

November 24, 2009

<b>DIRECTIVE:</b> <b>JOB CORPS PROGRAM INSTRUCTION NO. 09-26</b>
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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:**             LYNN A. INTREPIDI  
                          Interim National Director  
                          Office of Job Corps

**SUBJECT:**         Job Corps Student Injuries Due to Falls

1.     Purpose. To inform Job Corps centers about the importance of providing students and staff with adequate fall protection appropriate for the task or activity.
2.     Background. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported that between 2000 and 2005 children and teens experienced about 2.8 million non-fatal injuries resulting from falls each year. Falls in the workplace are of major concern as well; in fiscal year (FY) 2009, fall protection, 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1926.501, was the second most cited OSHA standard and resulted in the highest employer penalties.

Recently, Job Corps centers have reported some alarming student fall injuries. For example, centers have reported sports-related injuries, including head trauma, bruising, contusions, sprains, and breaks resulting from falls; one student was injured from a fall while playing basketball wearing socks but no shoes. According to a Significant Incident Report (SIR), another student suffered a lumbar spine fracture as a result of a fall from a 7-foot obstacle course wall; the student was engaged in a recreational activity on center when the injury occurred.

3.     Action. Job Corps centers are required to implement recreational safety programs in accordance with Policy and Requirements Handbook (PRH) Chapter 5, Section 5.20, R5, which includes providing adequate supervision of student activities. Centers that offer activities involving climbing or repelling shall provide students and/or staff with safety belts, lines, or lanyards, in accordance with 29 CFR 1926.104, or safety nets in accordance with 29 CFR 1926.105.

Addressees are to ensure that this Program Instruction is distributed to all appropriate staff.

4. Expiration Date. Until superseded.

5. Inquiries. Inquiries should be directed to Marsha Fitzhugh at (202) 693-3099 or [fitzhugh.marsha@dol.gov](mailto:fitzhugh.marsha@dol.gov), Kelley Clark at (202) 693-3089 or [clark.kelley@dol.gov](mailto:clark.kelley@dol.gov), or Heather Edmonds at (202) 693-3774 or [edmonds.heather@dol.gov](mailto:edmonds.heather@dol.gov).