

August 12, 2009

DIRECTIVE: JOB CORPS PROGRAM INSTRUCTION NO. 09-11
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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: ESTHER R. JOHNSON, Ed.D.
 National Director
 Office of Job Corps

SUBJECT: NCCER Accreditation/Certification for Center-Operated Construction Training Programs

1. Purpose. To provide information and guidance on the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) Accreditation/ Certification Process for all center-operated construction training programs.
2. Background. In July 2007, revised Training Achievement Records (TARs) for all the center-operated construction training programs were released. These TARs were aligned with the NCCER curricula, specifically the Contren® Learning Series. NCCER is a not-for-profit education foundation created in 1996 to develop standardized construction, maintenance, and pipeline curricula with portable credentials and help address the critical skilled workforce shortage. Students who complete the Contren® Learning Series through an NCCER Accredited Sponsor will receive industry-recognized credentials and documentation of their training accomplishments through NCCER's National Registry.

NCCER has partnered with the Sustainable Facilities and Infrastructure Research Team of the Myers-Lawson School of Construction at Virginia Tech University to create green training for the construction industry. NCCER has been recognized as a U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) Education Provider. In addition to USGBC, NCCER's Your Role in the Green Environment training is endorsed by Green Advantage® and recognized as beneficial to students and practitioners planning to sit for the Green Advantage Commercial/Residential certification exam.

Program, staff, and student accreditation/certification with NCCER is especially critical as we move forward with the greening of Job Corps' center-operated construction training

programs. Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act), Job Corps has committed to producing 8,500 green graduates from all of its construction programs by August 2010. The National Office of Job Corps is in the process of updating center-operated construction TARs that incorporate green elements based on the NCCER green curriculum and validated by a workgroup consisting of industry experts and Job Corps management and construction instructors. With the anticipated implementation of the Green Construction TARs as part of Job Corps' Recovery Act strategy, it is imperative that immediate steps be taken to ensure that all of Job Corps' center-operated construction training programs have the ability to certify students completing these TARs.

3. NCCER Accreditation and Required Actions.

Accredited Training Sponsors. To date, a number of contractors running center-operated construction training programs are already recognized as NCCER Accredited Training Sponsor (ATS). These contractors must do the following:

- a. Ensure that Master Trainers conduct the Instructor Certification Training Programs (ICTP) so that all center-operated construction training program instructors become ICTP-certified.
- b. Ensure that all ICTP-certified instructors obtain NCCER's green certification.
- c. Submit a master list of all center-operated construction training program instructors and the status of ICTP and green certification of instructors via e-mail to galicia.milagros@dol.gov by **Friday, September 11, 2009**.

Non-Accredited Training Sponsors. While a number of center-operated construction training programs operating under non-ATS contractors are using the NCCER Contren® Learning Series, students training under non-NCCER certified instructors are not able to obtain the benefits of certification. Non-accredited operators are encouraged to pursue ATS status or make appropriate arrangements with a current ATS to get instructors ICTP-certified (which will enable them to certify students).

These non-accredited contractors with center-based construction training programs must do the following:

- a. Submit a master list of all center-operated construction training program instructors and a status update via e-mail to galicia.milagros@dol.gov by **Friday, September 11, 2009** regarding ATS application or, if arrangements are made with a current ATS, the name of the sponsor and contact information.
- b. Contact the National Office for any technical assistance that may be required to facilitate instructor ICTP certification.

4. Action. Addressees are to ensure that this Program Instruction is distributed to all appropriate staff with sufficient time to meet the submission dates indicated above.
5. Expiration Date. Until superseded.
6. Inquiries. Inquiries should be directed to Shao Zhang at zhang.shao@dol.gov or (202) 693-3917, or Miles Galicia at galicia.milagros@dol.gov or (202) 693-3933.

Attachments

A – NCCER Accreditation/Certification Process for Center-Operated Construction Programs