

HAWAII EARLY INTERVENTION COORDINATING COUNCIL
(Authority: IDEA, Part C, U.S.C. 1441)

Assurance:

The State of Hawaii has a State interagency coordinating council that meets the requirements of 20 U.S.C. 1441. (20 U.S.C. 1435(a)(15))

Policy: The State has established that the Hawaii Early Intervention Coordinating Council (HEICC) is the State's Interagency Coordinating Council as required by Section 641 of P.L. 108-446. The Council shall be appointed by the Governor for staggered one, two or three year terms. The Governor shall ensure that the membership of the council reasonably represents the population of the state. The Governor shall designate a member of the council to serve as the chairperson of the council, or shall require the council to so designate such a member. Any member who is a representative of the lead agency may not serve as the chairperson of the council.

Composition. The HEICC shall be composed as follows:

- 1) Parents. Not less than 20 percent of the members shall be parents of infants or toddlers with disabilities or children with disabilities aged 12 or younger. Not less than 1 member shall be a parent of an infant or toddler with a disability or a child with a disability aged 6 or younger.
- 2) Service Providers. Not less than 20 percent of the members shall be public or private providers of early intervention services.
- 3) State Legislature. Not less than 1 member shall be from the State Legislature.
- 4) Personnel Preparation. Not less than 1 member shall be from the University of Hawaii which is involved in personnel preparation.
- 5) Agency for Early Intervention Services. Not less than 1 member from the Department of Health which is involved in the provision of and payment for early intervention services to infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families.
- 6) Agency for Preschool Services. Not less than 1 member shall be from the Department of Education which is responsible for preschool services to children with disabilities.
- 7) State Medicaid Agency. Not less than 1 member from the Department of Human Services which is responsible for the state Medicaid program.

- 8) Head Start Agency. Not less than 1 member shall be a representative from a head start or early head start agency or program.
- 9) Child Care Agency. Not less than 1 member from the Department of Human Services which is responsible for child care.
- 10) Agency for Health Insurance. Not less than 1 member from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs which is responsible for the state regulation of health insurance.
- 11) Office of the Coordinator of Education of Homeless Children and Youth. One member from the Department of Education which is responsible for the coordination of education of homeless children and youth.
- 12) State Foster Care Representative. Not less than 1 member shall be from the Department of Human Services which is responsible for foster care.
- 13) Mental Health Agency. Not less than 1 member shall be a representative from the Department of Health which is responsible for children's mental health.
- 14) Other Members. Other members selected by the Governor may include:
 - a) One member from a family advocacy organization;
 - b) One member representing community preschools; and
 - c) One member from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. This member has been substituted for the representative from the Bureau of Indian Affairs or an Indian Health Service or tribal representative, as Hawaii does not have a Bureau of Indian Affairs or an Indian Health Service and also does not have a tribal representative.

Representativeness. The composition of the Council shall represent the ethnic and geographic makeup of the State. At least 1 member shall be from each County, Oahu, Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai. As all ethnicities in Hawaii are minorities, the Council shall include, to the extent possible, members which represent the different ethnicities in the State.

Executive Committee. There is an Executive Committee which consists of seven members, including the officers and the chairpersons of each committee. Members shall include at least 1 parent representative and 1 Neighbor Island representative.

Meetings. Meetings of the HEICC are held quarterly, usually on the last

Wednesday of the appropriate month. All meetings are open, with a published Agenda and previous minutes on public display one week prior to the date of the meeting. Likewise, the meetings of the Executive Committee are also open meetings. Interpreters and other necessary services will be provided for persons who require these services, whether it is a Council member or a visitor in the audience.

Functions of the HEICC. The Council functions in a manner consistent with the Congressional intent as outlined in P.L. 108-446. The Council shall:

- 1) Advise and assist the Director of Health, particularly in the identification of the sources of fiscal and other support for services for early intervention programs, assignment of fiscal responsibility to the appropriate agency, and the promotion of interagency agreements.
- 2) Advise and assist the Director of Health in the preparation of applications and amendments.
- 3) Advise and assist the Department of Education regarding the transition of toddlers with disabilities to preschool and other appropriate services.
- 4) Prepare and submit an annual report to the Governor and to the Secretary of Education on the status of early intervention programs for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families operated within the State.

Conflict of Interest. No member of the Council may cast a vote on any matter that would provide direct financial benefit to that member or otherwise give the appearance of a conflict of interest.