
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

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PART I

2

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the importance of a
3 quality education cannot be overstated. Significant research
4 has shown that the experiences of children and the environments
5 in which they develop have a lasting impact on their success
6 later in life.

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The legislature further finds that the State faces a
8 critical shortage of workers in certain career fields. To
9 prevent disruptions in key sectors of the State's economy and to
10 ensure Hawaii's future prosperity, the State must implement
11 programs to connect youth to these high-demand career fields.

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A profession in which the State faces a serious shortage of
13 qualified workers is teaching. The legislature finds that the
14 ability of the State to address the existing teacher shortage is
15 a matter of statewide concern.

16

An industry that is realizing a rising need and will
17 contribute significant economic growth is renewable energy and



1 related industries that are synergistic in supporting the
2 industry and having a symbiotic and interdependent relationship
3 with it.

4 Noting these issues, the legislature recognizes that there
5 is a demand for innovative programs that address the education
6 needs of the State. One example of such a program is Waipahu
7 high school's academy of professional and public services, a
8 career academy that works to increase student achievement
9 through authentic and rigorous experiences in a wide variety of
10 fields, including finance, hospitality and tourism, business
11 management, marketing, culinary arts, law and justice, and
12 teacher education. The academy partners with working
13 professionals to allow students to learn relevant, industry-
14 standard skills. Another example of such a program is East
15 Hawaii high schools' academy of professional and public
16 services, and career and technical education courses taught by
17 Hawaii Community College that works to increase student
18 achievement and pathways to jobs in the renewable energy sector
19 and a wide variety of related fields such as welding, farming,
20 forestry and automotive technology. Coursework includes a high
21 level of hands-on experiences and prepare students for



1 employment by working with industry through internships and
2 mentoring to allow students to learn relevant, industry-standard
3 skills. Students attend field trips and experience fieldwork for
4 practical hands-on opportunities as experiential learning. The
5 students earn dual-credit (high school and college credit)
6 towards a CTE degree, DOE teachers are also delivered
7 competency-based college credit curriculum. The legislature
8 finds that programs like Waipahu high school's academy of
9 professional and public services and East Hawaii high schools'
10 coursework delivered through the Hawaii Community College should
11 be supported and expanded.

12 Programs having an early college component also provide the
13 State an opportunity to directly encourage youth to consider
14 careers in high-demand fields such as teaching. For example,
15 the State could expand accessibility to careers in these fields
16 by providing grants for high school students to enroll in
17 college courses that are directly applicable to degrees in high-
18 demand fields.

19 The legislature further finds that the Hawaii educator loan
20 program was established in 2001 to address the State's teacher
21 shortage by providing loans to students participating in teacher



1 education programs. Loan recipients who successfully complete
2 their teaching education program and go on to teach in a
3 position that meets the requirements of the program are eligible
4 for forgiveness of the loan. The legislature finds that
5 connecting graduates of Waipahu high school's academy of
6 professional and public services or similar programs at other
7 public schools with the Hawaii educator loan program could boost
8 participation in the Hawaii educator loan program and ultimately
9 help to ease the State's teacher shortage.

10 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to establish career
11 and technical education and other initiatives at the department
12 of education and the University of Hawaii to expand
13 opportunities for prospective future teachers as a model that
14 could be replicated for other high-demand career fields in the
15 future.

16 Specifically, this Act:

- 17 (1) Appropriates funds to the department of education to
18 establish a pilot program that provides grants for
19 high school students to enroll in college courses
20 through the running start program or other similar
21 programs that allow high school students to earn



1 college credits during academic year 2020-2021;
2 provided that:
3 (A) The student is currently enrolled in a career
4 academy program and pursuing a career and
5 technical education focused on career disciplines
6 of high need in the State, including teacher
7 education or a similar field; and
8 (B) The courses in which the student intends to
9 enroll are applicable to the requirements for an
10 associate degree in career disciplines of high
11 need, including teaching;
12 (2) Expands the eligibility of the Hawaii educator loan
13 program to include students who have completed a
14 teaching program at a career academy; provided that
15 the loan recipient agrees to teach for three years at
16 a public school in the State;
17 (3) Appropriates funds into and out of the Hawaii educator
18 loan program revolving fund; and
19 (4) Requires the department of education and university of
20 Hawaii to evaluate the efficacy of this Act and
21 provide the legislature with recommendations to:



1 (A) Expand collaborations between career academies
2 and the community colleges that encourage
3 students to consider, and facilitate the
4 preparation of students for, careers in high-
5 demand fields besides education; and

6 (B) Improve access to early college programs through
7 distance learning.

8 PART II

9 SECTION 2. (a) As used in this Act, "career academy"
10 means a program at a department of education high school that:

- 11 (1) Allows students studying in cohorts to follow a
12 program of study in an academic or career and
13 technical subject;
- 14 (2) Follows a college-preparation curriculum along a
15 career theme;
- 16 (3) Includes the opportunity to enroll in early college
17 courses;
- 18 (4) Forges partnerships with employers, higher education
19 institutions, and the broader community; and
- 20 (5) Includes a sequenced, comprehensive work-based
21 learning component that:



1 (A) Demonstrates to students the applications of
2 academic and career and technical subjects to the
3 career or college field toward which they are
4 working; and

5 (B) Delivers work-based learning experiences,
6 including but not limited to shadowing, community
7 service, internships, mentoring, and
8 apprenticeships.

9 (b) As used in this Act, "career and technical education"
10 means a program at a department of education high school that:

11 (1) Aligns with labor market needs to equip students with
12 twenty-first century skills and prepare them for in-
13 demand occupations in high-growth industry sectors;

14 (2) Collaborates among secondary and postsecondary
15 institutions, employers, and industry partners; and

16 (3) Provides meaningful improvement to academic outcomes
17 and building technical and employability skills in
18 career and technical education programs.

19 PART III

20 SECTION 3. The department of education shall establish a
21 pilot program that provides grants for high school students to



1 enroll in college courses through the running start program or
 2 other similar programs that allow high school students to earn
 3 college credits during academic year 2020-2021. The grants
 4 shall cover the cost to enroll in the courses, including any
 5 fees, up to a maximum of _____ credits each semester;
 6 provided that:

7 (1) The student is currently enrolled in a career academy
 8 program focused on career disciplines of high need in
 9 the State, including teacher education or a similar
 10 field;

11 (2) The courses in which the student intends to enroll are
 12 applicable to the requirements for an associate degree
 13 in career disciplines of high need, including
 14 teaching; and

15 (3) The student is currently enrolled in a career and
 16 technical education or career academy program focused
 17 on renewable energy and related industries.

18 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
 19 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ _____ or so
 20 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for



1 the department of education to establish the pilot program
2 pursuant to this part.

3 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
4 education for the purposes of this part.

5 PART IV

6 SECTION 5. Section 304A-701, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
7 amended to read as follows:

8 "§304A-701 Hawaii educator loans; eligibility; amounts;
9 educator loan forgiveness program; repayment; collection. (a)

10 There is created the Hawaii educator loan program to be
11 administered by the University of Hawaii, in partnership with a
12 financial institution whose operations are principally conducted
13 in Hawaii, to provide financial support to students and teachers
14 who complete a state-approved teacher education program and who
15 [agree] meet the eligibility criteria in subsection (b).

16 (b) A person is eligible for the Hawaii educator loan
17 program if the person:

18 (1) Agrees to teach as a full-time teacher for a period of
19 time to be determined by the university prior to the
20 award of a loan, in:



1 completes the state-approved teacher education
2 program; provided that a preference shall be given to
3 students who agree to teach in a hard-to-fill position
4 including special education, regular education
5 shortage categories, or Title I schools.

6 Eligibility shall be determined by the university on a
7 competitive basis. The amount to be loaned to a student shall
8 be determined by the board of regents based on need for
9 financial aid and proof of acceptance into a state-approved
10 teacher education program at the university. The maximum amount
11 of loans that a student may receive under this program shall be
12 an aggregate amount equivalent to tuition payments and costs of
13 textbooks and other instructional materials necessary to
14 complete a state-approved teacher education program.

15 [~~(b)~~] (c) All loans made under this subpart shall bear
16 interest at five per cent simple interest. Repayment of
17 principal and interest charges shall commence one year after
18 graduation or three months after a loan recipient ceases to be
19 enrolled in a state-approved teacher education program and shall
20 be paid in periodic installments within a seven-year period.



1 The university may charge late fees and all other reasonable
2 costs for the collection of delinquent loans.

3 ~~[(e)]~~ (d) The university shall adopt rules to implement
4 the educator loan program. The rules shall be adopted pursuant
5 to chapter 91, but shall be exempt from the public notice and
6 public hearing requirements.

7 ~~[(d)]~~ (e) Liability for repayment of a loan shall be
8 canceled upon the death or permanent total disability of the
9 borrower.

10 ~~[(e)]~~ (f) Upon a showing of proof that the loan recipient
11 has completed a state-approved teacher education program and for
12 each year that the loan award recipient teaches in the Hawaii
13 public school system pursuant to subsection ~~[(a)(1) or (2)]~~
14 (b), loan forgiveness shall be provided to the recipient as
15 follows:

16 (1) Ten per cent of the total amount of the loan award and
17 interest shall be waived every year for the first five
18 years of repayment; and

19 (2) Twenty-five per cent of the total amount of the loan
20 award and interest shall be waived every year for the
21 sixth and seventh years of repayment.



1 [~~f~~] (g) If a loan recipient who is a graduate of a
2 state-approved teacher education program subject to this section
3 and teaching pursuant to subsection [~~a~~] (b) fails to teach in
4 the Hawaii public school system for the minimum number of years,
5 as determined by subsection (b) (2) or by the university prior to
6 the loan, from the recipient's original date of employment with
7 the department of education, excluding temporary leaves of
8 absence, then the recipient shall repay any remaining loan
9 balance at the rate of ten per cent simple interest.

10 [~~g~~] (h) In accordance with chapter 103D, the university
11 may enter into written contracts with collection agencies for
12 the purpose of collecting delinquent loans. All payments
13 collected, exclusive of a collection agency's commissions, shall
14 revert, and be credited, to the Hawaii educator loan program
15 revolving fund. A collection agency that enters into a written
16 contract with the university for the collection of delinquent
17 loans pursuant to this section may collect a commission from the
18 debtor in accordance with the terms of, and up to the amounts
19 authorized in, the written contract.

20 (i) As used in this section, "career academy" means a
21 program at a department of education high school that:



1 as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 to be deposited
2 into the Hawaii educator loan program revolving fund.

3 SECTION 7. There is appropriated out of the Hawaii
4 educator loan program revolving fund the sum of \$ or
5 so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 to
6 be used for the Hawaii educator loan program.

7 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of
8 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

9 PART V

10 SECTION 8. The department of education and the University
11 of Hawaii shall each submit a report to the legislature, no
12 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular
13 sessions of 2021 and 2022, that includes:

- 14 (1) An accounting of the expenditure of funds appropriated
15 by this Act, including the number of students who
16 participated in the programs established or expanded
17 by this Act;
- 18 (2) Findings and recommendations, including any proposed
19 legislation;
- 20 (3) A recommendation to continue, expand, or dissolve the
21 pilot program established by section 3 of this Act;



1 (4) Recommendations to expand collaborations between
2 career academies, career and technical education, and
3 community colleges, including early college programs,
4 that encourage students to consider, and facilitate
5 the preparation of students for, careers in high-
6 demand fields besides education; and

7 (5) Recommendations to improve access to the running start
8 dual credit program established pursuant to section
9 304A-803, Hawaii Revised Statutes, or similar early
10 college programs through distance learning.

11 SECTION 9. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
12 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

13 SECTION 10. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

Education; DOE; UH; Teachers; Grants for Early College; Career Academies; Career and Technical Education; Hawaii Educator Loan Program; Appropriation

Description:

Requires the department of education to establish a pilot program that provides grants for high school students enrolled in a career and technical education or career academy program to enroll in college courses through the running start program or other similar programs that allow students to earn college credits that are applicable to the requirements for a career discipline of high need, including teaching and renewable energy and related industries. Appropriates funds for the pilot program. Expands the eligibility criteria for the Hawaii Educator Loan Program to include students who have graduated from a career academy; provided that the loan recipient agrees to teach for three years at a public school in the State. Appropriates funds into and out of the Hawaii educator loan program revolving fund. Requires reports to legislature. Takes effect on 7/1/2050. (SD1)

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