
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO LOAN FORGIVENESS FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
PROFESSIONALS.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 304A-701, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended as follows:

3 1. By amending subsection (a) to read:

4 "(a) There is created the Hawaii educator loan program to
5 be administered by the University of Hawaii, in partnership with
6 a financial institution whose operations are principally
7 conducted in Hawaii, to provide financial support to students
8 and teachers who complete a state-approved teacher education
9 program and who agree to teach as a full-time teacher for a
10 period of time to be determined by the university prior to the
11 award of a loan~~[, in]~~:

12 (1) ~~[The]~~ In the Hawaii public school system in a hard-to-
13 fill position including special education, regular
14 education shortage categories, or Title 1 schools, and
15 in one of the following capacities:



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

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

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

13 (3) At an early childhood education center or group child
14 care center licensed by the department of human
15 services, in accordance with section 346-161; or

16 (4) At any school participating in the executive office on
17 early learning public prekindergarten program pursuant
18 to section 302L-7, including at public charter
19 schools.

20 Eligibility shall be determined by the university on a
21 competitive basis. The amount to be loaned to a student shall



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

8 2. By amending subsections (e) and (f) to read:

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

14 (1) [~~Ten~~] Fifteen per cent of the total amount of the loan
15 award and interest shall be waived every year for the
16 first [~~five~~] three years of repayment; and

17 (2) [~~Twenty-five~~] Twenty-seven and one-half per cent of
18 the total amount of the loan award and interest shall
19 be waived every year for the [~~sixth~~] fourth and
20 [~~seventh~~] fifth years of repayment [-];



1 provided that the total loan forgiveness for a loan award
2 recipient shall not exceed \$ _____.

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

12 SECTION 2. This Act shall not apply to any loan issued
13 pursuant to the Hawaii educator loan program under section
14 304A-701, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and existing on the effective
15 date of this Act.

16 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ _____ or so
18 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for
19 loan forgiveness for early childhood education professionals
20 pursuant to this Act.



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

3 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
4 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

5 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 2, 2050.



Report Title:

University of Hawaii; Early Childhood Education; Loan
Forgiveness; Appropriation

Description:

Adds early childhood education teachers, including public charter school teachers, to the Hawaii educator loan program and allows the education loans of participants to be forgiven after 5 years of teaching. Establishes a cap on the total loan forgiveness. Exempts existing program loans. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/2/2050. (HD1)

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

