
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- World language, fine arts, career and technical
5 education, and computer science; diploma substitution.
6 Beginning no later than the school year 2023-2024, the
7 department shall allow each student to fulfill up to two credits
8 required for a high school diploma with world language, fine
9 arts, career and technical education, or computer science
10 credits."

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

14 " . ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
15 §304A- World language, fine arts, career and technical
16 education, and computer science; substitution. Beginning no
17 later than with applicants applying for the fall 2024 semester,
18 an applicant for admission shall successfully complete a high



1 school course in world language, fine arts, career and technical
2 education, or computer 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 and public charter school teachers.

12 (b) Subject to available funds, the University of Hawaii
13 shall award scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 for each
14 student that is earning a degree in teaching and also want to
15 take computer science classes. No person shall be awarded more
16 than one scholarship under this program.

17 (c) The scholarship program shall prioritize awarding
18 scholarships to students from underrepresented groups and
19 students who agree to teach computer science in schools having
20 higher percentages of students from underrepresented groups,
21 rural schools, or under-resourced schools."



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

4 "§304A- Pathways in computer science education. (a)

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

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

10 (c) The University of Hawaii shall submit pathway programs
11 to the Hawaii teacher standards board for computer science
12 licensure approval to provide the opportunity for students
13 completing the pathway established pursuant to this section to
14 be eligible to add a computer science license to an elementary
15 or secondary teaching license or to acquire an initial teaching
16 license in computer science.

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

20 SECTION 5. Section 302A-802, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
21 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 \$1,000,000 or so much
16 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for the
17 computer science in teaching scholarship program established
18 pursuant to section 3 of this Act.

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

21 SECTION 7. New statutory material is underscored.



1 SECTION 8. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2022.



Report Title:

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

Description:

Allows Department of Education students to fulfill graduation requirements by taking world language, fine arts, career and technical education, or computer science courses. 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. (CD1)

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

