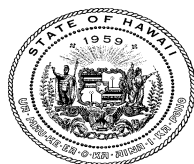


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HAWAII WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
SECTOR STRATEGIES AND CAREER PATHWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes

Date: Monday, May 11, 2026

Time: 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm

In-Person Meeting Location: Princess Ruth Ke'elikolani Building
830 Punchbowl Street, Room 317
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Agenda: The agenda was posted to the State electronic calendars as required by §92-7(b), Hawai'i Revised Statutes ("HRS")

Board Meeting Materials: Meeting materials are available for review at <https://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/meeting-docs/>

Attendees:

Cary Miyashiro, Committee Chair
Michelle Tavares-Yamada
Pat Anbe
Roseanne Propato
Maurea Walsh
Niki Shishido
Ryan Mandado
Jennifer Meehan
Troy Sueoka
Warren Kawano
Shirlene Cardenas
Molly Mamaril
Lei Ana Green

Erin Yagi
Faustino Dagdag
Joy
Susan
Ahetrick

WDC Staff:

Bennette Misalucha, Executive Director (ED), WDC
Jeanne Ohta
Margaret Miura
Tyrone Apolinar

- I. [Video 00:14:09] The meeting was called to order by Cary Miyashiro, Sector Strategies and Career Pathways Committee Chair, at 1:00 pm.
- II. [Video 00:19:21] The Sector Strategies and Career Pathways Committee minutes from April 13, 2026, were approved without changes at 1:06 pm.
- III. Presentations
 - a. Academy for Healthcare Innovation (AHI) presentation will be rescheduled.
 - b. [Video 00:24:14] Niki Shishido, Executive Director of Pacific Asian Affairs Council (PAAC), provided an overview of the organization’s vision and mission, highlighted the communities PAAC serves, described its key partnerships, and explained how its programs help strengthen Hawai‘i’s workforce.
- IV. [Video 00:46:02] Mission, vision, roles, and responsibilities of the Sector Strategies and Career Pathways Committee
 - a. [Video 00:46:17] ED Bennette Misalucha announced an organizational change that transfers sector strategy responsibilities to the Employer Engagement Committee and renames this committee the Education and Career Pathways Committee. This committee’s updated role focuses on improving coordination across education, training, and workforce systems to ensure smoother pathways from learning to employment, alignment with future job needs, and equitable access to career opportunities. The committee will also support local workforce board coordination, modernize the Eligible Training Provider List, and monitor progress through data and outcomes to strengthen Hawai‘i’s overall workforce and economy.
- V. [Video 00:52:52] Executive Director’s Report
 - a. ED Bennette Misalucha reported a productive first quarter, highlighted by the successful inaugural Internship Summit featuring the U.S. Secretary of Labor and the

launch of the annual Internship Excellence Awards. The State Unified Plan was submitted to the U.S. Department of Labor on April 3, with feedback expected within 90 days. The Workforce Development Council completed its “Stronger Together” webinar series showcasing national workforce best practices and is preparing for a July 30 Synergy Summit to unveil implementation steps for the unified plan. Upcoming priorities include orientation and training for 13 newly confirmed Council members, preparation for the July 1 Workforce Pell Grant launch, continued work on the Eligible Training Provider list, and ongoing sessions of the AI Workforce Transformation Symposium. The Council remains focused on strengthening alignment, improving the workforce ecosystem, and supporting Hawaii’s workforce.

[Video 00:58:46] Chair Miyashiro opened the meeting for public announcements

- a. [Video 00:59:49] Shirlene Cardenas shared that she and her husband are involved in multiple workforce development organizations, including FCL Hawai’i, where they support IT and cybersecurity career pathways. They partner with various groups to host Capture the Flag events and other relevant activities for middle school, high school, and college students, helping participants gain hands-on experience, build connections, and strengthen their professional networks. She further stated that she serves as president of the Hawai’i National Guard State Advisory Council under Adjutant General Stephen Logan, highlighted challenges guardsmen face in securing employment despite having security clearances and specialized training. She expressed interest in building stronger connections between employers and guardsmen seeking relevant job opportunities and shared her commitment to supporting broader workforce development efforts. Chair Miyashiro stated that attendee Maurea Walsh is also interested in making connections, particularly for the Campbell Complex, and offered to help facilitate an introduction between the two.

VI. [Video 01:02:06] Next Meeting

Tentatively scheduled for Monday, August 3, 2026, at 1:00 pm.

VII. [Video 01:02:27] Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 1:49 pm.