



Job Corps FY 2022 Request

	FY21 Actual	FY22 NJCA Request	Difference
Operations	\$1,603,325,000	\$1,703,325,000	\$100,000,000
Construction, Rehabilitation, and Acquisition (CRA)	113,000,000	138,000,000	25,000,000
Administration	32,330,000	32,330,000	0
Total	\$1,748,655,000	\$1,873,655,000	\$125,000,000

Job Corps staff are essential workers that are taking risks to care for young people whose lives may depend on Job Corps residential, career, and counseling services. These staff have taken on new and expanded responsibilities offering in-person instruction for those on center while simultaneously providing flexible distance learning options for students who are not yet able to return. This request increase includes \$80 million to help Job Corps hire and retain qualified staff with competitive wages that reflect the additional job risks and requirements created by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The U.S. Department of Labor has requested additional funding to modernize trade offerings, curricula, and equipment. In addition, the unexpected transition to distance learning created an opportunity to consider different ways to engage Job Corps students. This could enable Job Corps to serve more students efficiently and effectively. This request includes \$20 million for investments to modernize Job Corps' IT infrastructure and trade programs.

The FY22 NJCA request also includes \$25 million in additional construction, rehabilitation and acquisition funding above Job Corps' FY21 appropriation. According to data provided by the Department to Congress, about \$715 million in facilities repair and rehabilitation projects are necessary to maintain the safety of Job Corps buildings.

Report Language

Job Corps slot utilization.—As millions of disconnected youth struggle with housing, food insecurity, and unemployment, the Committee supports the efforts to resume operations at Job Corps centers as safely and rapidly as possible. Similar to other schools across the country, once Job Corps staff are vaccinated, the Committee encourages full resumption of Job Corps operations. The Committee requests information on the requirements and measures the Department will utilize to approve Job Corps centers resuming operations at full capacity.

Job Corps wages and benefits.—The Committee has previously expressed its concern that the transition to fixed price Job Corps contracts may negatively impact students and staff by prioritizing reducing costs over improving student outcomes. Further, arbitrary contract turnover causes unnecessary instability in employees' health insurance and other benefits which negatively impacts staff retention and, in turn, student outcomes. At a time when we are asking even more of Job Corps staff, the Committee directs the Department to ensure that Job Corps contracts offer competitive wages and benefits. The Committee requests a report on the process by which the Department evaluates cost-realism in bid evaluations, particularly with respect to budgeting to pay prevailing wages. The Committee also requests data on the rate of contract turnover over each of the last ten years.

Job Corps FY 2022 Member Request Summary for Staff

Subcommittee: Labor-HHS

Department: Department of Labor

Agency: Employment and Training Administration (ETA)

Account: Job Corps

Priority: Prefer 1 but highest possible

Program Description: For over 50 years, Job Corps has successfully educated and trained millions of young adults for jobs in high demand industries and trades. Job Corps has campuses across all 50 states that provide a safe living, learning and disciplined residential setting that allows at-risk youth to gain the employment and work skills that America's employers seek.

Amount: \$1,873,655,000

Language Type: Report

Proposed Report Language Items:

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Letter: Attach appropriate member office letter, if signed the multi-signature FY 2022 Job Corps Dear Colleague letter – can be attached to demonstrate to the Subcommittee the breadth of member support.