

**Resolution 2018-1: Priority Registration for Veteran Students of the University of San Diego**

**Author:**

*Daniel Geloso*, Chair of the Academics Committee and Senator of the College of Arts and Sciences

*Robert T. Warren*, Speaker of the Senate, Associated Students

**Sponsoring Senators:**

*Joshua Wilson*, Senator for the College of Arts and Sciences

*Shaun Kwon*, Senator for the Manchester Residential Community

**April 19, 2018**

**WHEREAS**, the Associated Students of the University of San Diego is committed to the academic excellence of the undergraduate population at the University of San Diego as stated in the the university's core value of recruiting and developing programs supporting the University's mission of advancing academic excellence, expanding liberal and professional knowledge, creating a diverse and inclusive community, and preparing leaders for who are dedicated to ethical conduct and compassionate service;

**WHEREAS**, Veteran students often live non-traditional college experiences, whereupon some are dedicated to supporting their family, being employed at a full time job, or remaining as a reserve component within the Armed Forces while managing full-time course loads at the University of San Diego;

**WHEREAS**, Veterans have made the ultimate pledge to support and defend the Constitution of the United States of America, thereby distinguishing themselves from their fellow citizens, and deserving of incentive to apply for higher education and a reward for their service to this nation.

**WHEREAS**, The process for requesting certification through the federal agency of Veteran Affairs will be enhanced in conjunction with the universities Financial Aid and Veteran Compliance. It is an approximately 30 day process, requiring a 30 deferment request to the university for payment of tuition and fees. Priority registration would enhance this process for students and the university;

**WHEREAS**, Similar to university athletics and NCAA academic compliance, the VA requires compliance on class registration, prior to authorizing the use of VA GI Bill benefits. With approximately 500 GI Bill users, priority registration would allow time for that to occur in a more effective manner;

**WHEREAS**, The majority of student veterans are transfer students, who transfer in with a high number of units. Priority registration will allow students to ensure they get into the classes they need for graduation, maximizing their VA benefits, or without exhausting their GI Bill;

**WHEREAS**, Student athletes are given priority registration to ensure they can plan around their commitment to Torero athletics and the time constraints of training, practice, and travel;

**WHEREAS**, Students within the Honors Program at the University of San Diego are also given priority registration as an incentive to apply for admission to the university and as a partial reward for their academic excellence;

**WHEREAS**, Other universities that offer priority registration for veteran students include but are not limited to: the University of California, the California State University system, Point Loma Nazarene, Loyola Marymount University, the University of Southern California, and California Polytechnic University Pomona;

**WHEREAS**, instituting priority registration will make the University of San Diego more inclusive towards veterans students, as well as more attractive to prospective students who are military veterans;



**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 veteran students would hold the university true to its commitment the greater San Diego military community;

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Student Senate of the Associated Students of the University of San Diego calls for the implementation of priority registration for veteran students;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, Associated Students will work with the Registrar's Office, Military and Veterans Program, and the school administration to implement priority registration for veteran students modeled after the priority registration system used by honors students and student athletes, to be instituted before registration for Spring 2019 commences;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution shall be delivered to the following individuals for comment and action: Dr. James Harris, President of the University of San Diego; Dr. Gail Baker, Vice President for Academics and Provost; Carmen Vasquez, Vice President for Student Affairs; Dr. Thomas Herrinton, Vice Provost; Dr. Cynthia Avery, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs; Dr. Donald Godwin, Assistant Vice President and Dean of Students; Elizabeth Silva, University Registrar; Amanda Etter, Veteran Student Services Coordinator; Jaime Alonso Gomez, Dean for the School of Business; Dr. Noelle Norton, Dean for the College of Arts and Sciences; Dr. Chell Roberts, Dean for the School of Engineering.

---

*Daniel Geloso*, Chair of Academics and Senator of the College of Arts and Sciences

*Date*

---

*Joshua Wilson*, Senator of the College of Arts and Sciences

*Date*

---

*Shaun Kwon*, Senator of the Manchester Residential Community

*Date*

---

*Robert T. Warren*, Speaker of the Senate, Associated Students

*Date*

---

*Will Tate*, President, Associated Students

*Date*