

July 10, 2009

DIRECTIVE:	JOB CORPS INFORMATION NOTICE NO. 09-01
-------------------	---

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: Preventing Welding Injuries

1. Purpose. To inform Job Corps centers about injuries related to welding operations and the requirements for selection of proper personal protective equipment (PPE), training, and supervision to prevent injuries.

2. Background. In September 2008, Job Corps issued Information Notice No. 08-18, Preventing Arc Eye and Other Welding Injuries, which was intended to bring attention to the high incidence of preventable welding injuries experienced by students and to provide guidance on preventing such injuries.

Unfortunately, the number of welding-related injuries has not declined, as evidenced by the continued submission of Significant Incident Reports (SIRs) describing incidents much like those that first raised concern last year. The most frequent welding injuries are flash burns to the eyes caused by not wearing PPE. There appears to be a need for increased training and supervision during welding activities.

3. Action. Job Corps center operators, center directors, safety officers, and welding trade instructors shall take the following action:

- a. Job Corps center safety officers and welding trade instructors shall review PPE provided to students in the welding trade to ensure that it complies with 29 CFR 1910.252(b).
- b. All welding-related injuries shall be investigated by the safety officer. SIRs shall

include the investigation results and corrective actions implemented to prevent future occurrences.

- c. Safety officers shall monitor welding activities, including career technical training projects and work-based learning sites, to ensure that proper workplace safety requirements are followed. Centers are strongly encouraged to suspend welding or other training activities when hazardous conditions are observed or identified until those conditions are abated.

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 Until superseded.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.