
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII PROMISE PROGRAM PLUS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the first cohort of
2 students from community colleges who received scholarships from
3 the Hawaii community college promise program are scheduled to
4 graduate in 2019 with associate's degrees. Some students will
5 be poised to enter the University of Hawaii system to obtain a
6 bachelor's degree, yet lack the financial resources to do so.
7 Extending the promise program for this cohort of students will
8 lead to stronger educational outcomes, an improved quality of
9 life for participating students, and a stronger economy for
10 Hawaii in general.

11 The legislature further finds that the research and
12 statistics office of the department of labor and industrial
13 relations publishes "Hawaii's best job opportunities", an annual
14 report outlining occupations that are in high demand and that
15 require a bachelor's degree or higher. This report also shows
16 the number of annual openings, growth rate, skills required, and
17 median annual salary for these jobs. The legislature further



1 finds that students and graduates of the Hawaii community
2 college promise program who do not yet have a definite career
3 goal but are pursuing further education should be strongly
4 encouraged to pursue careers listed in the "Hawaii's best job
5 opportunities" report, especially where personnel shortages
6 currently exist or are projected to exist in the near future.

7 The legislature finds that this issue is a matter of
8 statewide concern that falls under its purview pursuant to
9 article X, section 6, of the Hawaii State Constitution. The
10 purpose of this Act is to:

11 (1) Establish the University of Hawaii promise program
12 plus to provide scholarships for the unmet direct cost
13 needs of qualified students who are graduates of a
14 University of Hawaii community college who received a
15 Hawaii community college promise program scholarship
16 and are currently enrolled at any University of Hawaii
17 campus; and

18 (2) Appropriate funds to establish and implement the
19 program.

20 SECTION 2. Chapter 304A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
21 amended by adding a new section to part IV, subpart A,



1 subdivision 1 to be appropriately designated and to read as
2 follows:

3 "§304A- University of Hawaii promise program plus;
4 established. (a) Notwithstanding section 304A-502, there is
5 established the University of Hawaii promise program plus to be
6 administered by the board of regents. The program shall provide
7 scholarships for the unmet direct cost needs of qualified
8 students who are:

9 (1) Graduates of a University of Hawaii community college
10 who received a Hawaii community college promise
11 program scholarship; and

12 (2) Enrolled at any University of Hawaii campus.

13 (b) A qualified student enrolled in a bachelor's degree
14 program at a University of Hawaii campus is eligible for
15 scholarship consideration for a maximum of eight semesters if
16 the student:

17 (1) Qualifies for Hawaii resident tuition;

18 (2) Completes and submits the Free Application for Federal
19 Student Aid for each academic year, and accepts all
20 federal and state aid, grants, scholarships, and other
21 funding sources that do not require repayment;



- 1 (3) Is enrolled in the degree program with twelve or more
2 credits per semester;
- 3 (4) Maintains satisfactory academic progress, as defined
4 by federal requirements established pursuant to Title
5 IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended,
6 and determined by the campus at which the student is
7 enrolled; and
- 8 (5) Has been determined by the campus to have unmet direct
9 cost needs.
- 10 (c) Scholarships shall be awarded:
- 11 (1) On a first-come, first-served basis;
- 12 (2) In an amount equal to the student's unmet direct cost
13 need based on the Free Application for Federal Student
14 Aid calculation of need minus what is available from
15 Pell grants and other funding sources specified in
16 subsection (b) (2); and
- 17 (3) To the extent funds are available to support the
18 scholarship award;
- 19 provided that students who pursue bachelor's degrees consistent
20 with the "Hawaii's best job opportunities" report published
21 annually by the department of labor and industrial relations



1 shall receive an increased scholarship amount, to be determined
2 by the board of regents.

3 (d) To continue to qualify for a scholarship under this
4 section, a student shall:

5 (1) Maintain a grade point average of 2.5 or higher, on a
6 scale of 4.0 or its equivalent;

7 (2) Earn a minimum of twenty-four credits in each academic
8 year; and

9 (3) Comply with any other conditions placed on the
10 scholarship by the University of Hawaii.

11 (e) A student who fails to comply with the requirements of
12 this section shall be placed on scholarship probation. Social,
13 economic, and other factors, or other extenuating circumstances
14 as determined by the University of Hawaii, shall be considered
15 in determining probationary status.

16 During the probationary period, the student shall
17 demonstrate satisfactory progress toward meeting completion of
18 the degree and satisfying the requirements of the scholarship.
19 Failure to meet the probationary period requirements in this
20 section shall result in revocation of the student's scholarship,
21 with the student responsible for reimbursing the University of



1 Hawaii for up to two semesters of scholarship amounts received
2 under the program. A student may be placed on scholarship
3 probation for no more than one semester during an eight-semester
4 period at a University of Hawaii campus.

5 (f) As used in this section, "direct cost" includes
6 tuition, fees, books, supplies, and transportation."

7 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
8 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
9 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 and
10 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
11 year 2020-2021 to establish and implement the University of
12 Hawaii promise program plus, including the provision of the
13 program's scholarships.

14 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the University
15 of Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

16 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

17 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

University of Hawaii Promise Program Plus; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes the University of Hawaii Promise Program Plus to provide scholarships for the unmet direct cost needs of qualified students enrolled in a bachelor's degree at the University of Hawaii who are (1) graduates of a University of Hawaii community college who received a Hawaii Community College Promise Program Scholarship; and (2) enrolled at any University of Hawaii campus. Appropriates funds to establish and implement the program. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD1)

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