

EOEL Updates - for the Early Learning Board Meeting, May 13, 2021
(as of May 4, 2021)

2021 Legislation

- *Bills Transmitted to the Governor*
 - Amendments to Act 046 (H.B. No. 1362)
 - Transmitted to the Governor on April 28, 2021. The bill:
 1. Establishes the early childhood education stipend program;
 2. Abolishes the Hawaii early childhood educator special fund established in Section 302 L-B on June 30, 2023 with any unencumbered remaining balance to lapse to the general fund;
 3. Allows the HIDOE to accept private funding for the purpose of establishing privately funded public pre-k programs provided that HIDOE shall follow Chapter 302 L-7. If private funds do not adequately cover the cost of establishing public pre-K programs, EOEL or HIDOE are prohibited from requesting funds from the Legislature to cover the remaining costs;
 4. Requires HIDOE and the HSPCSC to administer a uniform, statewide KEA;
 5. Charges DHS and EOEL to work jointly to monitor the progress of implementing the early care and education sector programs and to submit a report no later than 20 days prior to the convening of the regular sessions of 2025-2027;
 6. Adds DHS and EOEL as entities that may share data through the statewide longitudinal data system to support research and evaluation that will improve outcomes throughout the early education to workforce pipeline and as entities that shall partner to collectively govern the statewide longitudinal system;
 7. Appropriates a 1.0 FTE position and \$98,000 for FY 2021-22 and FY 22-23, that will report to the ELB to coordinate and facilitate the implementation of Act 046, SLH 2020;
 8. Extends the date that child care providers who receive Preschool Open Doors funding to begin the accreditation process from July 1, 2022 to July 1, 2024 and obtain accreditation by July 1, 2029
 - ELB Composition (S.B. No. 1384)
 - S.B. No. 1384 was enrolled to the Governor on April 29, 2021.
 1. S.B. No. 1384 provides that the prohibition against serving two consecutive terms not to exceed eight consecutive years shall not apply to the term of the Hawaiian medium early learning representative on the ELB.
 - Trauma-Informed Care Task Force (H.B. No. 1322)
 - H.B. No. 1322 was enrolled to the Governor on April 28, 2021.
 1. Establishes a trauma-informed care taskforce within the DOH;
 2. Includes the Director or EOEL, or designee, as a taskforce member
 - Appropriations from federal funding for the HIDOE (H.B. No. 613)

- H.B. No. 613 was transmitted to the Governor on April 29, 2021.
 1. Appropriates \$1 million to the EOEL for early childhood educators to support and stabilize the educator workforce.
- Executive Biennium Budget (H.B. No. 200)
 - H.B. No. 200 was transmitted to the Governor on April 27, 2021
 1. The version of the Executive Biennium Budget that has been transmitted to the Governor includes \$7,073,037 of general funds for EDN 700;
 2. Includes restoration of funds that were previously proposed as cuts, including travel funds, and restores the 7 positions that impacted 7 EOEL public pre-K programs;
 3. Includes 94 position counts

EOEL Public Prekindergarten Program

- *DOE Department Schools*
 - The National Institute for Early Education Research's (NIEER's) 2020 State of Preschool report was released on April 19, 2021. [The State of Preschool Yearbook](#) tracks state-funded preschool program funding, access, and policies. The 2020 snapshot for Hawai'i is as follows:
 - 4% of 4-year-olds in the state were enrolled in the EOEL Public Prekindergarten Program placing Hawai'i 43rd in the national ranking for access.
 - Spending per child amounted to \$9886 (state funds only) placing Hawai'i 4th in state spending per child in the national ranking for resources allocated for public prekindergarten.
 - *10/10 of the Quality Standards were met. Hawai'i is one of six states to have met all quality standards.* The quality standards include benchmarks, such as comprehensive early learning and development standards that are horizontally and vertically aligned, supported, and culturally sensitive; supports for curriculum implementation; professional development for teaching staff; specialized training for teachers and educational assistants in early childhood education; and class size and staff-child ratio.
 - EOEL issued a press release and associated communications to announce this achievement and the release of the yearbook. EOEL coordinated the announcement with the State House of Representatives and a story about the EOEL Public Prekindergarten Program and the NIEER yearbook was published as a result of these efforts.
 - The schools began accepting applications as of March 1, 2021. As of April 27, 2021, EOEL has received 202 applications from the schools.
 - We continue to work with DOE to develop the MOA for school year 2021-2022.
- *DOE Department Schools—Privately Funded Pre-K*
 - The MOA between KS, DOE, and EOEL has been executed for SY 2020-2021.

Preschool Development Grant Birth through 5 (PDG B-5) Initial Grant

- *Strategic Planning (Activity 2)*
 - **Strategic Implementation Plans (SIPs).** Those interested in obtaining a packet may contact Alohi Maiava at alohilani.maiava@eoel.hawaii.gov. The plans can also be viewed on www.earlychildhoodhawaii.com.
 - **Champion reengagement.** EOEL is soliciting feedback on the Program Performance Evaluation (PPE) Plan as an added component of the Champion reengagement process. We are supporting Champions through each phase of reengagement for the six SIPs and will continue to do so until all plans are through to phase 4, with a target date of June 2021. We also continue to provide technical assistance and convening support to Champion groups that have expressed need for that type of support.
- *Improving Overall Quality (Activity 5)*
 - Two additional resources have been included on the resource page of our new earlychildhoodhawaii.com website. The first is a form which providers can use to request *Embracing Your Journey Family Workshop Resources* and to connect interested providers with Family Hui, the creator of this resource. The workshops and training modules were developed to support the use of the *Embracing Your Journey Family Family Guide*. The second resource is *the Training Modules Trauma Responsive Care Toolkit* which has been developed and tailored for Center Based Care, Family Child Care, Family Child Interaction Learning programs, and Home Visitors.
 - EOEL also continues to monitor site usage through Google Analytics. Please visit and share the link to the website with partners, stakeholders and families.
- [Program Performance Evaluation \(PPE\) Plan](#)
 - Efforts to finalize this plan are on-going and input from SIP Champions and their partners is still being considered.
- *2021 PDG B-5 All State Virtual Convening Announcement*
 - There will be a PDG B-5 All State Virtual Convening from October 18th-21st 2021. This year's theme is "Leveraging strong partnerships for strong early childhood systems" and is hosted by the Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care PDG B-5 TA Center. This event is designed for all current and past PDG Grantees and other states working on building high-quality systems for young children and their families. The sessions will help participants: Build relationships among state leaders implementing PDG B-5 grants, share resources to inform policy decisions and issues impacting the early care and education system (post pandemic), identify innovative strategies to align and strengthen the early care and education system and range of supports for young children and families, identify new questions, needed resources, and research to inform on-going implementation of high-quality early care and education programs in the state, and learn from national experts on relevant topics.
 - Attendees can include a variety of individuals including: PDG B-5 Grant Manager, PDG B-5 Grant Staff, State Agency Staff, State CCDF Administrator, State Head Start Collaboration Director, Part C and 619 Coordinator, and MIECHV Home Visiting. We are awaiting confirmation of the number of attendees we can register for our state with plans to invite interested and appropriate stakeholders to these sessions from our PDG B-5 Network.

- This year the agenda features two session formats: learning sessions and consultancies. Learning sessions, which will be held on the 18th and 20th, will focus on specific content areas and content experts will share new and innovative information and answer questions from the audience. During consultancies, which are focused on helping state teams think more expansively about a concrete issue, challenge, or topic they are currently experiencing, states will present a problem of practice or topic for the group to consider and discuss. There will be three sessions on each topic on the 19th and 21st. Topics include: Equity, Finance, Data Systems, Social Emotional Learning and Mental Health, Governance, and Coordinated Eligibility and Enrollment.
- We ask ELB members to complete [this survey](#) by May 25th to provide feedback on which topics we should consider prioritizing for our state and to collect information on interested attendees.
- For more information regarding the virtual convening, visit [this website](#).

Head Start State Collaboration Office (HSSCO)

- *Memoranda of Understanding*
 - A final draft of the MOU between the Head Start Association of Hawaii (HSAH) and the Hawaii Head Start State Collaboration Office was reviewed and approved at the April 14th meeting of the HSAH Board. It has been forwarded to the Office of the Deputy Attorney General, Education Division, for review and approval before signatures can be obtained.
 - The seven (7) state-level MOUs coordinated by the HHSSCO with DOH, DOE and DHS continue to be reviewed by HS/EHS leadership staff for needed revisions and/or updates to enhance communication, coordination and collaboration between HS and state partners.
- *Grant Activities*
 - A new five-year work plan, informed by the recent HHSSCO evaluation/HS and EHS grantee needs assessment and other source documents, was developed as part of the HHSSCO's 2021-2022 refunding application. The refunding application was submitted to the Office of Head Start at the end of April. The new grant year begins on July 1.
- *Miscellaneous*
 - The "Hawaii Integrated Infant and Early Childhood Behavioral Health Plan", developed in partnership with DOH, ECAS, HCF and AIMH-HI has been graphically- treated. Partners are considering plans to "launch" this document and funds are being pursued for a coordinator to support plan implementation.
 - New Pre-Plus Child Development Services contracts were approved as to form by the Deputy AG's office. The HIDOE Procurement and Contracts Branch has sent these to the entities awarded the contracts for signatures and the obtaining of needed documents. Once those have been received, signatures will be obtained from the Deputy AG and the EOEL Director for the contracts to be executed for SY 2021-2022.