



Hawai'i State Public
Charter School
Commission

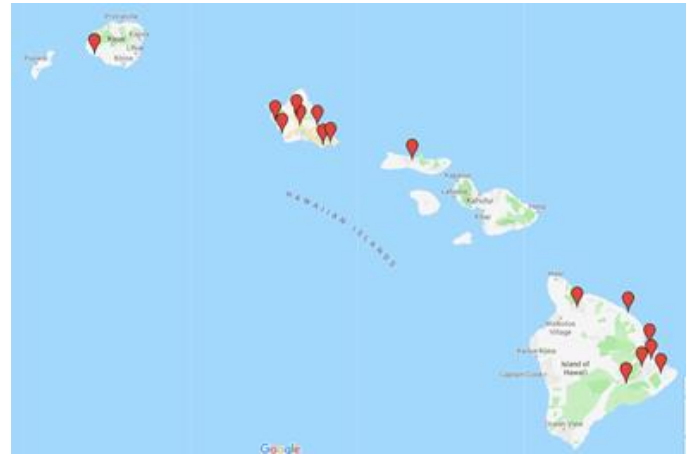
Preschool Development Grant

Promoting Increased Preschool Access for At-Risk Children & Families

The Preschool Development Grant is jointly administered by the US Departments of Education and Health and Human Services. Hawai'i was one of only five states to be awarded this highly competitive grant.

Grant focus: To support state and local efforts to build or enhance high-quality preschool programs so that more children from low- and moderately-income families enter kindergarten ready to succeed in school and in life (USDOE & USDHHS, 2014). This grant was designed to provide high-quality preschool opportunities to those who would not be able to afford it.

- **Eligibility criteria:** Children must be four-years-old with family incomes of 200% or less of the federal poverty level.
- Currently, Hawai'i is in **Year Three** of the four year grant. Funding is available until School Year 2018-2019.
- **Teachers and Educational Assistant positions** funded by this grant: 40
- Number of participating **schools**: 12
- Number of pre-K **classrooms created**: 18
- Number of **pre-K slots** created by this grant: 360
- Number of **Native Hawaiian Immersion pre-K classrooms**: 5
- Number of **Native Hawaiian-focused** pre-K classrooms: 18
- Number of children who entered without **no prior preschool experience**: 148



PDG-funded pre-K programs in charter schools.

Pre-K in Charter Schools Prepares Students for Kindergarten & to be Contributing Citizens who Reflect Hawai'i's Values



Classrooms provide print-rich environments
that promote early literacy



Curriculum reflects
Native Hawaiian culture and values

**Pre-K in Charter Schools
Strengthens the System of
Support for Children**



Activities engage families in their child's learning



Annual symposium helps school leaders to build knowledge and develop a plan to align instruction for preschool through grade 3

"I'm a single mom and financially I just could not afford to send my daughter to other preschools. It was just too expensive. I feel without preschool my daughter would lack confidence and she may even fall behind academically without getting the head start socially with other children. I hope families like mine can continue to receive the benefits our keiki deserve for preschool. They are our future!"

-Mom from Waialae School

What Are the High-Quality Components of Pre-K Programs in Hawai'i's Charter Schools?



All facilities are **DHS licensed**

All classrooms have a **qualified teacher** with a bachelor's degree or higher



A **one to ten teacher to child ratio** and no more than 20 students per class

A **data-driven professional development system** is based on assessments of **student learning** and the quality of both **teacher-child interaction** and the **classroom environment**. This includes:



- At least 10 teacher workshops per year
- An annual Early Learning Leadership Symposium and follow-up meeting
- One-to-one coaching and mentoring

Sustained high-quality instructional practices from preschool through grade 3



Strong family engagement component focusing on families as partners to children's learning

Developmental curriculum that is aligned to the **Hawaii Early Learning Development Standards (HELDS)**

