

EOEL Updates - for the Early Learning Board Meeting, May 12, 2022

(as of May 4, 2022)

Legislative Updates

- *2022 Bill Updates*
 - H.B. No. 986 H.D. 1 S.D. 2
 - Requires diagnostic audiological evaluation of newborn hearing and screening evaluations, or infants whose hearing status changes, to be provided to the DOH.
 - H.B. No. 987 H.D. 1 S.D. 1
 - Amends the hearing and vision program statute to increase the early identification of children with hearing or vision loss, by establishing consistent protocols for hearing and vision screening and follow-up, screener training, and data collection for quality improvement.
 - H.B. No. 2000 H.D. 1 S.D. 1 C.D. 1
 - Appropriates \$200 million to the School Facilities Authority to expand access to pre-kindergarten to eligible children of the State.
 - S.B. No. 2819 S.D. 2 H.D. 2 C.D. 1
 - Repeals section 302A-624(c) and section 302A-627(a) to promote equitable teacher compensation.
 - S.B. No. 2700 S.D. 2 H.D. 1 C.D. 1
 - Allows the DHS to require all staff in licensed and registered child care programs in the State to annually update their information in the early childhood registry, which may include: gender, race, age, paid years of experience, preferred learning languages, languages spoken with children, median hourly wage, paid planning time, health insurance, paid sick leave, paid vacation, retirement benefits, participation in an apprenticeship program, level of education, and training hours.
 - S.B. No. 3110 S.D. 2 H.D. 1 C.D. 1
 - Renames the preschool grant program and authorizes the child care grant program special fund to be used to give grants to child care facilities.
 - S.B. No. 2482 S.D. 1 H.D. 1 C.D. 1
 - Appropriates \$894,528 to establish a temporary Office of Wellness and Resilience and authorizes the office to address issues and implement solutions to improve wellness and resilience, including those identified by the trauma-informed care taskforce, established pursuant to Act 209, SLH 2021.
 - H.B. No. 1600 H.D. 1 S.D. 2 C.D. 1
 - Adjusts appropriations for fiscal biennium 2021-2023. EOEL's budget remains intact, and adds a \$100,000 ceiling appropriation for the Early Childhood Educator Special Fund.

*all bills not listed that were included in the "ELB Bills to Consider" Document disseminated to ELB members at the February 2022 ELB meeting have not moved forward.

- *2022 Resolution Updates*
 - HR 62
 - designates September as child care provider appreciation month
 - SR 210 / HR 93
 - Requests the ELB to prepare a report containing a road map for the implementation of Act 046, SLH 2020, 20 days prior to the 2023 session.
 - SR 7
 - Requests the LRB to conduct a feasibility study on universal pre-k program.
 - SR 30
 - Requests the ELB to evaluate and report to the Legislature regarding the board’s composition and charter and to develop a strategic plan.

- *2022 Legislative Deadlines to Note*
 - May 5, 2022 was sine die.
 - If a bill is sent to the Governor before April 18, 2022, it becomes law if he signs it or neither signs nor vetoes the bill within 10 days. If the governor vetoes the bill within 10 days, the bill does not become law unless the Legislature reconsiders the bill before sine die and overrides the veto by a 2/3 vote in each chamber.
 - If a bill is sent to the Governor after April 19, 2022, it becomes law if he signs or neither signs nor vetoes it by July 12, 2022.
 - If the Governor intends to veto a bill, the Governor must inform the Legislature by June 27, 2022 and deliver the veto by July 12, 2022. If it is vetoed, it does not become law unless the Legislature successfully overrides the veto in special session by a 2/3 vote in each chamber, which must be convened at or before noon on July 12, 2022.

EOEL Public Prekindergarten Program

- SY 21-22 Application Update as of April 29, 2022
 - Total applications received: 610 applications
 - Total applications approved: 518 applications
 - Maximum Enrollment: 405 seats
 - Total Enrollment (as of end of Quarter 3): 337 seats filled
 - Total Waitlist (as of end of Quarter 3): 42 students
 - Comparison to previous years:

SY 18-19	SY 19-20	SY 20-21	SY 21-22
As of 3/31/19 658	As of 3/31/20 651	As of 3/31/21 567	As of 3/31/22 609
As of 4/30/19 659	As of 4/30/20 651	As of 4/30/21 573	As of 4/30/22 610

- Applications for SY 2022-23 are available for families. Schools began accepting applications from families on March 1, 2022. As of April 29, 2022:
 - Total applications received: 285 applications
 - Total applications approved: 201 applications
 - Maximum enrollment: 372 (added two since Lanai has put their max at 12 students)
- Applications for Induction Program in SY 23-24 with Classroom Opening in SY 24-25
 - The application process for DOE schools to host an EOEL Public Prekindergarten Program classroom closed on April 30, 2022. A total of 21 schools have submitted applications, which are now under review.
- NIEER State of the Preschool Yearbook 2021 and our state profile, which includes the EOEL Public Prekindergarten Program, can be found [here](#).

2022 ECE Summer Institute

- Please see the attached flyer. The Institute is a one of many collaborations between UH Mānoa College of Education and EOEL. The 2022 Summer Institute focuses on *Project Work as Learning Journeys: Situating Projects with Children and Families to Cultivate an Enduring Sense of Place and Purpose*.

Early Childhood Educator Stipend Program

- We are in process of finalizing the Memorandum of Agreement between the University of Hawai'i and the Executive Office on Early Learning.

Family-Child Interaction Learning Program for the Executive Office on Early Learning at Nānākuli Elementary School and Kailua Elementary School for SY 2022-2023

- Proposals were due April 7, 2022. Please see the [RFP link](#) for additional information.

Early Childhood State Plan and Engagements

- *Announcement of future (not yet developed) 2022 Renewal Grant Funding Opportunity*
 - The Administration for Children and Families will soon be officially announcing a 2022 Renewal Grant Funding Opportunity for all states/territories that have received an Initial Grant, but have not already received a Renewal Grant. Hawaii is one of those states that have not already received a Renewal Grant.
- *PDG B-5 Annual Convening Save the Date November 7–9, 2022*
 - ALL states and territories are welcome to attend, regardless of PDG B-5 grant status. There will be three days of interactive sessions connecting with PDG B-5 Grantees about their work as well as prominent researchers in the early care and education field. Each state is encouraged to bring at least four people to the conference. Further details along with pre-registration forms for your state team will be sent early summer. This is to be an in-person conference, with some virtual opportunities.
- *Hawai'i PDG TA Plan:*
 - There is still an opportunity to join the workshop series hosted by the PDG B-5 National TA Center designed support state teams to enhance knowledge about comprehensive systems building and engage in the development of a joint visual to aid communication efforts regarding the state's systems building progress

with external stakeholders. If any interested ELB members or other state plan and SIP stakeholders would like to join with our team, please email alohilani.maiava@eoel.hawaii.gov for registration information. The workshop sessions will take place from 12-4 PM Eastern/6 AM-10AM PM HST on the following dates:

- **Workshop 2: A Framework for Visualizing your Comprehensive ECCE System**- Tuesday, May 17
 - **Workshop 3: Developing your Comprehensive ECCE System Visualization**- Thursday, July 21
 - **Workshop 4: Communicating your ECCE System Using the Developed Visualization**- Thursday, September 22
- *Champion Engagement*
 - Champion Capacity Survey: <https://forms.gle/TPJjQnKkM9dibLz59>
For all Champions of the Early Childhood Strategic Implementation Plans, this is an opportunity to share details on needs that could support your work as a champion. EOEL and the Early Childhood State Plan project manager will use this information to inform their champion engagement processes and find resources that could support teams.

Head Start State Collaboration Office (HSSCO)

- Hawaii's six Head Start (HS)/Early Head Start (EHS) programs are continuing to recruit for eligible pregnant women and children, birth to five, for enrollment in the current school year, as well as for SY 2022-2023.
- Families eligible for SNAP benefits are now automatically eligible for Head Start, as well. SNAP now falls under the Office of Head Start's definition of a "public assistance program" (which currently includes TANF and SSI), whose beneficiaries are eligible for HS/EHS. This is new as of April 2022 and should help programs recruit and enroll more children to meet their funded enrollment capacity.
- The Head Start Association of Hawaii (HSAH) recently held elections at their April Board meeting: Ben Naki (Parents and Children Together) was re-elected President; Debbi Amaral (Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.) was re-elected Treasurer; and Stacy Brown (Family Support Hawaii) was re-elected Secretary.
- The HSAH and the HSSCO continue to refine Hawaii's Early Head Start state policy agenda. Two companion documents – a 4-page booklet format and an abbreviated 2-page brief – are in process to be printed and available in May. HS/EHS grantees and the HSSCO will use these, in collaboration with community partners, to elevate issues and recommendations to support Hawaii's EHS programs, as well as infant/toddler programs in general.
- The HSSCO Director has been conducting ongoing 1:1 check-ins with HS/EHS directors to identify issues/concerns to discuss with state partners to promote better communication and to improve partnerships.

Communications

- *Community Engagement*
 - The EOEL Act 046 stakeholder engagement team will be working with the Institutional Analyst to convene stakeholder meetings. A few preliminary meetings have been set up in May with more to follow. Please contact Jordana, EOEL's Government Affairs Specialist, with any questions at Jordana.ferreira@eoel.hawaii.gov.

Personnel

- *Director*
 - Staff welcomed our new Director, Yuuko Arikawa-Cross, at the beginning of the month and are looking forward to the opportunities ahead as we work together on behalf of children, families, and the early childhood community.
- *Communications Specialist II*
 - Ke'ōpū Reelitz and her family welcomed their 3rd son in March! Their children bring them incredible joy. We share in their happiness; while at the same time, we extend our aloha to Ke'ōpū as she will be leaving EOEL in June. We will miss working alongside her and deeply appreciate all that she has done to support EOEL through her expertise and guidance.