Job Corps Evidence Building Portfolio Project

# Topic Guide for Participant Interviews

| **Job Corps Pilot Study Participant Interview Topics** | |
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| **Participant Characteristics** | * Participant background, including prior education and work experience, including experience with other programs |
| **Recruitment, Intake and Admissions** | * How learned about program * Reasons for applying to this program, education and employment goals * Experience with application and enrollment procedures, including assessments and eligibility determination * Experience with onboarding/ orientation/ probational or trial period |
| **Education Services and Academic Supports** | * Participation in academic planning activities * Participation in and experience with secondary education activities (HSD, GED * Participation in and experience with education and training preparation activities (career exploration, FAFSA, study skills) * Participation in and experience with postsecondary academic services and supports (e.g. General education college courses, developmental education, supports for English Language learners) * Participation in and experience with academic support services (tutoring, academic improvement plans, etc.) |
| **Career and Technical Training** | * Experience in selecting and enrolling in training activities * Participation in and experience with career and technical training assessment activities * Participation in and experience with postsecondary career and technical training activities * Participation in and experience with career and technical training supports (e.g. tutoring, study hall, test prep) |
| **Personal and Career Counseling Services** | * Participation in and experience with counseling services, including frequency, dosage, format * Participation in and experience with mentoring and coaching   Participation in and experience with peer supports |
| **Employment Services** | * Participation in and experience with career readiness services (e.g. career exploration, resume building, Job search assistance, job shadows, and interview training) * Participation in and experience with employment counseling including meeting frequency, length, format * Participation in and experience with work-based learning (apprenticeships/ on-the-job training/ internships/ job shadowing) * Participation in and experience with employment placement services |
| **Post-separation services** | * Future plans post-separation * Engagement and experiences with school, work and/or military since separation * Perception of preparedness for post-separation employment, education, etc. * Participation in and perception of post-program services |
| **Support services** | * Participation in and experience with life skills training/ activities (e.g., financial counseling, study skills, soft skills) * Participation in and experience with support services   + Mental health and Wellness services   + Transportation assistance   + Food assistance   + Housing assistance   + Parenting supports/assistance   + Referrals * Technological supports * Employment during program participation * Experience with stipends/ cash assistance * Experience participating as a nonresidential participation (transportation to/from program, housing stability, access to supports, etc.) * Participation in and experience with residential services (housing, meals) |
| **Student life/ Culture and Climate** | * Experience with staff * Experience with students (relationships, peer support, cohorts) * Level of student engagement/retention * Experience with program policies and rules * Participation in and experience with student life activities |
| **Reflections** | * Overall experience in program * Suggestions for potential program improvements |
| **COVID-19 Response** | * Perception of how COVID-19 affected participants’ goals and experience in the program * Perception of program response to COVID-19 |

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