



— OPERATION   
**RECOGNITION**



## *Veterans Diploma Project*

# ATTENTION Veterans and Japanese American Citizens

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**Did you miss graduating from high school due to military service in World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, or internment in a World War II relocation camp?**

You may be eligible to receive a high school diploma.

The San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools and the County of San Bernardino Department of Veterans Affairs have partnered together in support of **Operation Recognition Veterans Diploma Project** to honor U.S. veterans and Japanese American citizens whose high school education was interrupted due to wartime circumstances.

### QUALIFICATIONS ARE:

- √ Served in the U.S. military in World War II, the Korean War or the Vietnam War with honorable discharge      *or*      √ Interned in a Japanese American relocation camp during World War II
- and*

- √ Currently reside in San Bernardino County

**IF YOU HAVE A QUALIFYING FAMILY MEMBER WHO IS NOW DECEASED, YOU MAY APPLY FOR POSTHUMOUS RECOGNITION.**

***Deadline to apply is Friday, April 2, 2010, 4:30 p.m.***

Obtain an Operation Recognition *Veterans Diploma Project* application by contacting:  
Operation Recognition, San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools  
601 North E Street, San Bernardino, CA 92410-3093

You may also request an application by contacting Barbara Alejandre at (909) 386-2412 or sending an e-mail to [vdp@sbcss.k12.ca.us](mailto:vdp@sbcss.k12.ca.us). Applications and information are also available on the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools website at <http://www.sbcss.k12.ca.us/vdp>.

For assistance with verification of military service and/or discharge papers, contact the County of San Bernardino Department of Veterans Affairs at (866) 472-8387 or (909) 387-5516 or <http://hss.co.san-bernardino.ca.us/VA/>



# OPERATION RECOGNITION



## Veterans Diploma Project Application

**Name of proposed recipient** (veteran or Japanese American citizen who is to receive diploma; SHOW NAME AS IT IS TO APPEAR ON DIPLOMA):

<b>First</b>	<b>Middle</b>	<b>Last</b>
Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____		
Phone: (____) _____ E-mail address: _____		

**Is this diploma being awarded to a family member of a deceased veteran or internee?**

Yes  No If yes, indicate place and date of death: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of person applying for diploma (if different from above): \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to recipient: \_\_\_\_\_

### Recipient's education information:

Name of high school: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates of attendance: \_\_\_\_\_ Received GED (Yes/No): \_\_\_\_\_

### • Veterans—please check appropriate boxes below:

World War II Veteran  Korean War Veteran  Vietnam War Veteran

Branch of service:  Army  Air Force  Coast Guard  Marines  Navy

Dates of service: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Please provide verification of military service and honorable discharge.**

For assistance in locating discharge papers, contact County of San Bernardino Department of Veterans Affairs at (866) 472-8387 or (909) 387-5516 or visit <http://hss.co.san-bernardino.ca.us/VA/>

### • Japanese American citizens—please check appropriate box below:

Recipient was interned in a relocation camp during the period December 7, 1941–December 31, 1946:

Yes  No If yes, indicate name and location of center: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Please provide evidence of internment in a relocation camp during the period specified.**

### **RETURN COMPLETED APPLICATION AND REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS TO:**

Operation Recognition, SBCSS, 601 North E Street, San Bernardino, CA 92410-3093. For additional information contact Barbara Alejandre at (909) 386-2412 or email at [vdp@sbcss.k12.ca.us](mailto:vdp@sbcss.k12.ca.us). Information can also be found on the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools website at: [www.sbcss.k12.ca.us/vdp](http://www.sbcss.k12.ca.us/vdp).

**Application Deadline: Friday, April 2, 2010, 4:30 p.m.**

All applicants will be notified with information regarding presentation of the diploma.



## ***Veterans Diploma Project Fact Sheet***

### **WHAT:**

**Operation Recognition Veterans Diploma Project** 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 San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools and the County of San Bernardino Department of Veterans Affairs have partnered together in support of this project.

### **WHO:**

Those eligible to receive an Operation Recognition diploma include:

- Individuals who served in WW II, the Korean War, or the Vietnam War.
- Japanese American citizens who left high school for purposes of internment in WW II relocation camps.
- Recipients or surviving family members should be residents of San Bernardino County.

*Surviving family members may submit an application to **Operation Recognition Veterans Diploma Project** on behalf of an eligible individual who is 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); show proof of honorable discharge
- Japanese American citizens must show proof of having been interned in a relocation camp during the period of December 7, 1941-December 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

### **HOW:**

Complete the **Operation Recognition Veterans Diploma Project** application and submit it along with the required documentation of military service or internment. Obtain an **Operation Recognition Veterans Diploma Project** application online at [www.sbcss.k12.ca.us/vdp](http://www.sbcss.k12.ca.us/vdp) or by calling the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools office at (909) 386-2412. Forms are also available from the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools office at 601 North E Street, San Bernardino, CA 92410-3093 and the County of San Bernardino Department of Veterans Affairs office at 175 West Fifth Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415-0470. *There is no charge to participate.*

**WHEN:**

For consideration in the **2010 Operation Recognition Veterans Diploma Project** ceremony, applications must be submitted by **Friday, April 2, 2010, 4:30 p.m.** Applicants will be notified of their status and qualified applicants will be provided with the date, time, and location of the ceremony.

**CALIFORNIA EDUCATION CODE:**

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.

**INFORMATION:*****San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools -***

Contact Barbara Alejandre by phone at (909) 386-2412 or e-mail: [vdp@sbcss.k12.ca.us](mailto:vdp@sbcss.k12.ca.us) or visit the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools website at <http://www.sbcss.k12.ca.us/vdp>

***County of San Bernardino Department of Veterans Affairs –***

Call (866) 472-8387 or (909) 387-5516 or <http://hss.co.san-bernardino.ca.us/VA/>



Gary S. Thomas, Ed.D., Superintendent

## San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools



November 11, 2009

Dear Veteran:

The San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools, in partnership with the County of San Bernardino Department of Veterans Affairs, is pleased to announce the second annual San Bernardino County **Operation Recognition Veterans Diploma Project** - a nationwide effort to recognize men and women whose high school education was interrupted due to military service or internment in a Japanese American camp.

The **Operation Recognition Veterans Diploma Project** provides veterans and internees, who were unable to complete high school due to military service or internment, the opportunity to receive a high school diploma. Veterans who served in and received an honorable discharge from World War II, the Korean War, or the Vietnam War; *or* individuals who were interned in a Japanese American relocation camp *and* are San Bernardino County residents are eligible to participate. There is no charge to participate in the **Operation Recognition Veterans Diploma Project**.

Diplomas will be awarded to qualified applicants at a ceremony in June 2010. Applicants will be notified of their status by April 9, 2010, and qualified applicants will be provided with the date, time, and location of the ceremony. We are pleased to have United States Congressmen Jerry Lewis and Joe Baca as this year's Honorary Co-Chairs. Sponsors for this year's event include California State Senator Bob Dutton, State Assemblyman Bill Emmerson, and San Bernardino County Supervisor Josie Gonzales.

The **Operation Recognition Veterans Diploma Project** application and fact sheet are enclosed with this letter. You can also obtain information and download a copy of the application from the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools' website at [www.sbcss.k12.ca.us/vdp](http://www.sbcss.k12.ca.us/vdp). For assistance with verification of military service and/or discharge papers, contact the County of San Bernardino Department of Veterans Affairs at (866) 472-8387 or (909) 387-5516. **The deadline to submit an application is Friday, April 2, 2010, 4:30 p.m.**

If you have questions, please feel free to contact Barbara Alejandre in my office at (909) 386-2412.

Sincerely,

Gary S. Thomas, Ed.D.  
County Superintendent

Bill J. Moseley  
Director of Veterans Affairs