

BEST Plus Transition: Informational Webinar

May 9th, 2024 • 10:00am

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WHO'S WHO



The **Center for Applied Linguistics (CAL)** is the publisher of the BEST Plus assessments.

They set the timeline for the BEST Plus 3.0 transition.



The **Center for Educational Assessment (CEA) at UMass Amherst** provides test support and trainings for BEST Plus test administrators.



The **Adult and Community Learning Services (ACLS)** unit of the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) funds programs and develops assessment policies.



You, **the field**, administers BEST Plus assessments to your students, in addition to many other things!

BEST PLUS TRANSITION PLAN: WHAT TO KNOW FOR FY25 (JULY 1, 2024 - JUNE 30, 2025)

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TESTING:

- Use BEST Plus 2.0 for all pre- & post-tests.
- BEST Plus 2.0 tests administered after April 1, 2024 are eligible to be moved forward in FY25 and used as pre-tests until December 2024.



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TRAINING:

- UMass CEA will continue to offer BEST Plus 2.0 trainings.
- CAL will release their self-paced transition training (*date not yet specified*). All current test administrators will complete that training.



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BUDGETING:

- Programs will continue to purchase BEST Plus 2.0 materials and tests directly from CAL.
- Programs will pay for staff time to certify in BEST Plus 2.0 as needed and BEST Plus 3.0 when CAL's transition training is available.
- ➔ Programs should prioritize certification of staff in BEST Plus 3.0 during FY25 and allocate FY25 funds to this priority, as well as the purchase of BEST Plus 3.0 TAGs.



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BEST PLUS TRANSITION PLAN: WHAT TO KNOW FOR FY26 (JULY 1, 2025 - JUNE 30, 2026)

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TESTING:

- Use only BEST Plus 3.0 for all pre- & post-tests.
- BEST Plus 2.0 pre-tests administered during FY25 may not be moved forward into FY26.



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TRAINING:

- UMass CEA will begin to offer BEST Plus 3.0 trainings.
- Continue to have staff certified in BEST Plus 3.0 as needed.



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BUDGETING:

- Programs will purchase BEST Plus 3.0 materials and tests directly from CAL.
- Programs will pay for staff time to certify in BEST Plus 3.0 as needed.



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RECERTIFICATION:

- Test administrators who became certified in BEST Plus 3.0 during FY25 will complete the annual recertification process in the spring of FY26.



BEST PLUS TRANSITION: LOOKING AHEAD TO FY25 AND FY26

- What questions do you have?
- Please share aloud or use Zoom's Chat function

BEST PLUS TRANSITION PLAN: COMMUNICATION & UPDATES



1 READ THE FULL ACLS MEMO

ACLS recently released a memo detailing everything we currently know about the BEST Plus transition. View that memo [here](#), or at the ACLS Test Help Blog.



2 STAY UP TO DATE

- Make sure to read the ACLS monthly mailings.
- Check the [ACLS Test Help Blog](#) for updates on the transition.
- Check [CAL's FAQ page](#) for updates and answers to frequently asked questions.



3 REACH OUT WITH QUESTIONS

Send your questions and concerns to the UMass CEA at aclstesthelp@umass.edu.