



Through the MIBEST program, the Mississippi Community College Board is seeking to increase the postsecondary and employment success for Youth and Young Adults (YYA) in our state, including young people involved in the juvenile justice system who are 16 years or older.

MIBEST is a workforce and economic development initiative that moves low-skilled, non-credentialed individuals – most of whom don't have a high school credential -- from the economic sidelines into careers with family-sustaining wages.

Nearly half of MIBEST participants are 17-24 years old. ***See Figure 1 for a summary of how MIBEST works.*** A few of the MIBEST achievements as of Summer 2019 include:

- Over 1700 participants have been enrolled in community college career pathways with strong employment demand through MIBEST, a 65% increase over the enrolment goal for the demonstration phase.
 - Nearly 60% of students have obtained their High School Equivalency.
 - More than 66% have obtained a National Career Readiness Certificate at a bronze level or higher.
 - More than 75% of these students have obtained employability skills through Smart Start training.
 - Nearly 60% of students have earned at least one occupational credential, whether college-issued or industry-based.
 - Nearly 40% of MIBEST students have obtained a job in their career field.
 - NSPARC analysis of students from the first 21 months of operations found that MIBEST completers nearly doubled their earnings after MIBEST compared to their earnings before the program.
 - More than 20% of MIBEST students continue their higher education after completing MIBEST.
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- Given the success we have obtained in MIBEST thus far, we have strong confidence in utilizing this program to increase success for Youth and Young Adults involved in the juvenile justice system. Some Youth Courts are already partnering with MIBEST programs in their local community colleges to refer youth into the program.

Figure 1. How MIBEST Works: The Road to Economic Success

How MIBEST Works



STUDENTS ENGAGE IN

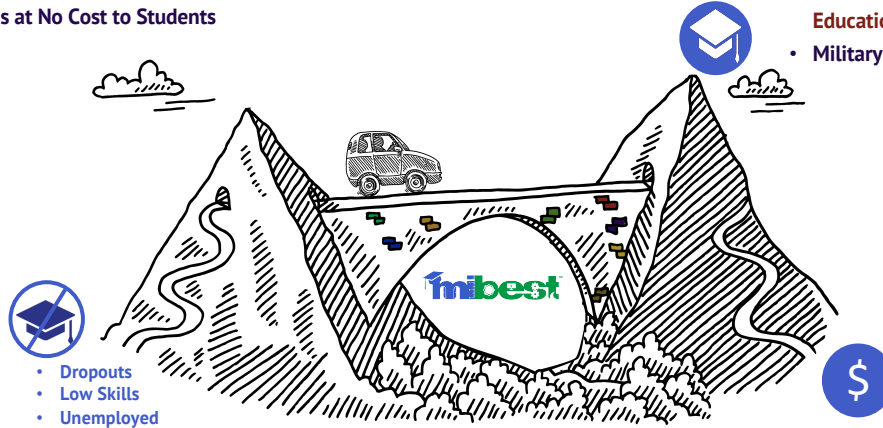
- Team Teaching
- Career Counseling and Advising
- Proactive Support Services
- Work-Based Learning Opportunities
- \$200 Completion Incentive
- Programs at No Cost to Students

STUDENTS OBTAIN

- High School Equivalency (HSE)
- Smart Start Work Readiness Skills
- National Career Readiness Credential (NCRC)
- At Least 6 CTE Credits (for CTE students)
- College or Industry-Based Credentials

RESULTING IN

- Employment in Career Field or
- Registered Apprenticeship and/or
- Continuing in Higher Education or
- Military Enlistment



MIBEST REGIONAL ZOOM MEETING WITH YOUTH COURTS

We are setting up some regional conversations to share more information about MIBEST and to answer any questions that you have about the program.

Stay Tuned for More Information About the Dates/Times of These Calls.
(Information will be distributed via Judge Hudson and the Supreme Court.)

In the meantime, please contact **Nikitna Barnes, MIBEST Program Manager**, if you need any additional information.

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