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Best Defense Foundation & Delta

NEXT GEN

The Best Defense Foundation and Delta Air Lines are proud to announce our Battlefield Return to Normandy for the 82nd Anniversary of D-Day in June 2026. Twenty-five World War II veterans will return to this sacred ground to visit key sites, participate in private ceremonies, and experience meaningful moments of remembrance, gaining closure and camaraderie in the twilight years of their lives. To ensure these heroes are never forgotten, we will once again provide the opportunity for students to walk the footsteps of history with those who lived it. Through our NextGen program, students will learn directly from the veterans as they assist with escorting and supporting them throughout the journey, helping preserve their stories and carry their legacy forward.

The Best Defense Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit whose mission is taking care of the ones who took care of us. Through our Battlefield Return Program, veterans return to the places they served to be celebrated, remembered, and honored. We provide this opportunity at no cost to the veterans, their caretakers, and program participants, ensuring every detail is handled with dignity, care, and deep respect for their service.

Requirements:

- Students must be between 18 and 24 years old
- Have a valid passport through December 2026
- Speak clear, conversational English

Submission Details:

- Submit a 2-3 minute video detailing the following:
  - Why is this history important to preserve?
  - Why do you want to participate in this program?
  - Tell us about how you help to preserve this history and/or help veterans in your community.
  - The top video submissions will sit for an interview with BDF and sponsor representatives.

We are looking for dynamic personalities that are comfortable on camera as they will be interviewing veterans and speaking about their experiences. Students should have a foundational knowledge of this history, but do not need to be experts. This program is an opportunity for them to learn, be inspired and share their experiences with their community.

Travel Dates: June 1, 2026 - June 10, 2026

All submissions should be emailed to info@bdf.org
Submissions are open until capacity is reached. We review videos in the order they arrive, so please submit as soon as possible.