



Attention Child Care Providers
Kindergarten Age Has Changed!
Starting August 2014,
A child must be 5 on or before July 31 to enter kindergarten.
For more information, your families can visit earlylearning.hawaii.gov or call (808)586-0796.

Commonly Asked Questions:

1. When does the age change take effect?
 - o Starting August 2014, for DOE school year 2014–2015, a child must be 5 years old on or before July 31 to be eligible to attend DOE kindergarten. DOE will not accept a child who is not 5 on or before July 31.
2. What are some options for children who do not make the cut-off date for kindergarten?
 - o Families may consider various settings, such as group child care centers, family-child interaction learning programs, and/or registered family child care for their children.
3. Will state funding be available to help families pay for their children who are no longer eligible for kindergarten?
 - o A limited number of subsidies, based on several criteria including family income and family size, will be awarded through the Preschool Open Doors program within the Hawaii Department of Human Services (DHS). Through Preschool Open Doors, eligible families select the preschool of their choice, which may include **any** group child care center or group child care home licensed by DHS.
 - o The Child Care Connection Hawaii program, also within DHS, provides assistance to families who are employed, in school, or in a job training program and require child care to maintain their employment, schooling, or job training, and meet income eligibility requirements for their family size.
 - o In both programs, subsidies go directly to the families. Both programs use a sliding fee scale for eligible families: the subsidy amount varies based on the family's gross monthly income, family size, and type and cost of care. For more information about these two programs, go to <http://humanservices.hawaii.gov/bessd/child-care-program/ccch-subsidies/>.

Child care providers may also access earlylearning.hawaii.gov for resources that are being developed by the Executive Office on Early Learning for child care providers.

Please be aware that your families may have the following questions or concerns:

- o Will you have space (i.e., capacity) to keep my child for another year?
- o What do I need to do to reserve a space for my child next year?
- o Are there any financial assistance programs my family can access?
- o How will your program for 5-year-olds be different from your program for 4-year-olds?

Interested families may also access earlylearning.hawaii.gov seeking listings of resources and programs available throughout the state, in addition to those listed below.

Resources for interested income-eligible families:

Department of Human Services

<http://humanservices.hawaii.gov/bessd/child-care-program/ccch-subsidies/>

Child Care Connection Hawaii

Provided by contractor, Arbor E&T, LLC., dba ResCare Workforce Services

Honolulu	(808) 566-2600
Leeward Oahu	(808) 356-5575
Hilo	(808) 961-6807
Kona	(808) 334-6101
Maui, Molokai, Lanai	(808) 249-2461
Kauai	(808) 245-2193

Preschool Open Doors

Provided by contractor, PATCH

Oahu	(808) 791-2130
Neighbor Islands	(800) 746-5620

Kamehameha Schools - Pauahi Keiki Scholars

http://apps.ksbe.edu/finaid/preschool/pauahi_keiki_scholars

Keiki O Ka Aina Hawaii Early Learning Partnerships for Childcare (HELP Childcare)

Native Hawaiian Child Care Assistance Program (808) 845-3454 <http://www.keikiokaaina.org/>

Early Head Start (EHS) and Head Start (HS) programs

Parents & Children Together

(Hawaii Island) (HS)	(808) 961-0570
(Oahu) (EHS/HS)	(808) 842-5996
Family Support Hawaii (Kona) (EHS)	(808) 334-4107
Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. (HS)	(808) 249-2988
Maui Family Support Services (EHS)	(808) 242-0900
Honolulu Community Action Program (HS)	(808) 847-2400
Child and Family Service (Kauai) (HS)	(808) 245-5914

Resource and referral services for child care and other services:

PATCH <http://www.patchhawaii.org/families>

Oahu	(808) 839-1988
East Hawaii	(808) 961-3169
West Hawaii	(808) 322-3500
Maui	(808) 242-9232
Kauai	(808) 632-0212
Molokai and Lanai	(800) 498-4145

Resources for other financial assistance:

Department of Human Services <http://humanservices.hawaii.gov/>

SNAP – Federal Nutrition Assistance Program and
State Financial Assistance Programs

BESSD (808) 643-1643

State Medical Assistance Program

MedQuest (808) 586-5390

Department of Health

WIC – State Women, Infants & Children Food Program

Oahu (808) 586-8175

Neighbor Islands Toll-Free 1-888-820-6425