
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO COMPUTER SCIENCE.

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

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new section to part II, subpart B, to be
3 appropriately designated and to read as follows:

4 "§302A- Computer science; diploma substitution.
5 Beginning no later than the spring 2023 semester, the department
6 shall allow each student to fulfill up to two credits of world
7 language, fine arts, or career and technical education required
8 for a high school diploma with up to two credits earned in
9 computer science courses."

10 SECTION 2. Chapter 304A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
11 amended by adding a new subpart to part II to be appropriately
12 designated and to read as follows:

13 " . Admission Requirements
14 §304A- Computer science; substitution. Beginning no
15 later than with applicants applying for the fall 2024 semester,
16 any admission requirement to successfully complete a high school
17 course in world language, fine arts, or career and technical



1 education may be satisfied by a course earned in computer
2 science, up to a maximum of two credits."

3 SECTION 3. Chapter 304A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended by adding a new section to part II, subpart B, to be
5 appropriately designated and to read as follows:

6 "§304A- Computer science in teaching scholarship
7 program. (a) There is established the computer science in
8 teaching scholarship program to be administered by the
9 University of Hawaii. The purpose of the scholarship program
10 shall be to increase computer science knowledge among Hawaii's
11 department of education teachers and public charter school
12 teachers.

13 (b) Subject to available funds, the University of Hawaii
14 shall award scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 for each
15 student that completes a course in computer science and is also
16 working towards a degree to become a teacher within the
17 department of education or a public charter school. No person
18 shall be awarded more than one scholarship under this program.

19 (c) The scholarship program shall prioritize awarding
20 scholarships to students from underrepresented groups and
21 students who agree to teach computer science in schools having



1 higher percentages of students from underrepresented groups,
2 rural schools, or under-resourced schools."

3 SECTION 4. Chapter 304A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended by adding a new section to part IV, subpart B, to be
5 appropriately designated and to read as follows:

6 "§304A- Pathways in computer science education. (a)

7 The college of education shall develop and implement pathways in
8 computer science for students studying to obtain a degree in
9 education.

10 (b) The pathways shall prepare a student to teach computer
11 science education at the elementary or secondary level.

12 (c) The University of Hawaii shall allow any student who
13 has completed a pathway under this section to add a
14 certification to the student's major indicating completion of
15 that pathway.

16 (d) The college of education may collaborate with the
17 information and computer sciences department and nonprofit
18 organizations to implement this section."

19 SECTION 5. Section 302A-802, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
20 amended to read as follows:



1 "§302A-802 Licensing and certification standards;
2 policies. (a) The board shall establish licensing and
3 certification standards that govern teacher licensing and
4 certification in Hawaii. Licensing and certification standards
5 established by the board shall be adopted as rules under
6 chapter 91 unless otherwise specified in this subpart.

7 (b) In the development of its standards, the board shall
8 consider the existing teacher applicant pool that is available
9 in the State and the level of the qualification of these
10 applicants, as well as the nature and availability of existing
11 preservice teacher training programs.

12 (c) The board shall adopt policies, exempt from chapters
13 91 and 92, to initiate the following:

14 (1) Develop criteria allowing more individuals with trade
15 or industry experience to teach in vocational,
16 technical, and career pathway programs, and criteria
17 for the issuance of permits allowing qualified
18 individuals to teach when recommended by the
19 superintendent or the commission, when appropriate.
20 The department or the commission, when appropriate,
21 shall be responsible for the review and acceptance of



1 the relevant licenses, certificates, or other
2 qualifications related to an individual's vocational,
3 technical, or career pathway education-related
4 experience that the department or the commission, when
5 appropriate, deems necessary for a permit. The
6 department or the commission, when appropriate, shall
7 have the authority to waive the requirement of a
8 bachelor's degree to teach in a vocation, technical,
9 or career pathway education program;

10 (2) Develop a plan to accept teachers from any state as
11 long as they have completed state-approved teacher
12 education programs and pass relevant Hawaii teacher
13 examinations or their equivalent;

14 (3) Clarify the requirements, on a state-by-state basis,
15 for out-of-state licensed teachers to obtain a license
16 in Hawaii;

17 (4) Develop a plan to facilitate licensing for those who
18 intend to teach in Hawaii immersion programs, the
19 island of Niihau, or any other extraordinary situation
20 as defined by the superintendent or the



1 superintendent's designee, or by the commission, when
2 appropriate;

3 (5) Pursue full teacher license reciprocity with all other
4 states; and

5 (6) Develop a plan to facilitate an optional certification
6 for those who teach or intend to teach at private
7 schools.

8 (d) By June 30, 2023, any program of teacher preparation
9 leading to a license or certification shall include, as part of
10 the curriculum, instruction in computer science and
11 computational thinking as applied to student learning and
12 classroom instruction that are grade-level and subject-area
13 appropriate."

14 SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general
15 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
16 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for
17 the computer science in teaching scholarship program.

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

20 SECTION 7. New statutory material is underscored.

21 SECTION 8. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

University of Hawaii; Department of Education; Computer Science; Teaching; Education; Appropriation

Description:

Allows Department of Education students to fulfill world language, fine arts, or career and technical education graduation requirements with computer science. Establishes a scholarship at the University of Hawaii to encourage students majoring in education to take a computer science course. Requires the University of Hawaii to establish computer science pathways for students majoring in education. Requires teacher licensing and certification to include computer science. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD1)

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

