



## **Contextualized Variations of I-BEST Responses to Questions Posed in the Webinar Chat Box**

Q: Pam said she was challenged to find students who were interested in joining her IBEST Programs. How did she solve this?

A: I am fortunate to be the Director of ABE and the Director of Mi-BEST and Career Pathways so I have the privilege of changing programs. After a lot of thought, I realized that the problem with enrollment is that the students DONT want to take extra classes. Therefore, I added the Applied Math class and English Comp I and Psychology within our regular ABE classes. When we council with our students, we explain to them that English is English and that they can earn 3 hours college credit while they are working toward passing English on the HSE. We explain math in the same fashion. For Psychology, we tie it into the reading and comprehension skills necessary to pass the Science and Social Studies. We are selling the program by assuring the student that they aren't taking extra classes, but are earning college credit studying and preparing for the same skills on the HSE.

Q: Pam, what resources and curricula did you to create your workforce skills class (I think it was called "Smart Start)?

A: We are using Career Ready 101. The modules that we cover include:

Module 202: Communication

Module 505: Customer Service

Module 201: Dealing with Issues at Work

Module 105: Job Search and Interviewing

Module 104: My Profiles

Module 204: Professional Development

Module 203: Teamwork

Module 301: Time Management

Module 106: Work Ethics

At the end of the class, the students take the ACT WorkKeys exam, Skills USA Employability, Skills USA Customer Service and a NEMCC Challenge Exam (PLA) for college credit. They also must create a Resume and letter of application before they finish the class. We teach them how to develop an employment portforlio and our WIOA partner comes to the class and does mock interviews and students have to present their portfolio and "sell" themselves for employment.

Q: Do you do contextualization for your developmental education students? If so, what are you using with those students?

A from Pam, who was having audio problems: We do allow dev ed students to enroll in our classes, but we don't recruit from them. Our students can dual enroll in English Comp 1 and they are team taught. Our students do equally as well as the regular college students and all students in the class can take advantage of the tutoring and the team teaching