



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO**
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT OF STRATEGY AND ADMINISTRATION

September 25, 2025

Ms. Hayley Sanon
Acting Assistant Secretary
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-6100

Re: General Education Provisions Act Waiver Request for Title I, Part C of the ESEA

Dear Ms. Sanon:

On behalf of the Hawai'i State Department of Education (HIDOE), pursuant to section 8401 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), the HIDOE requests a waiver for the period of availability of funds in section 421(b) of the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA).

Specifically, the HIDOE requests a 12-month extension for Title I, Part C, Migrant Education (Assistance Listing 84.011A), for Federal Fiscal Year 2023.

The HIDOE is requesting a waiver that will provide fiscal flexibility to obligate its Title I, Part C funds beyond the September 30, 2025, deadline. The following factors have added to the time needed to use these funds according to program requirements appropriately:

- Recruitment challenges due to statewide labor shortage:
Due to a statewide labor shortage, the availability of paraprofessionals (including tutors and educational assistants) has been limited. This shortage directly restricted the program's ability to provide crucial services such as supplemental instructional support, extended-day programs, and summer interventions within the projected grant year. As a result, the spending of funds for these services was significantly impacted, causing an overage of funds to carry over to the following grant year.
- Supplier chain issues and a lengthy procurement process:
Supply chain issues and a lengthy procurement process delayed the manufacturing, purchase, and delivery of the school buses, which were intended for use before the grant period ended. This delay, caused by a shortage of materials and components, along with HIDOE's extensive procurement process, prevented the program from spending its funds within the projected grant year, resulting in a fund overage for the next grant year.

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In seeking this GEPA waiver, the HIDOE assures that:

- HIDOE will use, and ensure that subrecipients use, Title I, Part C funds in full compliance with all applicable statutes, regulations, program plans, and approved applications not subject to this waiver.
- HIDOE will work to mitigate and ensure that subrecipients work to minimize any potential adverse effects that may arise as a result of this waiver.
- HIDOE will continue to prioritize and provide services designed to meet the unique educational needs of migratory children, ensuring their access to the same opportunities available to all students.
- HIDOE will provide public notice of this waiver request and allow for public comment by posting the request on the HIDOE website in a manner consistent with customary procedures for soliciting public input.
- HIDOE will maintain appropriate fiscal and programmatic oversight to ensure that extended funds are used effectively, efficiently, and exclusively to support the educational success of migratory children.

The HIDOE is appreciative of the U.S. Department of Education's consideration of its request and looks forward to working with your staff to ensure future needs can be addressed. If additional information regarding this request is needed, please contact Jacy Yamamoto, Interim Director of the Monitoring and Compliance Branch, via email at jacy.yamamoto@k12.hi.us or by phone at (808) 307-3600.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Tammi Oyadomari-Chun
Deputy Superintendent

TOC:jy