

Every Student Succeeds Act Native Hawaiian Education Act Reauthorization



Under the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA), opportunities for participation and coordination from Native Hawaiians are increased with a focus on language and culture to improve student outcomes.

Native Hawaiian Education Program (NHEP)

The ESSA requires the Department of Education to award grants via the NHEP to give priority to:

- Programs that meet the educational priority recommendations of the Native Hawaiian Education Council (NHEC);
- The repair and renovation of public schools that serve high concentrations of Native Hawaiian students;
- Programs that improve academic achievement of Native Hawaiian students by meeting their unique cultural and language needs.

Priority would also be given to programs wherein a nonprofit entity, serving disadvantaged Native Hawaiians, applies as part of a partnership or consortium.

Change in NHEC Composition

The composition of the NHEC is revised under the ESSA. 15 named government and Native Hawaiian organization leaders replace the 21 Native Hawaiian, island community-based providers and consumers of education services. *(See reverse for change comparison)*

The named organization leader may designate someone who has experience in Native Hawaiian education or cultural activities with traditional cultural experience given due consideration.

Community Consultation

The NHEC is to hold community consultations not less than once on each of the islands of Hawai'i, Maui, Moloka'i, Lāna'i, O'ahu, and Kaua'i. This public meeting is to allow the Council to gather input on current grantees, priorities and needs of the community, and to discuss Native Hawaiian education concerns.



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Current Council Composition under the 2001 NHEA Reauthorization (P.L. 107-110)

The NHEC shall consist of no more than 21 members of the following:

- At least 10 shall be Native Hawaiian education service providers
- At least 10 members shall be Native Hawaiians or Native Hawaiian education consumers
 - NHEC designated seven of the 10 consumer seats for a representative from each of the Island Councils established through NHEA from the islands of Hawai'i, Maui, Moloka'i, Lāna'i, O'ahu, Kaua'i, and Ni'ihau.
- A representative of the State of Hawai'i Office of Hawaiian Affairs

Island Councils shall consist of parents, students, and other community members who have an interest in the education of Native Hawaiians, and shall representative of individuals concerned with the educational needs of all age groups, from children in preschool through adults. At least three-fourths of the members of each island council shall be Native Hawaiian.

Council Composition under the 2015 NHEA Reauthorization (P.L. 114-95)

The NHEC shall consist of 15 members of whom shall be the following, or a designee*:

- The Governor of the State of Hawai'i
- The Mayor of the County of Hawai'i
- The Mayor of the County of Maui
- The Mayor of the County of Kaua'i
- The Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu
- A representative from the island of Moloka'i or the island of Lāna'i
- The President of the University of Hawai'i
- The Superintendent of the State of Hawai'i Department of Education
- The Executive Director of the Hawai'i Charter School Network
- The Chairperson of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs
- The Chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes Commission
- The Chairperson of the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council
- The Chief Executive Officer of Kamehameha Schools
- The Chief Executive Officer of Queen Lili'uōkalanani Trust
- An individual representing one or more private grant-making entities

** A designee serving on the Council must demonstrate no less than five years experience as a consumer or provider of Native Hawaiian educational or cultural activities, with traditional cultural experience given due consideration.*