A close-up of a logo

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

I-BEST Coding Q & A

Q: Are blended (bucket) classes with ENGL 93/ENGL 99/ENGL 101 okay to be coded as BASICSKILL?

A: Yes, if the classes are on your approved I-BEST application, and the students have been assessed as basic skills eligible based on a basic skills assessment. In PeopleSoft, or ctcLink, we use Course Attributes to get information about the class. Each Course Attribute may have a set of values associated. These can be assigned at the course level or at the class level, depending on what is needed. The classes are built from the course and will inherit those Course Attributes and their values. The college can then add the Course/Class Attribute at the class level, when needed. For I-BEST, this happens at the class level.

*For example, a college has six classes, or sections, of the course ENGL 101. Only one of them is an approved team-taught class that should be coded as I-BEST. The college can add the SBST attribute to the one class, or section, that is I-BEST. When the college adds the SBST attribute, they also have to select a value. That is where they see the BASICSKILL or DEVELOPMTL values.*

Q: If a course is approved on a prof/tech only application and that course is also required for a DTA student, can the DTA student also receive enhanced FTE?

A: The student can only receive the enhanced FTE if they are a basic skills eligible student. Classes need to be set up separately, so that the non I-BEST prof/tech. or DTA student can enroll in a class that is not coded as I-BEST. For details on basic skills eligible students please see the Eligible BEdA Students page in the [BEdA Handbook](https://www.sbctc.edu/colleges-staff/programs-services/basic-education-for-adults/beda-handbook/eligible-students) .

Q: A student who is coded Academic Transfer DTA but has a sub-plan that is an I-BEST’ed program. They are eligible for Academic I-BEST, but are they eligible for enhanced FTE based on their sub-plan outside of enrollment in Academic I-BEST? Does the sub-plan matter?

A: Colleges may or may not use subplans, and they may use them in different ways. The simple answer to this one is that FTE are not enhanced based on the program, but on the classes approved for the I-BEST model. So, no, the subplan doesn’t matter.

Q: A student is enrolled in an Academic I-BEST class and once I-BEST always I-BEST, but their major is not one supported by I-BEST, can I enroll them in an enhanced FTE I-BEST section moving forward, even if we don’t have an approved application for that major?

A: If they are eligible for I-BEST support, i.e., if they have qualified for basic or developmental skills support through the approved methods for doing so (CASAS, Dev Ed Placement, etc.) then that student is eligible. If you are running a class that counts as a requirement in multiple programs, the key is to have the class in one of your approved I-BEST applications.

Q: Are students enrolled in a bachelor degree program eligible for the enhanced FTE I-BEST sections of an Academic I-BEST class?

A: Most students at the bachelor degree program level will already have completed college level math and English as a prerequisite to the program. At that point they would not be eligible for Academic I-BEST as they would no longer be a basic skills eligible student or a Dev Ed level student. However, you may have non-I-BEST students in an Academic I-BEST class. This is called a mixed cohort and you will need 2 sections for the same course. I-BEST students would be enrolled in the I-BEST section of the course and non-I-BEST students would be coded under the no-I-BEST section of the course.

Q: Are I-BEST support classes coded?

A: Yes, support classes are identified by their CIP code (32.0501). Support classes **DO** **NOT** get coded with the SBST Course Attribute.

Q: Can Running Start students take I-BEST classes?

A: No, Running Start students are not eligible for basic skills or I-BEST. The student’s eligibility for Running Start signifies the student is not eligible for I-BEST.

Q: Who is eligible to participate in Basic Education for Adults in Washington state?

A: • At least 16 years of age;

* Not enrolled or be required to be enrolled in secondary school under State law (see the Documentation Needs for Students Under 19 Years Old section below); and

Who also:

* Lacks sufficient mastery of basic educational skills to enable the individuals to function effectively in society;
* Does not have a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent, and has not achieved an equivalent level of education;
* Is an English language learner who has limited ability in reading, writing, speaking, or comprehending the English language, and—
* Whose native language is a language other than English; or
* Who lives in a family or community environment where a language other than English is the dominant language. For reference please see the Eligible BEdA Students page in the [BEdA Handbook](https://www.sbctc.edu/colleges-staff/programs-services/basic-education-for-adults/beda-handbook/eligible-students).

Q: If we have I-BEST’ed our Behavioral & Social Services AAS-T, does that mean the certificate programs under that degree are also I-BEST approved? (Substance Use Disorders Counseling Cert. of Completion and Behavioral & Social Services Cert. of Proficiency)

A: No, each Certificate and Degree in the pathway must be listed individually in one approved application to receive enhanced FTE, as they each have their own unique classes that are I-BEST’ed.