Our mission is to provide individuals with the education, skills and training to excel in the hospitality industry and in their personal lives.

We provide incumbent worker training to help people excel at their jobs.

Local 26 members from more than 30 hotels take classes at BEST. These classes are paid for by socially responsible employers who contribute to The Greater Boston Hospitality Employers (GBHE) / Local 26 Education Fund, a joint labor-management Trust. Since 2008, UNITE HERE Local 26 members have enrolled in over 4000 courses at BEST.

75% of our incoming students have a high school degree or less

They speak 48 different languages

Our Course Enrollments since 2008

- Citizenship: 367
- Technology: 600
- National Certifications: 970
- Skills Training: 662
- English for Hospitality: 1388
BEST's job seeker program is a DOL-registered Housekeeping Pre-Apprenticeship Program

BEST services are in high demand and will continue to be:

- **19** hotels are currently under development in Boston
- Almost **20%** of Local 26 hotel workers will be 60-65 or over in the next five years, eligible for retirement
- Wynn Casino (in Everett, MA) will open in 2019, bringing **4,000** jobs

**Focus: Housekeeping Training Program**

From 2011 to 2016, 186 individuals participated in the Housekeeping Training Program, which prepared them for good employment with high hourly wages in a growing industry.

**Employment**

- Before: 24% Unemployed, 36% Less than or equal to $10 per hour, 36% More than $10 per hour
- After: 13% Unemployed, 84% Less than or equal to $10 per hour

**Average Wage**

- Before Training: $10.94 per hour
- After Training: $18.91 per hour

The average hourly wage does not include unemployed participants. The average hourly wage gain after training is $7.08. For a full time employee, this translates to more than $14,000 in additional annual salary.

**Placement in Hospitality Industry with Excellent Benefits (Valued at $9.54 per hour)**

- **89%** Graduate Placement Rate
- **86%** Retention Rate since 2011

**Employer Sponsored Health Benefits**

- Before: 1 person with employer sponsored health benefits
- After: 83 people with employer sponsored health benefits

Prior to participating in the program, only 5 participants received employer sponsored health benefits. After completing the program and finding new employment, 83 participants receive employer sponsored health benefits.