



April 11, 2025

DIRECTIVE:	JOB CORPS PROGRAM INSTRUCTION NOTICE NO. 24-11
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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
ALL CENTER USERS

FROM: ERIN MCGEE
Acting Administrator
Office of Job Corps

SUBJECT: Revisions to the Entrance Laboratory Testing Requirements

1. Purpose. This Program Instruction Notice implements forthcoming changes to the Policy and Requirements Handbook (PRH) to remove the requirements for Job Corps centers to conduct mandatory entry laboratory testing. Effective April 14, 2025, with the exception of drug testing, Job Corps centers are no longer required to conduct these laboratory tests unless clinically indicated.
2. Background. Job Corps' PRH Section 2.3, R2(c) mandates specific entry laboratory tests be conducted within 48 hours of a student's arrival on center. Job Corps has determined that such testing is useful and necessary only when clinically indicated and is not needed for every student upon entry to provide a safe and healthy environment on center. Further, requiring laboratory testing for all students as a part of their basic health screening is both extensive and costly and is not consistent with public health recommendations. The Office of Job Corps (OJC) acknowledges and appreciates the feedback from center operators questioning whether extensive entry medical testing of every student is necessary and highlighting the potential cost savings associated with eliminating them unless clinically indicated. For these reasons, Job Corps is changing its laboratory testing requirement to reflect that Job Corps centers are required to provide the laboratory tests in PRH 2.3, R2(c) only when clinically indicated. The only exception is drug testing, which remains mandatory for all students per the requirements of the PRH.

Center medical providers must request laboratory testing when clinically indicated, following recommendations from the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)¹, and other national health professional organizations

¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2021). *Sexually Transmitted Infections Treatment Guidelines, 2021*. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/std/treatment-guidelines/default.htm>

that regularly update clinical guidelines. Any costs associated with laboratory testing will be billed to the student's health insurance or to the center operator if the student is uninsured.

With the elimination of the requirement to provide these entry laboratory tests, Job Corps will no longer include HIV antibody and chlamydia testing in the National Laboratory Testing contract it uses for drug testing. Job Corps centers may continue to use the National Laboratory (LabCorps/Center for Disease Detection (CDD)) or any other laboratory to conduct laboratory testing for HIV and chlamydia when clinically indicated; however, the center operator will assume the cost. Centers are encouraged to identify free and low-cost community resources, such as local health clinics, that provide HIV and STI testing and inform students of how to access these community resources.

Action. PRH revisions are forthcoming for PRH 2.3 R2(c). In the interim, center operators must do as follows:

- a. Discontinue conducting mandatory entrance laboratory tests unless clinically indicated². Drug testing continues to be mandatory for all students.
 - b. Ensure that this notice is distributed to all center personnel in Administration, and the Health and Wellness Departments.
3. Effective Date. Effective April 14, 2025.
 4. Expiration Date. Until superseded.
 5. Inquiries. Inquiries should be directed to DPCP@dol.gov.

² "If clinically indicated" means a procedure or test is potentially necessary because the patient's condition, factors, or symptoms warrant it, as determined by a health provider's clinical judgment.