



# STUDENT VETERANS OF AMERICA

## 2018 POLICY PRIORITIES

*We need your input!*

Feedback from chapter members forms the foundation of our annual policy priorities. Once again, we're reaching out and asking for your input. Have a complaint or improvement you want to recommend? Let us know what you think should change.

Five policy priorities are listed below. We are interested in your feedback on these issues and any other recommendations you suggest. Additionally, if you're especially interested in policy, consider applying for our *Policy Liaison Program (PLP)* or the *VFW-SVA Legislative Fellowship* for an opportunity to get more involved.

Based on your recommendations and our rigorous research analysis, we form our annual recommendations. These policy priorities form the focus of our discussions with Members of Congress, the White House, and Departments and Agencies such as the Departments of Education (ED), Veterans Affairs (VA) and Defense (DoD).

### Current Policy Issues under Consideration

<u>Issue Area</u>	<u>Description</u>
<i>Forever GI Bill</i>	We led the passage of the Forever GI Bill in 2017, and will be working closely with the VA on implementation of the new law. Minor tweaks and updates will need to be made over the 90 – 180 days.
<i>Student Protections</i>	Prospective and current student veterans remain the target of predatory programs apt to deliver a low-quality education. We remain committed to transparency in higher education and helping students be informed consumers.
<i>Data Collection</i>	Data analysis and rigorous research are the foundation of anything we do at SVA. Unfortunately, the information available on student veterans is significantly lacking, and we continue to call for data-driven policy decision within the government.
<i>Access &amp; Affordability</i>	Between ineffective Transition Assistance Program (TAP) seminars, aggressive marketing by predatory schools, and a lack of loan service SCRA compliance, veterans face a challenging landscape that needs better regulatory enforcement.
<i>Student Debt</i>	While the GI Bill is the most comprehensive education benefit in history, the issue of existing debt and debt accrued outside of the GI Bill, such as many reservists, presents a serious issue as the U.S. nears \$1.4 trillion of national student debt.

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### Example

<i>Name:</i>	Riley Smith
<i>School:</i>	University of School
<i>Program:</i>	BA, Study of Stuff
<i>Graduation Year:</i>	2019
<i>Issue Area:</i>	Basic Title
<i>Description:</i>	Provide a brief description of the challenge and your proposed solution to the issue. If you don't have a solution, take a shot at describing what a solution might look like in a reasonable world. This description can be up to 150 words, depending on the complexity of the issue.

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### How to Submit

Students and chapters with the strongest submissions will be recognized at the National Conference for our reveal of the 2018 policy priorities. Submit recommendations via email to SVA's Vice President of Government Affairs: [will.hubbard@studentveterans.org](mailto:will.hubbard@studentveterans.org).