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FACT SHEET: High School Diplomas for Veterans who Left High School for Wartime Military Service

July 2005

Local School Boards in the state of Wisconsin, under the authority of Wisconsin Statutes section 120.13 (37), may award a high school diploma to veterans who left high school before receiving a high school diploma to join the U.S. armed forces during a statutorily designated war period.

A. The high school diploma may be awarded if the veteran applies directly to the local school district, and meets all of the following requirements:

1. Is at least 65 years old;
2. Attended high school in the school district, or attended high school in Wisconsin and resides in the school district;
3. Left high school before receiving a high school diploma to join the U.S. armed forces during a statutorily designated war period; and
4. Served on active duty under honorable conditions in the U.S. armed forces or in forces incorporated as part of the U.S. armed forces (such as the National Guard or Merchant Marine).

B. The high school diploma may also be awarded to veterans who received a High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED) after serving on active duty under honorable conditions, and meet the conditions of items 1-3 above.

C. The high school diploma may be posthumously awarded if the deceased veteran met the conditions of items 2-4 above.

Statutorily Designated Wartime Periods

- **World War I**, between April 6, 1917, and November 11, 1918. Extended to April 1, 1920, if service was in the Soviet Union
- **World War II**, between August 27, 1940, and July 25, 1947
- **Korean War**, between June 27, 1950, and January 31, 1955
- **Vietnam War**, between August 5, 1964, and January 1, 1977
- **Persian Gulf War**, between August 1, 1990 and [an ending date yet to be established]
- **Afghanistan War**, between September 11, 2001, and [an ending date yet to be established]
- **Iraq War**, between March 19, 2003, and [an ending date yet to be established]

Additional Information

For additional information, please contact your local school board. You may wish to provide a copy of this Fact Sheet with your inquiry.

Wisconsin Statutes s. 120.13 (37)

Wisconsin Statutes s. 120.13 (37) Awarding high school diplomas to veterans.

120.13(37)(a)

Notwithstanding s. 118.33 (1), award a high school diploma to a person who meets all of the following requirements:

- 1. Is at least 65 years old.*
- 2. Attended high school in the school district or attended high school in this state and resides in the school district.*
- 3. Left high school before receiving a high school diploma to join the U.S. armed forces during a war period under s. 45.01 (13).*
- 4. Served on active duty under honorable conditions in the U.S. armed forces or in forces incorporated as part of the U.S. armed forces.*

120.13(37)(b)

Award a high school diploma to a person who received a high school equivalency diploma under s. 115.29 (4) after serving on active duty under honorable conditions if the person meets the conditions of par. (a) 1. to 3.

120.13(37)(c)

Award, upon request, a high school diploma to a person who has died, but who, before dying, satisfied the conditions of par. (a) 2. to 4.
