



# Postsecondary National Policy Institute

## OVERVIEW

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The Postsecondary National Policy Institute (PNPI) is the leading source of professional development for current and prospective policymakers who work on federal higher education issues. We believe that by providing policymakers with a knowledge base to support thoughtful decision-making, we can help drive better outcomes in postsecondary education.

## PNPI CONGRESSIONAL SEMINARS

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PNPI's professional development seminars for Congressional staff enable participants to consider a full range of higher education topics while engaging in constructive dialogue with policy experts, researchers, college administrators and colleagues. Seminars provide a nonpartisan, nonpolitical forum in which attendees consider research, gain a deeper understanding of how policies are implemented and think through possibilities for reform. Designed to increase participants' capacity to devise workable, sustainable and affordable higher education solutions, these events provide opportunities to candidly discuss issues of importance in a closed-door setting.

## PROSPECTIVE POLICYMAKER BOOT CAMPS

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In 2016, PNPI hosted its first ever Federal Student Aid Boot Camp for prospective policymakers. Modeled after PNPI's Congressional work, boot camps provide individuals who do not currently work in government a chance to deepen their postsecondary knowledge base while networking with individuals currently working in the field.

## SUMMER SCHOLARS

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In 2016, PNPI accepted its first class of Summer Scholars. The Summer Scholar Program provides students with demonstrated financial need an opportunity to work with PNPI in Washington, D.C. Scholars are paid an hourly wage and PNPI covers their day-to-day living and travel expenses.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

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In addition to seminars, PNPI hosts briefings for Congressional staff, publishes summaries of recent postsecondary research and policy reports, produces issue primers and animations on higher education topics and compiles postsecondary factsheets on today's diverse student body.

## IMPACT

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Since its launch in 2012, attendance at PNPI events has indicated great interest in the professional development we provide. Survey results from past events show that participants leave seminars with a better understanding of the issues presented, feeling events are well planned and executed, and very interested in attending future seminars or briefings. End-of-year impact surveys indicate that PNPI participants retain what they learn and apply the knowledge they have gained while creating, considering and negotiating federal policies.