



## California Nisei College Diploma Project

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# CALIFORNIA NISEI COLLEGE DIPLOMA PROJECT EDUCATIONAL PACKET

We would like to introduce you to the California Nisei College Diploma Project, a program established to provide community outreach and education for a new law, Assembly Bill 37.

*AB 37, which became law on October 11, 2009, calls upon California's public college and university systems – University of California (UC), California State University (CSU) and California Community College (CCC) – to retroactively grant an honorary degree to any student of Japanese American descent who was forcibly removed and subsequently incarcerated during World War II.*

We offer support to educators and administrators by assisting with community outreach to eligible individuals in the Japanese American community and providing educational and community resource support to share the lessons of American concentration camps from this tragic period in our nation's history.

We will work with and encourage California's public college and university systems to properly acknowledge and recognize eligible Nisei and/or their families by including them in their 2009-2010 commencement ceremonies.

To assist you in educating and outreaching to the community on this important legislation, the California Nisei College Diploma Project Educational Packet includes:

- Assembly Bill 37 -- A copy of the Assembly Bill's text.
- Letter from Assemblymember Warren Furutani (D-South Los Angeles County), who authored AB 37, which became law on October 11, 2009.
- California Nisei College Diploma Project Newsletter -- General information on the California Nisei College Diploma Project, which includes instructions on the application process for school administrators and project contact information.
- Application Form and Instructions -- An application form to be distributed to individuals who may be interested in applying for their or their family member's honorary college diploma.
- Community Flyer -- A community announcement, for posting, to outreach to individuals who may be eligible to benefit from AB 37.
- Historical Overview / Teacher Resources -- A historical summary on the forced removal and incarceration of Japanese Americans from the west coast during World War II and suggested curriculum resources for teachers. California Nisei College Diploma Project is available to assist you in connecting schools and districts with community resources in the Japanese American community.

Please share the enclosed with anyone who may be interested in supporting the project and establishing a school-based or community program to support AB 37. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the California Nisei College Diploma Project at [CANiseiProject@jccnc.org](mailto:CANiseiProject@jccnc.org).

California Nisei College Diploma Project is a project of the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California (JCCNC)  
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