

Updated March 12, 2026

SBCTC considers answers in this Questions and Answers (Q&A) document to be the only official source for answers related to this funding source, aside from the Program Guidelines. Questions (Q) and answers (A) are presented in reverse order, showing the most recently received questions at the top of the document. This is so that colleges may check back frequently during the application process and easily see new Q&As. This document will be updated throughout the 2026-27 fiscal year.

Q: Can proposals for these funds include embedding industry recognized credentials into existing BAS programs?

A: No, WDF, IWA, and HDE funds may not be used for BAS programs.

Q: Can we merge multiple project ideas into one application? For instance, the project ideas include developing and starting a new program, buying equipment for another program, and revising a course in a third program.

A: No, each application should focus on one cohesive, well-aligned project consistent with the funding priorities and allowable costs. Each college is limited to one application due to funding limitations and strong demand for funding.

Q: Must High Demand Enrollment grants adhere to the same rules surrounding supplementing & supplanting as Perkins grants?

A: While there is not an official regulation against supplanting on this state funding as there is in Perkins, SBCTC encourages colleges to apply for funding that would enhance existing programming rather than supplant costs to free funds up for other areas at the college.

Q: We anticipated that increasing capacity of high-demand programs might be one of the goals for this combined opportunity, but it doesn't look like just expanding capacity would fit with the published goals. Is that true?

A: High demand enrollment funding can be used to expand the capacity of existing high demand programs/pathways at your college - we view this as an element of strengthening high demand opportunities. It is important for colleges to provide evidence of high demand status, labor market demand data, historical enrollment/waitlists, and/or other data to inform our review process.

Q: Is the 10% admin cost calculated on the modified total direct cost or the total grant amount?

A: The 10% admin cap is a limit on the total of direct administrative costs allowable within the proposed grant budget. This equates to 10% of the total award. Indirect cost is not an allowable expense on these awards.

Q: To clarify, are we submitting one application for one project with three possible funding sources, rather than three separate budget requests or applications?

FY27 Workforce Development Funds, High Demand Enrollment, and Invest in WA, Questions and Answers



A: Correct. One application for one project with three possible funding sources.

Q: [Can a college propose integrating I-BEST support into selected courses \(e.g., English or health-related programs\) to strengthen basic skills such as reading comprehension for workforce students?](#)

A: If the proposed project primarily focuses on developing or expanding I-BEST programming, it would likely be a better fit for the [I-BEST Development and Expansion](#) funding opportunity. Colleges interested in expanding I-BEST offerings (for example, in areas such as English or healthcare) are encouraged to apply through that funding source.

However, if the project's primary focus is expanding or maintaining a high-demand professional-technical program, or that aligns closely to the priorities of the Workforce Development Fund, and happens to include a small I-BEST component, it may be appropriate for WDF-High Demand funding.

Colleges should consider which funding opportunity best aligns with the primary purpose of the proposed project.

Q:

A: