

September 1, 2008

DIRECTIVE:	JOB CORPS INFORMATION NOTICE NO. 08-14
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TO: ALL JOB CORPS NATIONAL OFFICE STAFF
ALL JOB CORPS REGIONAL OFFICE STAFF
ALL JOB CORPS CENTER DIRECTORS
ALL JOB CORPS CENTER OPERATORS
ALL NATIONAL TRAINING AND SUPPORT CONTRACTORS
ALL OUTREACH, ADMISSIONS, AND CTS CONTRACTORS

FROM: ESTHER R. JOHNSON, Ed.D.
National Director
Office of Job Corps

SUBJECT: State OSHA Plans and On-Site Consultation to Promote Safety and Health

1. Purpose. To inform Job Corps centers about the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)-approved state Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) offices and the availability of on-site consultation to enhance and promote workplace safety and health.

2. Background. The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 encouraged each state to establish and maintain its own OSHA-approved workplace safety and health program. Currently, there are 22 OSHA-approved state programs that cover public and private sector employees:

Alaska	Arizona	California	Connecticut*	Hawaii
Indiana	Iowa	Kentucky	Maryland	Michigan
Minnesota	Nevada	New Jersey*	New Mexico	New York*
North Carolina	Oregon	Puerto Rico	South Carolina	Tennessee
Utah	Vermont	Virgin Island*	Virginia	Washington
Wyoming				

* These state programs cover public sector employees only.

Job Corps centers are regularly visited by state OSH inspectors as part of a state-programmed inspection schedule. During an inspection, safety and health violations are identified and fines assessed. The National Office of Job Corps has received several requests for assistance to reduce or eliminate identified violations and resulting penalties. Unfortunately, the National Office has no influence over state OSH programs; therefore, it is the responsibility of the center to abate the hazards and pay all monetary penalties in a timely manner.

All of the state OSH programs offer free on-site consultation to assist employers with identification and abatement of hazards. Participation in on-site consultation programs does not preempt an unscheduled general inspection. In some cases, however, participation in these programs can result in a postponement of a programmed inspection until the following year. Alliances and partnerships can be formed following on-site consultation, which will help to enhance a center's safety and health program. The David L. Carrasco Job Corps Center and the federal OSHA Regional Office recently announced an alliance to enhance workplace safety for individuals between 16 and 24 years of age. According to the announcement, the alliance provides OSHA and David L. Carrasco Job Corps Center the opportunity to work collaboratively to emphasize employer awareness of hazardous working conditions for young adults. Forming partnerships or alliances with federal OSHA or state OSH offices will not eliminate the possibility of a programmed inspection, but it will help to ensure a stronger center safety and health program.

3. Action. Job Corps centers located in states where there is a state OSH program are encouraged to visit the OSHA Web site, <http://www.osha.gov/dcsp/osp/faq.html#oshaprogram>, to obtain information about the OSHA plan and jurisdictional information for their state. These "state plan" centers should review those state-specific standards carefully and take steps to ensure compliance. Centers interested in participating in on-site consultation programs or forming a partnership should contact the state OSH office directly. For centers not covered by state plans, federal OSHA standards apply; additional information regarding federal OSHA alliances and partnership opportunities can be found on the OSHA Web site, http://www.osha.gov/dcsp/compliance_assistance/index_programs.html/. The official news release announcing the David L. Carrasco Job Corps Center-OSHA alliance is available via the Web, http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=16343.

Addressees are to ensure that this Information Notice is distributed to all appropriate staff.

4. Expiration Date. Until superseded.

5. Inquiries. Direct all inquiries to Marsha Fitzhugh at (202) 693-3099 or fitzhugh.marsha@dol.gov, Kelley Clark at (202) 693-3089 or clark.kelley@dol.gov, or Heather Edmonds at (202) 693-3774 or edmonds.heather@dol.gov.