
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the university of
2 Hawaii system is experiencing sustained enrollment declines,
3 demographic shifts, workforce shortages, and increasing fiscal
4 pressures and this is a matter of statewide concern pursuant to
5 article X, section 6, of the Hawaii State Constitution, that
6 requires careful stewardship of public higher education
7 resources.

8 The legislature further finds that informed institutional
9 planning and rightsizing require transparent, consistent, and
10 comparable data on academic programs, including student demand,
11 completion, cost, and post-graduation outcomes. While the
12 university of Hawaii conducts internal program reviews, the
13 availability and consistency of program-level data across
14 campuses varies and is not readily accessible to students,
15 policymakers, or the public.

16 The legislature also finds that students and their families
17 increasingly require clear, accessible, and comparable



1 information to make informed decisions regarding educational
2 pathways, including the total cost of attendance, time to
3 completion, and expected post-graduation outcomes.

4 The purpose of this Act is to improve transparency and data
5 availability primarily to support students and their families in
6 making informed decisions regarding educational pathways and
7 outcomes, while also supporting evidence-based institutional
8 planning, program review, and rightsizing of the university of
9 Hawaii system, and respecting the constitutional authority of
10 the board of regents over internal structure, management, and
11 operation of the university.

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

15 **"§304A- Program level transparency; dashboard; reports.**

16 (a) The university of Hawaii shall develop a systemwide data
17 inventory and implementation plan for a publicly accessible
18 online dashboard intended primarily to provide students and
19 their families with clear, comparable, and actionable
20 information regarding academic programs, including cost, time to
21 completion, and post-completion outcomes.



- 1 (b) No later than December 1, 2026, the university of
2 Hawaii shall submit to the legislature a preliminary report that
3 includes:
- 4 (1) A comprehensive inventory of existing data elements
5 available across all campuses;
- 6 (2) Identification of gaps in data collection and data
7 infrastructure;
- 8 (3) Standardized definitions for key data elements;
- 9 (4) A phased implementation roadmap for the development of
10 the dashboard, including timelines, methodologies, and
11 priorities; and
- 12 (5) A proposed list of data elements to be included in the
13 dashboard.
- 14 (c) Based on the implementation roadmap developed pursuant
15 to subsection (b), the university of Hawaii shall develop,
16 implement, and maintain a publicly accessible, systemwide online
17 dashboard. The dashboard shall be designed with students and
18 their families as the primary audience and shall prioritize
19 clarity, usability, and relevance to decision-making.



1 (d) The dashboard shall include data elements as
2 determined by the university of Hawaii pursuant to subsection
3 (b) (5), which may include:

4 (1) Total cost of attendance over time;

5 (2) Median time to degree or completion;

6 (3) Student retention and completion rates;

7 (4) Post-completion outcomes, including employment status,
8 median earnings, and enrollment in further education;
9 and

10 (5) Any other information deemed relevant to student
11 decision-making.

12 (e) The university of Hawaii may include additional
13 program-level data elements to support institutional planning
14 and policymaking purposes, including but not limited to cost,
15 capacity, and instructional metrics; provided that the inclusion
16 of such information does not detract from the primary student-
17 facing purpose of the dashboard.

18 (f) All data reported pursuant to this section shall be
19 presented in a manner that protects student privacy and complies
20 with applicable state and federal laws.



1 (g) No later than December 1, 2027, and annually
2 thereafter, the university of Hawaii shall submit a report to
3 the legislature that includes:

4 (1) Progress on the implementation and operation of the
5 dashboard;

6 (2) Any updates to data definitions or methodologies;

7 (3) Systemwide trends in enrollment, completion, and post-
8 completion outcomes; and

9 (4) How data is being used to inform institutional
10 planning and decision-making, including but not
11 limited to decisions to continue, redesign,
12 consolidate, suspend, or terminate academic programs.

13 (h) The university of Hawaii shall submit a supplementary
14 report to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the
15 convening of the Regular Session of 2031. The supplementary
16 report shall include findings assessing the relevance,
17 effectiveness, and alignment of the dashboard with its intended
18 purpose, as well as any proposed legislation.

19 (i) The university of Hawaii shall incorporate the data
20 developed pursuant to this section into the board of regents'



1 existing academic program review, planning, and prioritization
2 processes."

3 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

4 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;
5 provided that this Act shall be repealed on June 30, 2031.



Report Title:

UH; Program Level Transparency; Online Dashboard; Reports

Description:

Requires the University of Hawaii System to develop, implement, and maintain a publicly accessible, systemwide online dashboard. Requires the dashboard to include and maintain relevant information needed for students and their families for academic decision-making. Requires a preliminary report on 12/1/2026. Requires annual reports to the Legislature beginning 12/1/2027. Requires a supplementary report to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2031. Sunsets 6/30/31. (CD1)

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

