



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 21, 2026

Ms. Kirsten Baesler
Assistant Secretary of Education
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
Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965

Dear Ms. Baesler:

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 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 the Federal Fiscal Year 2024.

HIDOE is requesting a Tydings waiver to provide fiscal flexibility needed to obligate its Title I, Part C funds beyond the September 30, 2026, deadline. The continuing statewide labor shortages significantly impacted the program's ability to recruit and retain paraprofessionals, including tutors and educational assistants. The limited availability of qualified staff reduced the program's capacity to provide planned services, including supplemental instructional support, extended-day programs, and summer interventions during the grant year. As a result, expenditures for these services were lower than anticipated, contributing to the remaining balance.

In seeking this GEPA waiver, the HIDOE assures that:

- HIDOE will use, and ensure that Title I, Part C funds are used in full compliance with all applicable statutes, regulations, program plans, and approved applications not subject to this waiver.
- HIDOE will work to mitigate any potential adverse effects that may arise as a result of this waiver.

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- 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.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tammi Oyadomari-Chun', with a stylized, flowing script.

Tammi Oyadomari-Chun
Deputy Superintendent

TOC:jy