

New Approaches to Expanding Access to Education for Low Skilled Adults

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Economic attainment: 1 year of college level credits + a credential is the **tipping point** for students needing to find career pathways

Study tracked 35,000 working age adult students who came to CTC's with high school education or less, or non-English-speaking

6 years after college start, the highest value-added for work success

- 1 year + credential gives future **earnings bump**:
 - = \$7,000 more per year for ESL students
 - = \$8,500 more per year for an ABE student
 - = \$2,700 and \$1,700 more per year (respectively) for workforce students entering with a GED or HSD only
- Jobs that need 1 year college level credit + credential are among those in **greatest demand**

To get more to the tipping point requires aligning policies that fix...

- Adults with low skills need pathways to greater educational attainment and higher skill jobs.
- Financial aid designed for traditional students going straight from high school to a college or university doesn't suit working-age adults needing to stop in and out as they follow a path.
- Educational steps today aren't always additive and for non-English speakers or those with less than high school education, the first steps to "become ready" take too long– with little immediate benefits.









What is I-BEST ?



- Pairs a basic skills instructor with a professional-technical instructor in the same classroom at the same time
- Provides academic and workforce skills that lead to a living wage job on a viable career path

What is I-BEST ?

Comprehensive design

- Education/career pathway
- Match to the labor market
- Business engagement
- Integrated outcomes & assessment
- Success and transition plan



What is I-BEST ?



- Right level of education in the right amount for students to succeed in current and “next step” workforce training
- Basic skills curriculum contextualized to skills needed for success along a particular job and career path
- Strategy that results in a much faster rate of skill attainment than sequencing basic skills and workforce training

What is I-BEST ?



- Contradiction to ideas of pre-requisite skills or certifications
- Approach to non-traditional students/workers that assumes ABE and technical instructors will fundamentally change how they teach students all along career pathways and into the foreseeable future

Integrated Basic Skills & Corrections/Protection Officers (CPO) and Corrections Careers Program



In 14 weeks, students are prepared to be licensed and work as Corrections/Protection Officers, and

- ▶ Earn a Pierce College Corrections/Protection Officer Certificate
- ▶ Earn 20 credits towards a Certificate in Criminal Justice
- ▶ Earn 10 credits towards a Certificate in Homeland Security
- ▶ Earn 20 credits transferable to an Associate Degree in Criminal Justice
- ▶ Corrections Officers earn \$22,000–\$35,000 per year with excellent benefits

**I-BEST
Approved**



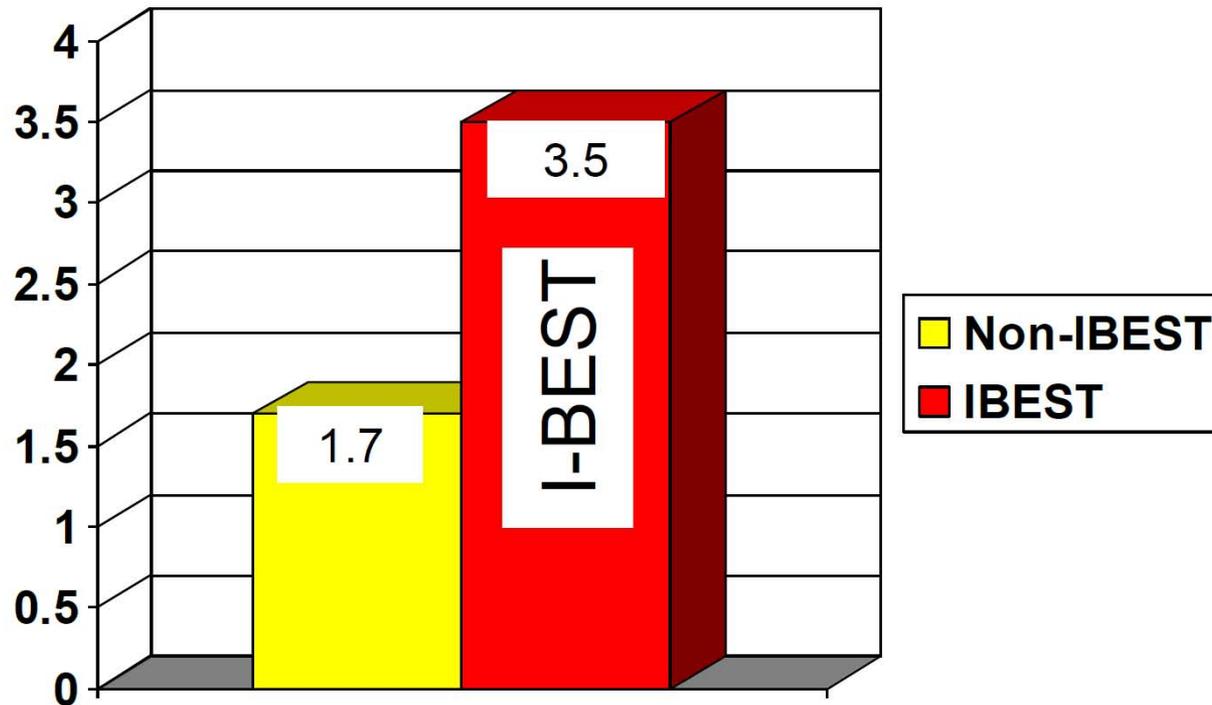


Pierce College Integrated ESL & The United Union of Roofers Apprenticeship Program

- Pierce College & Local 153 Roofers Union
- Students begin work at \$15.00 per hour
- 4 hours of theory daily
- 4 hours of on-the-roof practical application daily
- Upon completion of this 2-year program students are journey union roofers earning \$25.00 per hour

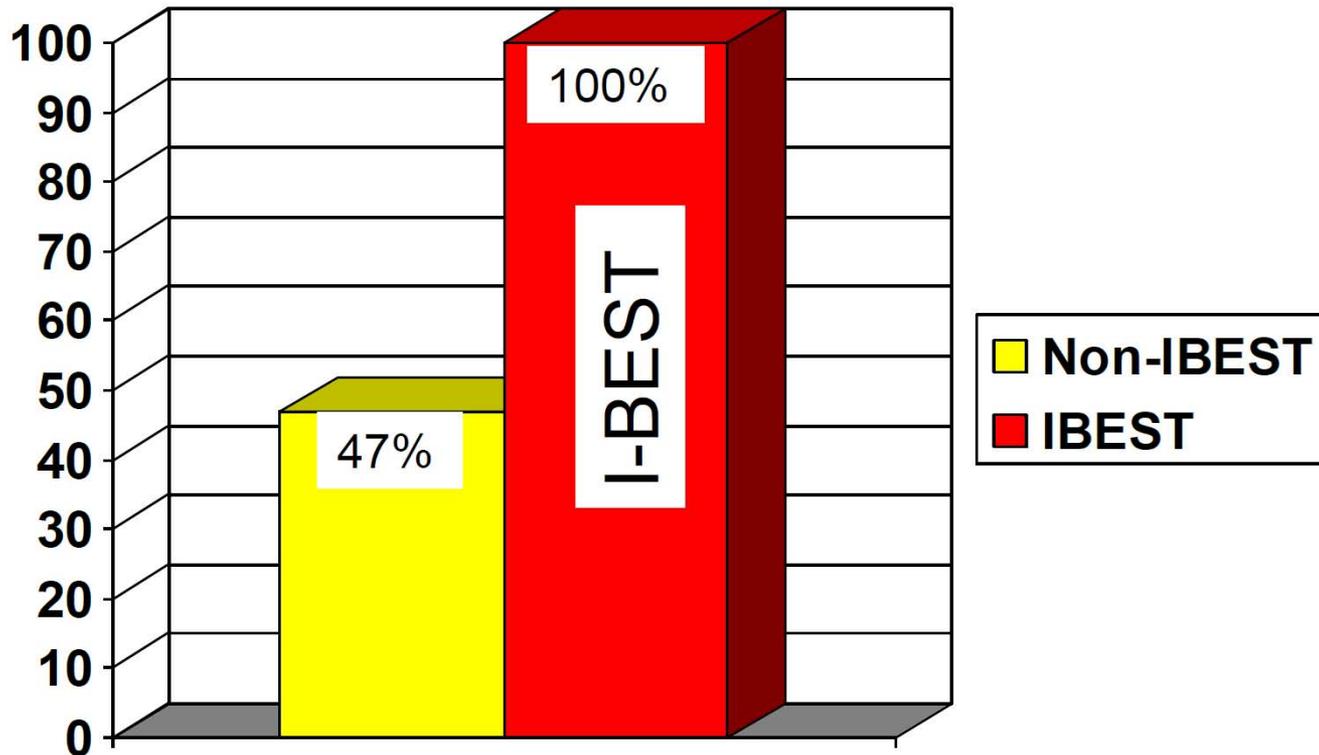


Grade Comparison – IBEST vs. Non-IBEST students Accounting 110, Winter 2007 Tacoma Community College



Grade Comparison

Passing Rate Comparison - I-BEST vs. Non-I-BEST students Accounting 110, Winter 2007 Tacoma Community College



Passing Rate Comparison