



Operation Recognition Diploma Program • Facts

WHAT:

Operation Recognition is a program that honors U.S. veterans and Japanese American citizens who were unable to continue high school due to World War II, the Korean War or the Vietnam War. The program was adopted unanimously by the Sacramento County Board of Education on October 16, 2001.

WHO:

Those eligible to receive Operation Recognition diplomas include:

- Individuals who left high school to serve in WW II, the Korean War or the Vietnam War. *See specifics.*
- Japanese American citizens forced to leave their local high school due to internment in WW II relocation centers. *See specifics.*
- Recipients or surviving family members should be residents of Sacramento County.
- NOTE: Families may apply for Operation Recognition diplomas on behalf of eligible persons who are deceased.

SPECIFICS:

- Military service must have been during the period of December 7, 1941-December 31, 1946 (WW II), the period of June 25, 1950-January 31, 1955 (Korean War), or the period of February 28, 1961-May 7, 1975 (Vietnam War); provide Form DD 214 or equivalent; honorable discharge required
- Japanese American citizens must show proof of having been interned in a relocation camp during the period of Dec. 7, 1941-Dec. 31, 1946
- All recipients must have been enrolled in high school prior to enlistment in military service or internment in a WW II relocation camp

CONTINUED ON REVERSE

HOW:

Complete the Operation Recognition application and submit it along with the required documentation of military service or internment. Obtain an Operation Recognition diploma application online at **www.scoe.net/or** or by calling the Sacramento County Office of Education at (916) 228-2416. Forms are also available from the Sacramento County Office of Education at 10474 Mather Boulevard (within the former Mather Air Force Base off Highway 50). *There is no charge to participate.*

WHEN:

For consideration in the spring 2010 Operation Recognition awards ceremony, applications must be submitted by **May 3, 2010**. The spring 2010 awards ceremony is scheduled to take place the evening of Tuesday, May 18, 2010. Applicants will be notified regarding time and location.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

California law (Education Code § 51440) authorizes the granting of retroactive high school diplomas to eligible veterans. Effective January 1, 2004, California Assembly Bill 781 was enacted as law (Education Code § 51430), specifically authorizing the retroactive granting of diplomas to persons whose internment by federal order in World War II prevented them from graduating from their home town high school.

Modeled after similar programs implemented in other states, the Sacramento County Office of Education Operation Recognition program has been cited by the California School Public Relations Association as a "California Gold" award recipient. Several other California counties operate the program as well.

The Sacramento County Board of Education has provided diplomas to 142 qualifying veterans and Japanese American citizens through Operation Recognition since the start of its program in 2001. Four of the diplomas have been awarded posthumously.

INFORMATION:

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