

HTML Coding Convention

All HTML tags should be in lower case

Eg:

```
<table></table>  
<form></form>
```

Use meaningful names for ID's and Names of HTML elements

Use meaningful ID's and names for HTML elements Eg:

```
txtName, txtAge
```

instead of

```
text1, text2
```

Indent HTML code consistently

Indent code consistently. eg:

```
<body>  
    <form name="frmActivity" method="post" action="<?php echo  
$formAction;?>">  
        <input type="hidden" name="sqlState" value="">  
        <input type="hidden" name="delState" value="">  
        <input type="hidden" name="activityId" value="">  
        <label for="cmbProjectId"></label>  
        <select name="cmbProjectId">  
            <option value="value1"></option>  
        </select>  
    </form>  
</body>
```

Maximum line length

Limit maximum line length to around 120 characters. Wrap code if longer than that. This will improve readability of code.

Eg: Wrapping code to limit line length

```
<div id ="addActivityLayer">
  <img onClick="<?php echo $saveBtnAction; ?>";"
    onMouseOut="this.src='../../themes/beyondT/pictures/btn_save.gif';"

onMouseOver="this.src='../../themes/beyondT/pictures/btn_save_02.gif';"
    src="../../themes/beyondT/pictures/btn_save.gif"/>
</div>
```

Only use tables for tabular data, use CSS for styling

Do not use tables for layout, use CSS instead.

Do not heavily comment HTML code

Adding too much HTML comments adds to the overhead in bandwidth. Therefore comment sparingly in HTML and use descriptive element names to improve readability.

Do not use inline style attributes

As much as possible, use css classes instead of using inline style attributes. This has the advantages:

- Makes it easier to change the look of the UI by changing the stylesheet
- Makes it possible to reuse the css class in another place, giving a more consistent UI and making it possible to change the look by changing only one place.

```
<!-- INSTEAD OF -->
<div style="width:100px;align:center;">

<!-- USE -->
<div class="message">
```

Use external CSS files instead of style tags in the HTML page

Use external css files, instead of using inline css in the HTML page by using <style> tags.

Refer to images from CSS files when possible

Referring to images from CSS files instead of directly using from the HTML code makes it easier to change the look of the application by changing stylesheets.

Some common issues to look out for

1. Tables, cells not closed properly
2. Elements not closed eg:

```
<input type="text ">  
Fixed by changing to:  
<input type="text" />
```

3. Attributes not quoted: eg:

```
<option value=0>Select</option>  
Fixed by changing to:  
<option value="0">Select</option>
```

4. height attribute in tables:

```
<table height="100">  
If height is needed, can be converted to a style: eg:  
<table style="height:100px">  
Note that external css is preferred to inline style attribute. So the preferred solution would  
be:  
<table class="abc">  
and a css rule  
table.abc {height: 100px;}
```

5. Tables with empty bodies also do not validate. eg:

6. `<table></table>` or
`<table><tbody></tbody></table>`

Therefore, make sure that the table has some rows or is completely omitted, in the case where there is no data

7. `<script>` tag for inline javascript should be as follows:

8. `<script type="text/javascript">`
9. `//</code>10. <code>function test() {</code>11. <code>}</code>12. <code>//]]></code>13. <code></script></code></div><div data-bbox="171 729 251 746" data-label="Text"><p>Note that</p></div><div data-bbox="171 746 472 761" data-label="Text"><pre><script language="Javascript"></pre></div><div data-bbox="171 761 517 779" data-label="Text"><p>Which we have in some places is not valid.</p></div><div data-bbox="142 795 748 814" data-label="List-Group">14. All url's in HTML (not in javascript code) should use <code>&amp;</code> instead of <code>&</code></div><div data-bbox="171 832 202 849" data-label="Text"><p>eg:</p></div><div data-bbox="171 848 826 863" data-label="Text"><pre>./lib/controllers/CentralController.php?uniqucode=EMP&amp;VIEW=MAIN</pre></div>`

15. All <img tags should have the alt attribute. You can use alt="" for images used just for style.
16. <textarea> should have cols and rows attributes. eg:

```
<textarea cols="25" rows="3" name="xx"></textarea>
```