



FISCAL YEAR 2017 FUNDING REQUEST

Job Corps: Preparing Career-Ready Youth For The Workforce

For over 50 years, Job Corps has successfully educated, trained and placed more than 2.7 million young adults in jobs. In FY 2017, Job Corps' 126 campuses will provide safe living, learning and disciplined residential settings that enable out-of-school, out-of-work youth in every state to gain the skills America's employers' must have. Job Corps provides employer-driven training that leads to jobs. Each year, nearly 87 percent of graduates are employed, enlisted in the military or enrolled in higher education within six months of leaving the program.

To continue and improve upon these outcomes the NJCA is requesting \$1.78 billion for Job Corps that includes the following priority items:

1. \$10 million for **mental health services** to meet a rapidly growing need among our students;
2. \$18.5 million for a one-time and desperately needed investment in **upgrading Job Corps' information technology infrastructure and capacity for the 21st century**;
3. \$24.5 million to implement new best practices, such as **contextual learning and standards-based education**, through investments in staff, staff training, and curricula.
4. \$30 million to invest in the **safety and security of Job Corps campuses**.

With Congress' support for this additional funding, Job Corps can not only continue its mission of educating and training America's most vulnerable and economically disadvantaged youth but improve those outcomes.

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HOW JOB CORPS WORKS

Each year, high school dropouts, homeless youth, young mothers and fathers, students with learning disabilities, and young people aging out of the foster care system enroll in Job Corps. It offers everything they need to start careers and become financially independent.

Job Corps is able to succeed with a population that has been left behind by traditional education systems because it provides practical training tied to employers' real expectations. Job Corps' dedicated counselors, academic and vocational instructors, and residential advisors, work with students 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, not only on their career pursuits but also on improving financial literacy and encouraging community service and responsible citizenship.

FISCAL YEAR 2017 FUNDING DETAILS

NJCA's Recommended FY 2017 Job Corps Funding Account Details

Operations	\$1.635 billion
Construction, Rehabilitation and Acquisition (CRA)	\$105 million
Administration	\$41 million
TOTAL	\$1.781 billion

OPERATING EXPENSES

\$1.635 billion

Includes additional funding of:

- \$10 million to allow Job Corps to improve mental health services to students in federal care, security and behavioral management on Job Corps centers.
- \$18.5 million to bring Job Corps' information technology and learning infrastructure into the 21st century, including giving students access to Wi-Fi and modern online learning resources.
- \$24.5 million to implement contextualized learning and other instructional best practices. These resources will support investment to allow Job Corps centers to pay competitive wages so it can hire and retain teachers and instructors who are qualified to implement these best practices.

REPORT LANGUAGE REQUEST

Job Corps' severe technological limitations and 20th century learning environment hinder its students' preparation for the highly technological 21st century college and work environments. Therefore, the Committee directs the Department to prioritize the use of funds for upgrading the telecommunications infrastructure of Job Corps centers to provide students' access to Wi-Fi and online learning and job search tools in most campus buildings. The Committee further directs the Department to report to the Congress within 60 days on any policy and funding impediments to providing such access.

The ability of any educational program to utilize effective instruction techniques such as contextualized learning or standards-based education is directly tied to the quality and experience of its staff, particularly its teachers and instructors. The Committee directs the Department to use the additional funding provided to invest in Job Corps teacher and trade instructors. In addition, the Committee directs the Department to report to the Congress within 120 days on the competitiveness of Job Corps teacher and instructor salaries as well as staff retention and vacancy rates.

CAPITAL EXPENSES

\$105 million

Includes additional funding of:

- \$20 million to address security needs at select centers including fencing, security cameras, and other preventative measures.
- \$10 million to replace deteriorated structures, especially those that threaten safety and health.

ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES

\$41 million

- NJCA recommends achieving efficiencies by restructuring the administration of Job Corps such that staffing and management functions, including financial and contract management, are to be consolidated under the purview of the National Director of Job Corps.

STATUTORY LANGUAGE REQUEST:

Provided, that no funds will be used to award a contract for the operation of a Job Corps center, unless the Secretary documents to the Committee that each of the factors listed in Section 147(a)(3) of P.L. 113-128 were applied to the procurement of such center including with respect to making any determination to restrict competition.

Provided, the Job Corps Director appointed by the Secretary is given the authority to oversee and direct all responsibilities of the Secretary under title I, subtitle C of P.L. 113-128 (the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act), including those related to financial management and contracting.