

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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