
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 Hawaii public school system in a hard-to-fill
13 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 facility,
14 including any school participating in the executive
15 office on early learning public prekindergarten
16 program pursuant to section 302L-7, as determined by
17 the director of human services.

18 Eligibility shall be determined by the university on a
19 competitive basis. The amount to be loaned to a student shall
20 be determined by the board of regents based on need for
21 financial aid and proof of acceptance into a state-approved



1 teacher education program at the university. The maximum amount
2 of loans that a student may receive under this program shall be
3 an aggregate amount equivalent to tuition payments and costs of
4 textbooks and other instructional materials necessary to
5 complete a state-approved teacher education program."

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

7 "(e) Upon a showing of proof that the loan recipient has
8 completed a state-approved teacher education program and for
9 each year that the loan award recipient teaches in the Hawaii
10 public school system pursuant to subsection (a)(1) or (2) ~~[]~~ or
11 in an early childhood education center or facility pursuant to
12 subsection (a)(3), loan forgiveness shall be provided to the
13 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 Hawaii
6 public school system or early childhood education center or
7 facility for the minimum number of years, as determined by the
8 university prior to the loan, from the recipient's original date
9 of employment with the department of education[7] or early
10 childhood education center or facility, excluding temporary
11 leaves of absence, then the recipient shall repay any remaining
12 loan balance at the rate of ten per cent simple interest."

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

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



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 Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed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

3 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

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

Description:

Adds early childhood education 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 7/1/2050. (SD2)

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

