

December 12, 2016

DIRECTIVE:	JOB CORPS PRH CHANGE NOTICE NO. 16-06
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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: LENITA JACOBS-SIMMONS
National Director
Office of Job Corps

SUBJECT: Policy Modification for Student Declination of the Entrance Physical Examination and Waivers of Medical Care

1. Purpose. To revise Policy and Requirements Handbook (PRH) terms to allow students to refuse, and clinicians to waive, any portion of the entrance physical examination except for drug testing.
2. Background. Upon entry into Job Corps, all students receive a cursory health evaluation, laboratory testing, and a medical history review within 48 hours of arrival on center. Laboratory testing includes that for illicit drugs, sexually transmitted infections, and other diseases and conditions. Clinicians then conduct a complete entrance physical examination and a review of the student's medical history within 14 days.

Currently, students may be disciplinarily separated if they refuse the entrance physical examination and/or laboratory testing. Clinicians are able to provide waivers for pelvic examinations, HIV testing, and immunizations.

This policy has been updated to allow clinicians to waive, and students to refuse any part of the entrance physical examination or laboratory testing, except for drug testing, which is required by the Workplace Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Specific stipulations for waiving pelvic examinations and HIV testing have been removed.

3. Explanation of PRH Changes to Sections 6.10 and 6.12:
 - a. Added "laboratory testing" to components outlined in Section 6.10, R1(a)
 - b. Changed 6.10, R1(b,1) to "When indicated, the center shall furnish one pair of glasses that meet American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standards."

- c. Replaced Section 6.12, R7(a) with “The center physician/Nurse Practitioner (NP)/Physician Assistant (PA) may waive any portion of the medical examination and laboratory testing except for the entrance drug testing if in his or her opinion there is sufficient justification or if a student refuses. Such a waiver shall be clearly documented by the center physician/NP/PA in the student’s health record and include an explanation as to why the decision was made.”
 - d. Section 6.12, R7(b) became, “If a student refuses to submit to HIV testing, the center may defer it until after specialized counseling regarding HIV infection and AIDS. Such counseling should include the benefits of early diagnosis and the efficacy of available treatments. If two weeks after such counseling the student continues to refuse the HIV test, a disciplinary separation may be necessary. The center physician may waive the HIV test if in his or her opinion there is sufficient justification. Such a waiver shall be clearly documented by the center physician in the student’s health record and include an explanation as to why the decision was made.”
 - e. Added “NP/PA” to persons allowed to grant waivers for immunizations.
4. Action Required. Addressees are to ensure this PRH Change Notice is distributed to all appropriate staff.
5. Effective Date. Immediately.
6. Expiration Date. Until superseded.
7. Inquiries. Inquiries should be directed to Johnetta Davis at (202) 693-8010, or davis.johnetta@dol.gov.

Attachment

PRH Chapter 6