

February 24, 2017

DIRECTIVE:	JOB CORPS PRH CHANGE NOTICE NO. 16-10
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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: Clarification of Drug Infraction: Possession or Distribution of Drugs on Center or Under Center Supervision

1. **Purpose.** To clarify language in the Job Corps' Student Conduct System regarding the use of marijuana by Job Corps participants.
2. **Background.** Job Corps issued Policy and Requirements Handbook (PRH) Change Notice 16-07 December 14, 2016: *Policy and Requirements Handbook (PRH) Revision to Sections and Exhibits Related to the Student Conduct System*. The revised definition of the infraction, "Drugs: Possession or distribution of drugs on center or under center supervision," specified that illegal drugs are those "listed on any schedule of the Controlled Substances Act, including seeds and residue, except when the drug is possessed and/or used in accordance with a valid prescription." This phrasing may give the Job Corps community the incorrect impression that medical marijuana is permitted on centers if a participant has a valid prescription.

The Controlled Substances Act (CSA) regulates the manufacture, importation, possession, use and distribution of certain narcotics, stimulants, depressants, hallucinogens, anabolic steroids and other chemicals. Marijuana is considered a Schedule I drug under the CSA. Schedule I drugs are defined as those with no currently accepted medical use and a high potential for abuse. A valid prescription cannot be written for Schedule I drugs, including marijuana. As such, its use at any time by a Job Corps student is considered a Level I Zero Tolerance violation.

3. **Reference.** Program Instruction Notice 16-13, *Accommodation of Medical Marijuana Use by Job Corps Participants*, issued September 16, 2016; PRH Change Notice 16-07, *Policy and Requirements Handbook (PRH) Revision to Sections and Exhibits Related to the Student Conduct System*, issued December 14, 2016.

4. Explanation of Change(s).
 - a. Exhibit 3-1, Infraction Levels, Definitions, and Appropriate Center Actions
 - A note was added to the infraction **Drugs: Possession or distribution of drugs on center or under center supervision**, to clarify that under the Controlled Substances Act, no valid prescription can be provided for Schedule I drugs, including marijuana.
 - b. Exhibit 3-5, Infraction Crosswalk
 - Under the definition of the new infraction **Drugs: Possession or distribution of drugs on center or under center supervision**, a note was added to clarify that under the Controlled Substances Act, no valid prescription can be provided for Schedule I drugs, including marijuana.
 - c. Section 5.4, Personal Safety and Security
 - In R5, Unauthorized Goods, a note was added to f. to clarify that under the Controlled Substances Act, no valid prescription can be provided for Schedule I drugs, including marijuana.
5. Action Required. Addressees are to ensure this Change Notice is distributed to all appropriate staff.
6. Effective Date. Immediately.
7. Inquiries. Inquiries should be directed to Stephanie Fichter at (202) 693-3732 or fichter.stephanie.a@dol.gov.

Attachments

- A – PRH Exhibit 3-1 Infraction Levels, Definitions and Appropriate Center Actions
- B – PRH Exhibit 3-5 Infraction Crosswalk
- C – PRH Chapter 5: Management