



A Parents Guide to **JOB CORPS**



Success Lasts A Lifetime



Look closely.
Everyone
pictured is an
actual Job Corps
student, graduate,
or instructor.

A Parents Guide to JOB CORPS

CONGRATULATIONS, your son or daughter is considering joining Job Corps!

Job Corps is the nation's largest career technical training and education program for students **ages 16 through 24**. A voluntary program administered by the U.S. Department of Labor, Job Corps provides low-income young men and women with an opportunity to gain the experience they need to begin a career or advance to higher education.

Each year Job Corps serves 60,000 young people. There are 125 Job Corps centers located in **48 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico**, and most students live on campus. In some cases, students live at home and commute each day to their center for training.

Committing to Job Corps is a big decision – one you and your son or daughter should make together. Remember that Job Corps is a government program, so your student should be prepared to complete paperwork during the enrollment process. Your son or daughter should consider Job Corps because:

- Students can earn a **high school diploma**, a **GED**, or **college credits** through Job Corps.
- We offer career technical training in more than **100** career areas.
- Students receive housing, meals, basic health care, a living allowance, training, and preparation for a career – **all at no cost to you**.
- For up to **21 months after graduation**, a career transition counselor will help your student make the transition from Job Corps into the real world.

(800) 733-JOBS [5627]

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www.recruiting.jobcorps.gov

How does Job Corps work?

1 An admissions counselor will work closely with your student to determine the appropriate timeline for enrollment and which center he or she will attend. This process may take anywhere from a few days to a few weeks.

2 In the first few weeks of the program, staff will work with your son or daughter to create a **personalized career development plan** including an area of training that will offer promising job opportunities for your student.

3 Next, your student will begin working at his or her own pace to reach career technical training and educational goals. Since the program is self-paced, your student can learn at a rate that matches his or her ability. Your son or daughter may be in a rush, but it **takes about a year to gain the knowledge and skills** needed to start a career and a new life. Our most successful students stay in the program between 1 and 2 years.

4 As your student nears graduation, our staff will help your son or daughter prepare a **resume** and **practice job-interview** and **job-search skills**. A career transition counselor will continue to work with your student for up to 21 months after graduation.

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Career Technical Training Areas

Advanced Manufacturing 
Welding

Automotive and Machine Repair 
Automobile Technician
Collision Repair and Refinish

Construction 
Bricklaying
Carpentry
Cement Masonry
Electrical
Facilities Maintenance
Heating, Ventilation,
and Air Conditioning
Painting
Plumbing

Finance and Business
Accounting Services
Office Administration

Health Care
Clinical Medical Assistant
Licensed Practical/
Vocational Nurse
Medical Office Support
Nurse Assistant/
Home Health Aide
Pharmacy Technician

in the latest green technology and industry-based practices to prepare graduates for careers in the green economy.

Homeland Security
Security and Protective Services

Hospitality
Culinary Arts
Hotel and Lodging

Information Technology
Computer Technician
Network Cable Installation

Renewable Resources and Energy 
Landscaping
Urban Forestry

Retail Sales and Services
Retail Sales

Transportation
Heavy Equipment Operations
Material and Distribution
Operations

... and many more!

Not every center offers each of these career technical training areas. Please check with your admissions counselor to see which training programs are offered at the Job Corps center nearest your student.

What does Job Corps offer?

Job Corps provides students with the career technical training, education, and employability skills needed to advance in today's workforce.

CAREER TECHNICAL TRAINING

Job Corps offers hands-on training in more than **100 career technical training areas**. All training programs are aligned with industry credentials and are designed to meet the requirements of today's careers.

You will also have the chance to train with professionals at actual work sites through Job Corps' Work-Based Learning Program. Job Corps works with employers in every corner of the country to provide students with real-world experience.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Through partnerships with local school systems, Job Corps helps **thousands of students** attain their high school diplomas or GEDs every year. Many centers also provide resources and classes for English Language Learners (ELL). If your student is a high school graduate, Job Corps can help him or her **prepare for college**. Some Job Corps centers even have partnerships with local colleges, where students can receive credit for advanced courses. Job Corps can help students prepare for the military as well, providing special assistance for the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) entrance exam.

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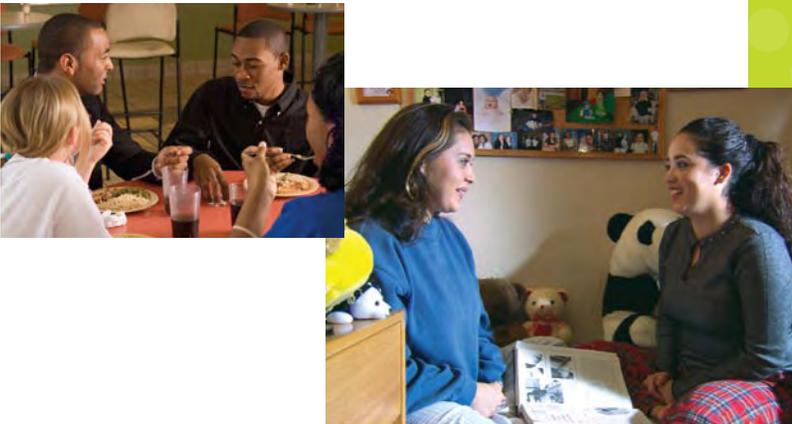
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What will life be like on center for my son or daughter?

Life on a Job Corps center can be an **exciting experience** for your son or daughter. Some centers are located in large cities, while others are in more rural areas. Job Corps centers offer a campus setting with separate male and female living quarters where two to eight students share a room.

Each student learns to take on **new responsibilities** while adjusting to life on center and is responsible for cleaning his or her own room and certain common areas of the campus on a regular basis. Your student will be required to comply with a dress code and abide by curfew hours. Job Corps can help your student **mature as a person and a prospective employee**.

A typical day at Job Corps is full of **activities** to help your son or daughter prepare for the real world. Students get up early and start their day around 8 a.m. They spend the majority of the day receiving academic and hands-on career technical training. After class, students study or hang out with friends before dinner in the cafeteria. After dinner, students may have chores to do around campus or downtime to finish **studying**. Most students are in bed around 10 p.m. in order to rest for the busy day ahead.



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Life on center includes:

- Campus setting with dormitories
- Basic medical and dental care
- Recreational activities
- Intramural sports
- Trips to local attractions
- Community service projects

Some Job Corps students find it difficult adjusting to life away from home. Most attend the Job Corps center closest to their hometowns, but the transition can still be challenging. Even if your son or daughter gets homesick during the first few weeks at Job Corps, encourage him or her to stay committed to the program. Reassure your student that he or she will feel more comfortable and make new friends soon.

All participants are assigned a **personal counselor** when they enroll in the program to help them adjust to center life. You are always welcome to contact the Job Corps center and talk with your student's counselor.

Job Corps gives each student a **living allowance** twice a month while in the program. The allowance is typically used to buy personal items such as shampoo and toothpaste.

If you wish to send your son or daughter money, we strongly recommend that you purchase a money order. This is the safest method to ensure that the funds are received. Some students prefer to use prepaid cards for long-distance phone calls and other expenses.



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May I visit my son or daughter on center?

As a parent or guardian of a Job Corps student, **you may visit** the Job Corps center. We ask that you give the center as much advance notice as possible before visiting.

Students may be allowed to visit home. Passes may be given for weekend visits with family, overnight trips off center, holidays, and emergency situations.

Each center has a different policy regarding visiting and/or contacting your student. Check with your son or daughter's Job Corps admissions counselor for more information on visitation and/or contact procedures at the center your child plans to attend.

We encourage prospective students and their parents to request a **tour of the center** at any time. The center also hosts a **graduation ceremony** for graduates and family members once students complete the program.

A space is provided at the back of this booklet to record important information, such as the center director's name, the center's mailing address and phone number, and the admissions counselor's contact information.



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Is Job Corps safe?

Job Corps is committed to providing a **clean, safe, and secure environment** for everyone. Security personnel are on campus 24 hours a day, every day of the year, and each center has specific rules and regulations for security, including monitoring the entry and exit of all guests. Every center also maintains a close working relationship with the local police department.

Staff receive training in dispute resolution, safe practices, and crisis management, and are qualified to handle safety and security situations. Security personnel also assist with providing crime prevention information to students.

Job Corps has a **Zero Tolerance Policy** against violence and drugs. Students who break this policy will be dismissed and will not be allowed to re-enter the program. The rules below are common at most Job Corps centers, but students should pay attention to their specific center's regulations.



The following are **not permitted** at Job Corps centers and are grounds for **immediate dismissal** from the program:

- Violence
- Drug use
- Sexual misconduct
- Persistent disobedience of center rules and regulations
- Repeated or prolonged absences from classes
- Improper use of center facilities and equipment
- Unreasonable standards of personal appearance and cleanliness
- Maintenance or operation of a private vehicle (does not apply to nonresidential students)
- Leaving the center without permission

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What happens to my student after he or she completes the program?

In addition to career technical training and an education, Job Corps provides students with the tools they need to **begin a successful career**. When a student is near graduation, a Job Corps career transition counselor will help him or her make the transition to full-time employment. Our career transition counselors help students practice interview skills, finalize a resume, and **search for a job** in their chosen fields.

Job Corps understands that **being independent** means more than just having a job. So when your student's training at Job Corps is complete, a counselor will work with him or her for **up to 21 months after graduation**. A career transition counselor can put your student in touch with helpful community resources to ease the transition into the workforce. This could include resources related to housing, transportation, social services, and child care. We continue to help students after graduation because we want them to succeed after Job Corps.



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Success Lasts A Lifetime

To be successful at Job Corps, students must commit to their education and training. It won't always be easy. We will challenge your student. But with **hard work**, your son or daughter will be one of the thousands of young people who have **a better career and a better life** as a result of joining Job Corps.

Commit to us, and we will show your student the path to a new career or college. That's our commitment to you. At Job Corps, **Success Lasts A Lifetime**.



“Being away from family and friends, having a curfew, and having to follow a routine was difficult when I first got here. But then I realized that I was here to get an education, learn a trade, and improve my life. Suddenly, those things didn't matter. Job Corps was my ticket to a better life.”

– Elizabeth,
San Jose Job Corps Center

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Call us today.

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Se habla español. Para más información, por favor llame al: **(800) 733-5627** o visítenos en la página Web: **www.mifuturo.jobcorps.gov**.



Administered by the U.S. Department of Labor, Job Corps is the nation's largest career technical training and education program for low-income students ages 16 through 24. Job Corps is a U.S. Department of Labor Equal Opportunity Employer Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. TDD/TTY telephone number is (877) 889-5627.

Contact your local admissions office: