

---

---

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

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

1 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.

7 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.

12 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 Noting these issues, the legislature recognizes that there  
17 is a demand for innovative programs that address the education



1 needs of the State. One example of such a program is Waipahu  
2 high school's academy of professional and public services, a  
3 career academy that works to increase student achievement  
4 through authentic and rigorous experiences in a wide variety of  
5 fields, including finance, hospitality and tourism, business  
6 management, marketing, culinary arts, law and justice, and  
7 teacher education. The academy partners with working  
8 professionals to allow students to learn relevant, industry-  
9 standard skills. For example, students participating in the  
10 teacher education track of the academy are fully immersed in  
11 actual classrooms two days per week, observing mentor teachers,  
12 establishing relationships with other students, developing  
13 lessons of their own, and teaching classes. These opportunities  
14 give prospective teachers a hands-on experience that they likely  
15 would not receive otherwise until their senior year of college.  
16 In addition, the program includes an early college component  
17 that enables students to attain college credits while still  
18 attending Waipahu high school. The experiences offered through  
19 the academy help directly prepare students for success in higher  
20 education and in their future careers. The legislature finds



1 that programs like Waipahu high school's academy of professional  
2 and public services should be supported and expanded.

3 Programs having an early college component also provide the  
4 State an opportunity to directly encourage youth to consider  
5 careers in high-demand fields such as teaching. For example,  
6 the State could expand accessibility to careers in these fields  
7 by providing grants for high school students to enroll in  
8 college courses that are directly applicable to degrees in high-  
9 demand fields.

10 The legislature further finds that the Hawaii educator loan  
11 program was established in 2001 to address the State's teacher  
12 shortage by providing loans to students participating in teacher  
13 education programs. Loan recipients who successfully complete  
14 their teaching education program and go on to teach in a  
15 position that meets the requirements of the program are eligible  
16 for forgiveness of the loan. The legislature finds that  
17 connecting graduates of Waipahu high school's academy of  
18 professional and public services or similar programs at other  
19 public schools with the Hawaii educator loan program could boost  
20 participation in the Hawaii educator loan program and ultimately  
21 help to ease the State's teacher shortage.



1           Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to establish  
2 initiatives at the department of education and the University of  
3 Hawaii to expand opportunities for prospective future teachers  
4 as a model that could be replicated for other high-demand career  
5 fields in the future.

6           Specifically, this Act:

7           (1) Requires and appropriates funds to the department of  
8 education to establish a pilot program that provides  
9 grants for high school students to enroll in college  
10 courses through the running start program or other  
11 similar programs that allow high school students to  
12 earn college credits during academic year 2020-2021;  
13 provided that:

14           (A) The student is currently enrolled in a career  
15 academy program focused on career disciplines of  
16 high need in the State, including teacher  
17 education or a similar field; and

18           (B) The courses in which the student intends to  
19 enroll are applicable to the requirements for an  
20 associate degree in career disciplines of high  
21 need, including teaching;



- 1 (2) Expands the eligibility of the Hawaii educator loan
- 2 program to include students who have completed a
- 3 teaching program at a career academy; provided that
- 4 the loan recipient agrees to teach for three years at
- 5 a public school in the State;
- 6 (3) Appropriates funds into and out of the Hawaii educator
- 7 loan program revolving fund; and
- 8 (4) Requires the department of education and university of
- 9 Hawaii to evaluate the efficacy of this Act and
- 10 provide the legislature with recommendations to:
- 11 (A) Expand collaborations between career academies
- 12 and the community colleges that encourage
- 13 students to consider, and facilitate the
- 14 preparation of students for, careers in high-
- 15 demand fields besides education; and
- 16 (B) Improve access to early college programs through
- 17 distance learning.

18 PART II

19 SECTION 2. As used in this Act, "career academy" means a  
20 program at a department of education high school that:



- 1 (1) Allows students studying in cohorts to follow a
- 2 program of study in an academic or technical subject;
- 3 (2) Follows a college-preparation curriculum along a
- 4 career theme;
- 5 (3) Includes the opportunity to enroll in early college
- 6 courses;
- 7 (4) Forges partnerships with employers, higher education
- 8 institutions, and the broader community; and
- 9 (5) Includes a sequenced, comprehensive work-based
- 10 learning component that:
  - 11 (A) Demonstrates to students the applications of
  - 12 academic subjects to the career or college field
  - 13 toward which they are working; and
  - 14 (B) Delivers work-based learning experiences,
  - 15 including but not limited to shadowing, community
  - 16 service, internships, mentoring, and
  - 17 apprenticeships.

18 PART III

19 SECTION 3. The department of education shall establish a

20 pilot program that provides grants for high school students to

21 enroll in college courses through the running start program or



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

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

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

14 SECTION 4. 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 2020-2021 for  
 17 the department of education to establish the pilot program  
 18 pursuant to this part.

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



1 PART IV

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

4 "§304A-701 Hawaii educator loans; eligibility; amounts;  
5 educator loan forgiveness program; repayment; collection. (a)

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

12 (b) A person is eligible for the Hawaii educator loan  
13 program if the person:

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

17 [~~(1)~~] (A) The Hawaii public school system in a hard-to-fill  
18 position including special education, regular  
19 education shortage categories, or Title 1  
20 schools, and in one of the following capacities:





1           ~~[(A)]~~ (i) As an elementary school teacher teaching in  
2                           the field of elementary education who has  
3                           met standards as set forth by the Hawaii  
4                           teacher standards board; or

5           ~~[(B)]~~ (ii) As a secondary school teacher teaching in  
6                           the subject area that is relevant to the  
7                           loan recipient's academic major as certified  
8                           by the department of education who has met  
9                           standards as set forth by the Hawaii teacher  
10                          standards board; or

11           ~~[(2)]~~ (B) At a school located in a rural area in the State,  
12                           as determined by the superintendent of  
13                           education~~[-]~~; or

14           (2) Has successfully completed a program in teacher  
15                          education at a career academy and agrees to teach as a  
16                          full-time teacher for a period of at least three years  
17                          at a public school in the State after the student  
18                          completes the state-approved teacher education  
19                          program; provided that a preference shall be given to  
20                          students who agree to teach in a hard-to-fill position



1           including special education, regular education  
2           shortage categories, or Title I schools.

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

12       ~~[(b)]~~ (c) All loans made under this subpart shall bear  
13 interest at five per cent simple interest. Repayment of  
14 principal and interest charges shall commence one year after  
15 graduation or three months after a loan recipient ceases to be  
16 enrolled in a state-approved teacher education program and shall  
17 be paid in periodic installments within a seven-year period.  
18 The university may charge late fees and all other reasonable  
19 costs for the collection of delinquent loans.

20       ~~[(e)]~~ (d) The university shall adopt rules to implement  
21 the educator loan program. The rules shall be adopted pursuant



1 to chapter 91, but shall be exempt from the public notice and  
2 public hearing requirements.

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

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

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

15 (2) Twenty-five per cent of the total amount of the loan,  
16 award and interest shall be waived every year for the  
17 sixth and seventh years of repayment.

18 ~~[(f)]~~ (g) If a loan recipient who is a graduate of a  
19 state-approved teacher education program subject to this section  
20 and teaching pursuant to subsection ~~[(a)]~~ (b) fails to teach in  
21 the Hawaii public school system for the minimum number of years,



1 as determined by subsection (b) (2) or by the university prior to  
2 the loan, from the recipient's original date of employment with  
3 the department of education, excluding temporary leaves of  
4 absence, then the recipient shall repay any remaining loan  
5 balance at the rate of ten per cent simple interest.

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

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

- 18 (1) Allows students studying in cohorts to follow a  
19 program of study in an academic or technical subject;  
20 (2) Follows a college-preparation curriculum along a  
21 career theme;



1        (3) Includes the opportunity to enroll in early college  
2                    courses;

3        (4) Forges partnerships with employers, higher education  
4                    institutions, and the broader community; and

5        (5) Includes a sequenced, comprehensive work-based  
6                    learning component that:

7                    (A) Demonstrates to students the applications of  
8                    academic subjects to the career or college field  
9                    toward which they are working; and

10                  (B) Delivers work-based learning experiences,  
11                  including but not limited to shadowing, community  
12                  service, internships, mentoring, and  
13                  apprenticeships."

14                  SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general  
15 revenues of the State the sum of \$                    or so much thereof  
16 as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 to be deposited  
17 into the Hawaii educator loan program revolving fund.

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

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

3 PART V

4 SECTION 8. The department of education and the university  
5 of Hawaii shall each submit a report to the legislature, no  
6 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular  
7 sessions of 2021 and 2022, that includes:

- 8 (1) An accounting of the expenditure of funds appropriated  
9 by this Act, including the number of students who  
10 participated in the programs established or expanded  
11 by this Act;
- 12 (2) Findings and recommendations, including any proposed  
13 legislation;
- 14 (3) A recommendation to continue, expand, or dissolve the  
15 pilot program established by section 3 of this Act;
- 16 (4) Recommendations to expand collaborations between  
17 career academies and the community colleges, including  
18 early college programs, that encourage students to  
19 consider, and facilitate the preparation of students  
20 for, careers in high-demand fields besides education;  
21 and



1 (5) Recommendations to improve access to the running start  
2 dual credit program established pursuant to section  
3 304A-803, Hawaii Revised Statutes, or similar early  
4 college programs through distance learning.

5 SECTION 9. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
6 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

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



**Report Title:**

Education; DOE; UH; Teachers; Grants for Early College; Career Academies; 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 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. 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.

(HD1)

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

