The College and Career Readiness Indicators Report (CCRI) for the Class of 2016 shows that Hawai‘i’s public school graduates have made steady, and in some cases significant improvements in key indicators of college and career readiness, including earning college credits before graduation (often referred to as “Early College”), Advanced Placement (AP) participation, and completion of career pathways.

While nationwide college enrollment for Hawai‘i’s students has remained steady over the last few years at around 55%, the enrollment rate for four-year colleges has increased over four years, from 26% for the Class of 2012 to 32% for the Class of 2016.

Remediation rates for both English and mathematics have been steadily declining with each graduating class since the reports’ inception with the Class of 2008. Following a decade of collaboration, the University of Hawai‘i System’s (UH) 10 campuses instituted a new placement policy beginning in Fall 2016 that allows students to be placed into college-level coursework based on their achievements as a high school student.

Research shows that the more quickly students enter and complete these college-level courses, the more likely students are to attain their higher education goals.

Hawai‘i P-20’s Strategic Plan Update

Hawai‘i P-20 recently worked on redefining its vision, mission, key initiatives and goals which is represented in a one-page document below.

### 2016 College and Career Readiness Indicators Report Shows Steady Progress

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Research shows that the more quickly students enter and complete these college-level courses, the more likely students are to attain their higher education goals.
The third and final year of the Early College High School ("ECHS") Program grant ended this summer. The program was designed with the goal of allowing more high school students to earn six or more college credits before their high school graduation. From Spring 2015 to Summer 2017, Hawai'i P-20, with the support of the Harold K.L. Castle Foundation and GEAR UP Hawai'i, invested more than $1.2 million to fund instructional costs and student books, as well as provide technical assistance to twelve selected high schools from across the state and their University of Hawai'i partners.

Over the three years of the grant, 137 Early College classes were offered, serving more than 1,554 students. Students from the Class of 2016 who attended an ECHS Program grant school and graduated with dual credits were much more likely to enroll in college (76%) than their peers who didn’t participate in dual credit opportunities (41%). This supported earlier data provided by Hawai'i P-20 in a dual credit issue brief (p20hawaii.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/IssueBrief_vert14.pdf) released in Fall 2016, which showed that participating in dual credit opportunities (like Early College) increased college enrollment and persistence rates, particularly for economically disadvantaged students.

Early College Receives Legislative Funding

Given the increasing popularity of Early College programs at high schools across the state as well as the positive impact that Early College had on student success, Hawai'i P-20 and the Early College Task Force (made up of representatives from the Hawai'i State Department of Education, University of Hawai'i campus, and Office of the State Director for Career and Technical Education) assisted in efforts to obtain legislative funding to support Early College classes. As a result of the 2017 legislative session, the Hawai'i State Department of Education received $1 million in legislative funds to support Early College classes in FY 17-18 and an additional $1 million for FY 18-19. Hawai'i P-20 will continue to focus on efforts to advocate for additional legislative funding to sustain successful Early College programs and to facilitate the efforts to improve these programs and share best practices.

More Graduates Enrolling in College More Prepared

Hawai'i State Department of Education (HIDOE) high school graduates are better prepared for college and are enrolling at four-year campuses at higher rates than ever before. Several indicators used to measure student readiness show that Hawai'i's students are reaching higher levels of achievement. This chart shows that the collaboration between HIDOE and the University of Hawai'i to provide opportunities for students to access and be successful in higher education is making a positive impact.
New Courses Help High School Students Transition to College-Level Math and English

For many high school students nationally, math poses a barrier to their college and career readiness and success. Most students who enter community college are deemed academically underprepared for math: upwards of 60 percent of community college students are referred to developmental (remedial) math, and only about 20 percent of those students go on to complete a college-level math class (Bailey, Jeong, & Cho, 2010).

To help ease the transition from high school, a growing number of Hawai‘i’s public schools offer a math transition course called Introduction to College Math. During the 2016-2017 academic year, this number grew from four schools on two islands to fifteen schools on five islands. For 2017-2018, five more schools have been added for a total of twenty schools across the state.

The 2017-2018 academic year also sees the start of the 12th grade English Language Arts transition course (Expository Reading and Writing). After a year of working with HIDOE and University of Hawai‘i English Language Arts faculty, the course will be piloted at five schools across Hawai‘i with the intent of scaling up for 2018-2019. As the 12th grade transition courses move forward, a middle school workgroup was formed to explore middle school transitions in math. After a year’s worth of work during 2016-2017 to vet curriculum, the design of the course will begin in 2017 and professional development for the course will be in Spring 2018. Middle schools will pilot this new curriculum, based on the mathematical mindsets work of Dr. Jo Boaler, in Spring 2018 with full implementation slated for 2018-2019.

Using Smarter Balanced Assessment For Placement

In 2014, the Council of Chief Academic Officers and Chief Student Affairs Officers (CCAO/CSAO) approved a pilot project using the 11th grade statewide assessment (Smarter Balanced) scores for placement purposes at all ten University of Hawai‘i (UH) campuses. The intent of the project was twofold: 1) to see more qualified students place directly into credit bearing math and English Language Arts (ELA) courses at UH, and 2) to identify those students who need a 12th grade intervention in order to be college and career ready when enrolling at UH.

In anticipation of the pilot expiring at the end of the 2017-2018 academic year, the policy was recently revisited by the CCAO/CSAO and on August 23, 2017 it was approved as a permanent policy. Revisions include the addition of the ELA transition course as an option for students scoring a 2 on Smarter Balanced. At the time the policy was originally created, this course did not exist. There is also a provision that the Smarter Balanced scores, like ACT and SAT scores, will not expire.

New Initiative Focuses on Counseling and Guidance for Middle School through College

One of Hawai‘i P-20’s newest initiatives is the 6-16 College and Career Guidance Program (“6-16”) grant. Jointly supported by the Harold K.L. Castle Foundation and Hawai‘i P-20, the 6-16 grant will help to develop and implement a comprehensive college and career guidance program in partnership with their feeder middle schools and post-secondary education partners (University of Hawai‘i campuses). The focus of the 6-16 grant is on creating smoother educational pipelines where students receive consistent information and assistance in planning for their college and career aspirations.

Hawai‘i P-20 has selected five partnership teams to participate in the 6-16 grant:

- Hilo High School, Hilo Intermediate School, and Hawai‘i Community College
- Pearl City High School, Highlands Intermediate School, and Leeward Community College
- Wai‘anae High School, Wai‘anae Intermediate School, Leeward Community College, and the University of Hawai‘i – West O‘ahu
- Waimea High School, Waimea Canyon Middle School, and Kaua‘i Community College
- Waipahu High School, Waipahu Intermediate School, and Leeward Community College

Over the course of the 2017-18 school year, Hawai‘i P-20 will regularly convene the partnership teams at several technical assistance meetings (including a national conference), provide access to local and national speakers well versed in best practices in college and career advising, and facilitate meetings where a guidance program framework, implementation plan, and budget specific to each school will be developed. At the end of the year, Hawai‘i P-20 will assist schools in finding funding to implement their guidance plans over the following two years.
2017 Hawai‘i DXP Data Summit: Connecting Education to Hawai‘i’s Economy

Close to 200 individuals across the state, from data geeks to policymakers, attended the Hawai‘i Data eXchange Partnership’s 2017 Data Summit, “Ho‘oku‘i: Connecting Education to Hawai‘i’s Economy,” on Friday, May 12, at the Ko‘olau Ballrooms and Conference Center.

This year’s event highlighted the shared goal of both the education and workforce training sectors to prepare students to earn life-sustaining wages in Hawai‘i’s economy. Speakers included Jenna Leventoff, Policy Analyst at the Workforce Data Quality Campaign, Allicyn Tasaka, Executive Director of the Hawaii Workforce Development Council and Bernadette Howard, State Director for Career and Technical Education.

Breakout sessions featured presentations from early childhood, K-12, postsecondary and the workforce sectors, each highlighting the importance of data at all levels to inform programs and policies.

Hawai‘i DXP produced several reports this year to show how data can impact college and career success.

Hawai‘i Selected to Participate in Early Care and Education Project

In June 2016, the National Governors Association (NGA) Center for Best Practices selected Hawai‘i as one of six states to participate in the “Developing a Comprehensive Strategy for Early Care and Education” project. As a grantee, Hawai‘i received technical assistance to expand and improve the quality of early childhood care and education for children from birth through third grade, and strengthen the coordination of early childhood and K-12 systems by identifying strategies to promote leadership effectiveness and increase public awareness about the importance of early learning. The Hawai‘i NGA team is represented by the Executive Office on Early Learning (the lead entity), Early Learning Advisory Board (ELAB), HIDOE, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa College of Education, Hawai‘i Children’s Action Network (HCAN), and Hawai‘i P-20.

Workforce Issue Brief

This report analyzes data to better understand if graduates from the University of Hawai‘i are employed for today’s workforce demands.


Math Placement Issue Brief

This report highlights a successful collaboration between Hawai‘i DXP, HIDOE, and UHCC to boost student achievement in college math by using data to impact educational policy and practice.

Investing in College Affordability and FAFSA Completion

Several outreach efforts have been implemented in our state to raise awareness about the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA, and encourage more students to complete it. With support from the Harold K.L. Castle Foundation, a “Cash for College Challenge” was launched this year for eight high schools: Farrington, Kealakehe, Leilehua, McKinley, Nānākuli, Waialua, Wai’anae, and Waipahu. Schools were encouraged to develop a strategy to increase FAFSA completion on their campuses with prize money being awarded to the top schools that have FAFSA submission rates closest to 100 percent, and for those that have the largest percentage gains year over year. The investment in these schools proved to pay off. The average FAFSA completion rate for these schools as of March 17 was 49 percent compared to 38 percent last year. Their FAFSA completion rate was also above the current statewide average of 45 percent (as of 3/10/17).

Congratulations to the following winners:

Closest to 100% FAFSA submission:
- Nānākuli—61%, Waialua—59%.

Largest percentage change for FAFSA submission year over year:
- Leilehua—45% change, Wai’anae—29% change.

Wise words from a Washington Middle School 8th grader who attended Hawai’i P-20’s middle school career fair in February.

More than 500 students from Dole, Stevenson, Central, Waipahu, Wai’anae, Waimānalo and Nānākuli middle and intermediate schools visited with career professionals and University of Hawai’i educators who participated in over 50 different exhibits spanning the nine Career and Technical Education pathways at a middle school career fair, held at the Hawai’i Convention Center in February. The vision for the event was to introduce students to high-skill, high-demand careers, from automotive technology to healthcare and more, so they can start envisioning their future, and making a plan toward achieving it. Over 90% of students who participated reported that the event influenced their post-high school plans and helped them understand their options for their future after graduation from high school.

Kapi’olani Community College’s Culinary Program and Windward Community College’s Veterinary Tech Program showcase their skills and knowledge to students.
Over 1,500 Middle School Students Make a Pledge for College

More than 1,500 middle school students statewide have pledged to earn a college degree through 55 by '25 pledge events on school campuses during the 2016-17 school year. Pledge rallies, sign waving, banner signing and other activities were spearheaded by students at Dole, Kea’au, Jarrett, Stevenson, Waimānalo, Waipahu, and Washington Middle Schools to encourage their classmates to think about their future after high school and earn a college degree. These middle school pledge days not only helped build college aspirations, but also mobilized students to create a college-going culture on their campuses.

Stephen Schatz Joins Hawai‘i P-20 as Executive Director

In March 2017, Hawai‘i P-20 welcomed Stephen Schatz as its new Executive Director. Schatz, the former Deputy Superintendent of the Hawai‘i State Department of Education (HIDOE), has over 22 years of leadership experience in public education as a teacher, principal, complex area superintendent, and assistant superintendent. As Assistant Superintendent of HIDOE, he was responsible for guiding Hawai‘i’s $75 million Race to the Top grant in 2011. He also led the effort to develop a school accountability model called Strive HI that includes college-going rates, chronic absenteeism and ACT test scores as indicators of school performance.

As Executive Director, Schatz is responsible for overseeing all Hawai‘i P-20 programs as the organization continues to work toward strengthening the education pipeline from early childhood through higher education so that all students achieve college and career success.

HAWAI‘I P-20 PARTNERSHIPS FOR EDUCATION

Hawai‘i P-20 Partnerships for Education is a statewide partnership led by the Executive Office on Early Learning, the Hawai‘i State Department of Education, and the University of Hawai‘i System that strengthens the education pipeline from early childhood through postsecondary education and training through data-informed decision-making, advocacy, policy coordination and stakeholder engagement; all in support of student achievement. P-20 partners share a sense of urgency about the need to improve Hawai‘i’s educational outcomes in an increasingly global economy.

The goal of Hawai‘i P-20 is for 55% of Hawai‘i’s working age adults to have a 2- or 4-year college degree by the year 2025. Hawai‘i P-20 seeks to achieve this by:

- Having all children reading at grade level by third grade
- Strengthening the rigor of the high school curriculum
- Increasing student access and success in college
- Facilitating program and policy development based upon research and data

We work on strengthening Hawai‘i’s educational pipeline through these programs of focus:

55 by ’25: Community outreach and engagement campaign to achieve Hawai‘i’s education goal.

The Hawai‘i P-3 Initiative: Strengthening Hawai‘i’s early education pipeline so all children read at grade level by 3rd grade.

GEAR UP Hawai‘i: Focused on significantly increasing the number of low-income middle and high school students who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education.

The Hawai‘i Data eXchange Partnership (Hawai‘i DXP): Building a statewide data network to improve education and workforce outcomes for Hawai‘i’s students.

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