author**

Date



4/04/2022

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**Connor Nichols, Co-Author**

Date

*Justice A. Zoto*

4/20/2022

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**Justice Zoto, ASG President**

Date

*Alexa Montserrat Andrade*

4/20/2022

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**Alexa Andrade, ASG Speaker of Senate**

Date

