

July 13, 2012

DIRECTIVE:	JOB CORPS PROGRAM INSTRUCTION NO. 12-02
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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: EDNA PRIMROSE
National Director
Office of Job Corps

SUBJECT: Job Corps and U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)
Partnership on Start Young Initiative Pilot Program

1. Purpose. To explore the opportunity to expand the Start Young Initiative program, in collaboration with the SBA.
2. Background. Since March 20, 2012, the Office of Job Corps and the SBA have partnered on the Start Young Initiative program. The goal of this program is to expose economically disadvantaged youth to skills and opportunities that will lead them toward entrepreneurship.

The SBA's resource partner network – which includes Women's Business Centers, SCORE chapters and Small Business Development Centers – will provide curriculum and training to a select group of Jobs Corps youth. Three Job Corps centers, Milwaukee, Philadelphia and Brooklyn, have already participated in a 9-week program with SBA resource partners. A total of 38 Job Corps students graduated from the Start Young Initiative during May and June 2012.

The program uses SBA mentors and trainers with expertise in working with young entrepreneurs to provide a meaningful learning experience that is accessible, practical, and motivational. The entrepreneurship curriculum was tailored to meet unique needs of Job Corps students.

3. Benefits. The Start Young Initiative participants will engage in 6 to 9 weeks of specialized training with SBA local partners that will include information about small business opportunities and resources available to them, while encouraging economic self-sufficiency and personal growth within their communities. Other benefits include:

- EntreSkills personal training by a business professional
- Personal student business plans
- Guest speakers and business mentors
- Student certificates of completion
- No cost to the Job Corps centers

4. Criteria Selection for Expansion Sites. Attachment A lists SBA partners. Job Corps centers at these sites will be considered for expansion of the Start Young Initiative. If you are interested in participating, please ensure your center is located in close proximity to an SBA site.

The Start Young Entrepreneurship Program Student Application Form (Attachment B) is provided to assist centers in determining commitment levels of students interested in admission to the Start Young Initiative program.

5. Resources. For specific questions regarding program operations and outcomes of the initial pilot sites, please contact the center's point of contact:

Milwaukee Job Corps Center

Center Director: James Roberts

E-mail: roberts.james@jobcorps.org

Telephone: (414) 616-5701

Philadelphia Job Corps Center

Center Director: Earldene Lewis

E-mail: lewis.earldene@jcdc.org

Telephone: 267-386-2840

Brooklyn Job Corps Center

Center Director: Olinda Marin

E-mail: marin.olinda@jobcorps.org

Telephone: (718) 623-4003

6. Action. Center Directors should submit their interests in the Start Young Initiative by e-mailing their respective Regional Directors, and copying Linda Marshall at marshall.linda@dol.gov by **July 27, 2012**.

7. Expiration Date. July 27, 2012.

8. Inquiries. Inquiries should be directed to Linda Marshall at (202) 693-3106 or marshall.linda@dol.gov.

Attachments

A – List of Cities in Close Proximity to U.S. Small Business Administration Partners

B – Start Young Entrepreneurship Program Student Application Form