

# 2024-2027 WIOA State Plan

## AEFLA Section

### (b) State Operating systems and Policies

(5) Distribution of Funds for Core Programs. Describe the methods and factors the State will use in distributing funds under the core programs in accordance with the provisions authorizing such distributions.

#### (B) For Title II:

- (i) Describe the methods and factors the eligible agency will use to distribute title II funds.
- (ii) Describe how the eligible agency will ensure direct and equitable access to all eligible providers to apply and compete for funds and how the eligible agency will ensure that it is using the same grant or contract announcement and application procedure for all eligible providers.

### **B i**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) is the eligible agency for the Adult Education Family Literacy Act (AEFLA) grant funds, Title II of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) for Hawaii. The state director for adult education is responsible for administering funds and providing oversight to grantees and is located in the Office of Curriculum and Instructional Design.

The Department will use a U.S. Department of Education, Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education, approved competitive four-year grant award process subject to renewal or continuation annually.

The award process will meet the requirements of 34 CFR 463 Subpart C, *How Does a State Make an Award to Eligible Providers?* It will be available to all eligible providers in Hawaii as defined in 34 CFR § 463.23 *Who is eligible to apply for a grant or contract for adult education and literacy activities?*

Applicants must meet the demonstrated effectiveness determination in 34 CFR § 463.24 *How must an eligible provider establish that it has demonstrated effectiveness?* to be eligible for an award. The demonstrated effectiveness determination includes the following.

- Submission of data for two consecutive years in the following categories
  - Employment Rate Quarter 2 and Quarter 4
  - Credential Attainment
  - Measurable Skills Gain
- The outcomes for each category must meet or exceed the required demonstrated effectiveness percentage published in the application.

Applicants who meet the demonstrated effectiveness determination will continue with the application process and address the remaining requirements, which include the following.

- How will AEFLA funds be expended for adult education services in the state
- Submission of Cooperative Agreements
- Alignment with Hawaii Workforce Development Board Plans
- American Job Center Hawaii (One-Stop) Responsibilities
- Alignment with the Hawaii State WIOA Plan
- Aligning of College and Career Readiness Standards
- Aligning of English Language Proficiency Standards for English Learners
- How will the Adult Education Program (AEP) Objectives in the Hawaii State WIOA Plan be addressed?
- Addressing the Considerations in 34 CFR 463.20 (d) *In awarding grants or contracts for adult education and literacy activities to eligible providers, the eligible agency must consider the following*
- Budget Proposal
- Personnel to Provide Adult Education Services

Applications will be evaluated by a committee of representatives from core partners trained in using a rubric included with the application. The workforce development boards of each region will review the applications for alignment with their local plan.

Applicants selected to receive funds must complete a risk assessment and be approved before receiving AEFLA funds.

For organizations that receive an award and are not with the Hawaii State Department of Education, the award will be made through a subaward according to 2 CFR Part 200.

A Local Educational Agency within the Hawaii State Department of Education that receives an award, award will be made through the organization's fiscal management system.

82.5% of AEFLA funds received by the Department will be awarded to provide adult education services as required by 29 USC §3302. *State distribution of funds; matching requirement.* Up to 20% of the 82.5% of AEFLA funds will be awarded for Corrections Education according to 34 CFR § 463.61 *How does the eligible agency award funds to eligible providers under the program for Corrections Education and Education of other Institutionalized Individuals?* An award to provide an Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education program will be determined by the amount specified in the Hawaii AEFLA grant award notification from the U.S. Department of Education for the program year the award is made.

**B ii**

The Department will provide eligible providers in Hawaii defined in 34 CFR § 463.23 *Who is eligible to apply for a grant or contract for adult education and literacy activities?* with direct and equitable access to the competitive four-year grant award application through multiple means of communication and a 30-day availability to access the application.

The competition announcement and application will be posted on the Department's public-facing website.

The Department will use social media channels to publicize the four-year grant award competition with information on accessing the application on the Department's public-facing website.

The Hawaii State Workforce Development Board, WIOA core partners, and local workforce development boards will be notified of the competition announcement through letters to the executive directors and state leads.

The state workforce development board members consist of representatives from across the state.

- The directors of labor and industrial relations, human services, and business, economic development, and tourism; the superintendent of education; and the president of the University of Hawaii or their designees, as ex officio voting members;
- The private business sector chairpersons of the four county workforce investment boards, or their designees from the private business sector membership of their respective boards, as ex officio voting members;
- Twelve additional private sector representatives from business;
- One representative from a community-based native Hawaiian organization that operates workforce development programs;
- Two representatives from labor;
- Four members of the legislature, two from each house for two-year terms beginning in January of odd-numbered years, appointed by the appropriate presiding officer of each house, as ex officio voting members;
- Two mayors or their designees, as ex officio voting members; and
- The governor or the governor's designee.

The Department will make the announcement and eligibility application available for 30 days on its public-facing website.

The Department will ensure that it uses the same competition announcement, application, and process in the following ways.

- The competition announcement and application will reside on and be available from one location, the Department's public-facing website. Information on accessing the announcement and application from the Department's website may be placed on other websites.
- The application period will be for a specified time communicated in the competition announcement and application. There will not be multiple application opportunities.
- There will be one application process that follows one timeline that all applicants must use.

- One evaluation committee trained on using the rubric to score the applications will determine which applicants will receive an award.