A statewide partnership to improve educational outcomes for Hawai‘i

College, career and community readiness for students is our focus. We identify opportunities, implement innovative programs, collaborate with stakeholders and provide data-supported evidence to influence education policies and programs that improve outcomes for Hawai‘i’s students and the community.

We are a statewide collaborative led by the Executive Office of Early Learning (EOEL), Hawai‘i State Department of Education (HIDOE) and the University of Hawai‘i System (UH).

Hawai‘i P-20 Success Snapshots

PREPARING STUDENTS FOR KINDERGARTEN

Our early childhood team, The Hawai‘i P-3 Initiative, facilitated the creation of the Hawai‘i Early Learning and Development Standards (HELDS), a common set of research-based standards that identify expectations of knowledge and behavior for children through a chronological continuum. The HELDS provide the framework for practitioners to integrate developmental knowledge with the concepts and skills children need to make progress in learning and development.

INCREASING COLLEGE ENROLLMENT AND PERSISTANCE

The number of high school students earning both high school and college credits while still attending high school has grown with the Early College programs, a focus of Hawai‘i P-20. In 2017, 17% of high school students enrolled in dual credit courses, up from just 8% in 2014. Today, over 38 high schools statewide offer early college programs on their campuses. Analysis conducted by Hawai‘i P-20’s data team has found that students who enroll in dual credit are more likely to enroll and persist in college, especially those who are economically disadvantaged. The success of Early College resulted in the HIDOE receiving legislative funding to support Early College in FY 2017-18 and FY 2018-19.

DECREASING COLLEGE REMEDIATION

More students enrolling in the University of Hawai‘i’s Community Colleges (UHCC) are taking and passing college-level math courses as a result of a new placement policy. The policy allows students to self-report a variety of high school data for course placement and was developed with data analysis from Hawai‘i P-20’s data team. Under the new policy, UHCC students are three times more likely to complete college level math in their first semester.

PROVIDING EDUCATORS INSIGHT

The Hawai‘i P-20 data team produces an annual College and Career Readiness Indicators report, a detailed study of how high schools statewide are preparing their students to meet HIDOE’s Vision of a High School Graduate. The reports are actively used by school leaders to gauge students’ progress over time and have been instrumental in identifying, addressing and closing achievement gaps for Hawai‘i’s students.
**Hawai‘i P-20 Strengthens the Continuum from Early Childhood to Postsecondary Education and the Workforce**

**FOCUSING ON HAWAI‘I’S YOUNGEST LEARNERS, TO ACHIEVE GRADE-LEVEL READING BY THIRD GRADE.**

The Hawai‘i P-3 Initiative strengthens system-level school readiness efforts through statewide programs that promote and support a quality early care and education system to impact children from birth to age eight. Our work has focused on these key areas:

**The Hawai‘i Early Learning Development Standards (HELDS)** The development and release of supplemental resources to assist in the use of HELDS across Hawai‘i’s diverse early childhood settings.

**Early Learning Initiative** Training and technical assistance are provided for the implementation of a comprehensive assessment system to support effective instructional practices for the development and learning across the PreK to 3rd grade continuum and to focus on the seamless transition between early care and education and the K-12 education system.

**Early Childhood Data Collaborative** A convening of key stakeholders in early childhood settings to identify a system that will lead to the integration of early childhood data into Hawai‘i’s statewide longitudinal data system.

**COLLEGE ACCESS: PREPARING STUDENTS TO SUCCEED IN COLLEGE AND CAREER**

GEAR UP, a $22 million, seven-year matching grant funded by the U.S. Department of Education (2011-18) aimed to increase the number of low-income middle and high school students who are prepared to enter and succeed in college has made possible a number of programs that are managed by Hawai‘i P-20. GEAR UP Hawai‘i programs are made up of a consortium of partners including HIDOE, UH and community organizations. Between 2011 and 2018, GEAR UP Hawai‘i will provide services to nearly 21,000 students statewide.

**Early College** Providing dual credit opportunities that allow public and charter school students in grades 9-12 to take college-level courses at their high school campus and earn both high school and college credit. These programs help to narrow the gap between economically and non-economically disadvantaged students.

**College Application and Exploration Season (CAES)** An initiative that assists high school students with college application and exploration, CAES encourages high school seniors, particularly prospective first-generation students from low-income families to apply to at least one college before graduating, giving every student the option to go to college. Results from this initiative show that CAES participants enroll in college at consistently higher rates than the average for CAES schools.
“MyFutureHawai'i” College and Career Planning Portal  A customized college and career access portal, myfuturehawaii.org allows students to explore career skills and interests, search for colleges, learn about financial aid and track their courses and progress toward high school graduation using real-time data provided by HIDOE. Students also have the ability to apply to any of the ten UH campuses directly from the portal with their demographic and academic data being transferred directly (vs. self-reporting) to the UH application system.

FAFSA Completion Initiative  Outreach programs are coordinated to raise awareness about the affordability of college and encourage more students to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Hawai'i P-20 works with Federal Student Aid to provide student-level FAFSA data to high schools statewide so they can identify students that have or have not completed the application. In the Cash for College FAFSA Challenge held between schools this year, the school with the highest percentage of seniors completing the FAFSA in the state came in at 73%, and they increased FAFSA completions by 14.5 percentage points over the previous year.

CREATING STRONGER ALIGNMENT FOR IMPROVED STUDENT OUTCOMES

Strengthening course and curricular alignment between K-12 and higher education, and higher education and the workforce, improves student transitions and ultimately, success at the next level. By nurturing cross-agency partnerships, leveraging multiple funding sources, and collaborating with educators and the workforce, Hawai'i P-20 engages in activities that support a wide range of alignment goals.

Math Alignment  To help high school students identified as “not college and career ready” in math, Hawai'i P-20 facilitated the introduction of a new 12th grade math transition course, Introduction to College Mathematics. Tracking student results has provided evidence of the effectiveness of this alignment course. Close to two-thirds of students who took the class passed a college level math class within one year. Building on this success, a similar course at the middle school level is in development.

English Language Arts Alignment  2017-2018 was the pilot year for the new 12th grade English Language Arts transition course, Expository Reading and Writing. After almost two years of planning the course with both UH and HIDOE ELA instructors, the course was implemented at six schools on two islands. Success of the course will be based, in part, on how well these students do in ENG 100 when they enter UH in the fall of 2018.

MANAGING HAWAI'I'S STATEWIDE LONGITUDINAL DATA RESOURCE

Data are essential when evaluating the effectiveness of policies, programs, and strategies to reduce achievement gaps throughout the pre-kindergarten through postsecondary education systems. Under the leadership of Hawai'i P-20, a statewide longitudinal data system (SLDS) was created as a resource that provides the critical information needed to strengthen educational transitions from pre-K to the workforce.

Hawai'i P-20’s data team is responsible for analyzing and disseminating information on student achievement through reports, issue briefs, presentations and interactive web dashboards. The team also maintains and administers data governance, manages the development of the SLDS, fulfills requests for data and oversees the security and privacy of confidential data.

The SLDS is made possible through The Hawai'i Data eXchange Partnership (DXP), made up of a partnership of five state agencies that have agreed to link their data – University of Hawai'i, Hawai'i State Department of Education, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Hawai'i State Department of Health and Department of Human Services. These agencies collectively represent the education-to-workforce pipeline and their data, linked together, create the statewide longitudinal data system.
What’s New for Hawai‘i P-20?

6-16 College and Career Guidance Program  6-16 is building a comprehensive college and career guidance program involving middle schools, their feeder high schools and UH. Jointly supported by the Harold K.L. Castle Foundation and Hawai‘i P-20, the 6-16 grant is creating smoother educational pipelines where students receive consistent information and assistance in planning for their college and career aspirations.

Career Technical Education (CTE) Alignment  Aligning educational pathways in high school and college to the workforce allows students to begin preparing early for their careers. Hawai‘i P-20 recently convened an alignment symposium which brought together HIDOE, UH and industry leaders to discuss alignment opportunities. Those designing career pathways in Hawai‘i were able to hear from industry partners about how best to design career pathways for the future.

Work-Based Learning  Providing work-based learning experiences to students in middle and high school allows them to see their future careers in their educational journey. It can also provide a needed employee pipeline for high-needs, high-wage occupations. Hawai‘i P-20 is helping four regional intermediaries; KUPU, Keiki to Career (Kauai), Chamber of Commerce Hawai‘i and Maui College to integrate work-based learning into the high school experiences in public schools. Hawai‘i P-20’s data team is assisting in providing longitudinal data about participating students’ performance along the educational pipeline, as well as formative data that will allow partners to evaluate the progress of partnerships along the way.

Early College 2.0  Early college is a proven strategy for helping Hawai‘i’s youth attain their educational goals. But dual credit courses in high school are not enough, if they don’t lead to success in college and career. Hawai‘i P-20 continues to facilitate and lead conversations among partner schools to develop early college programs that are aligned within academic pathways. This means that not only are students beginning to experience college courses and earn dual credits while in high school, they are beginning to do so in such a way that they are making real progress towards a degree or certificate program in their area of interest.

Statewide Literacy Plan  Third grade reading proficiency is a critical educational benchmark for children. Research has also shown that children who cannot read by 3rd grade are much less likely to graduate from high school. Hawai‘i P-20 is bringing together stakeholders within the education community to develop a plan for statewide literacy. Community and business partners and formal educational institutions will be convened to collaboratively address this need.

Data, Continued

College and Career Readiness Indicators (CCRI)  Hawai‘i P-20’s annual College and Career Readiness Indicators (CCRI) report uses SLDS data to provide schools with a single place to find multiple measures of how ready high school graduates are for college and career. Schools and colleges use the CCRI to identify areas for improvement, to develop programs or create plans for change, and then evaluate the success of their initiatives.

Data Dashboards  Interactive online dashboards created by the data team allow users to visualize and filter data, and to review trends in college preparedness and other measures. Currently, dashboards are available with information on middle to high school transitions and college to workforce, as well as high school outcomes, assessments, and college enrollment and persistence.

Annual Data Summits  Data summits are an annual convening that bring the education community together to share presentations about the use of data to improve educational outcomes. Participation from the early education, K-12, postsecondary and workforce sectors allow for the exchange of ideas and insights to boost student achievement.

For more information:
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