Job Corps' Eligibility Criteria

Young people enter the Job Corps program voluntarily and must be at least 16 and not yet 25 years of age at time of enrollment.*

A Job Corps applicant must:

- Be a legal U.S. resident; lawfully admitted permanent resident alien, refugee, asylee, or parolee, or other immigrant who has been authorized by the U.S. Attorney General to work in the United States; or resident of a U.S. territory
- Meet low-income criteria
- Face one or more barriers to employment such as: needing additional career technical training, education, counseling, and related assistance to complete regular schoolwork or to secure and maintain employment
- Can be a school dropout, a runaway, a foster child, a parent, or homeless
- Have signed consent from a parent or guardian if he/she is a minor
- Have a child care plan if he/she is the parent of a dependent child
- Not exhibit behavioral problems that could inhibit him/her or others from benefiting fully from the program
- Not require any face-to-face court or institutional supervision or court-imposed fines while enrolled in Job Corps
- Not use drugs illegally

Because Job Corps is a voluntary program, students choose to enroll in the program and may exit at any time.

*The maximum age limit may be waived if the applicant is a person with a documented disability.