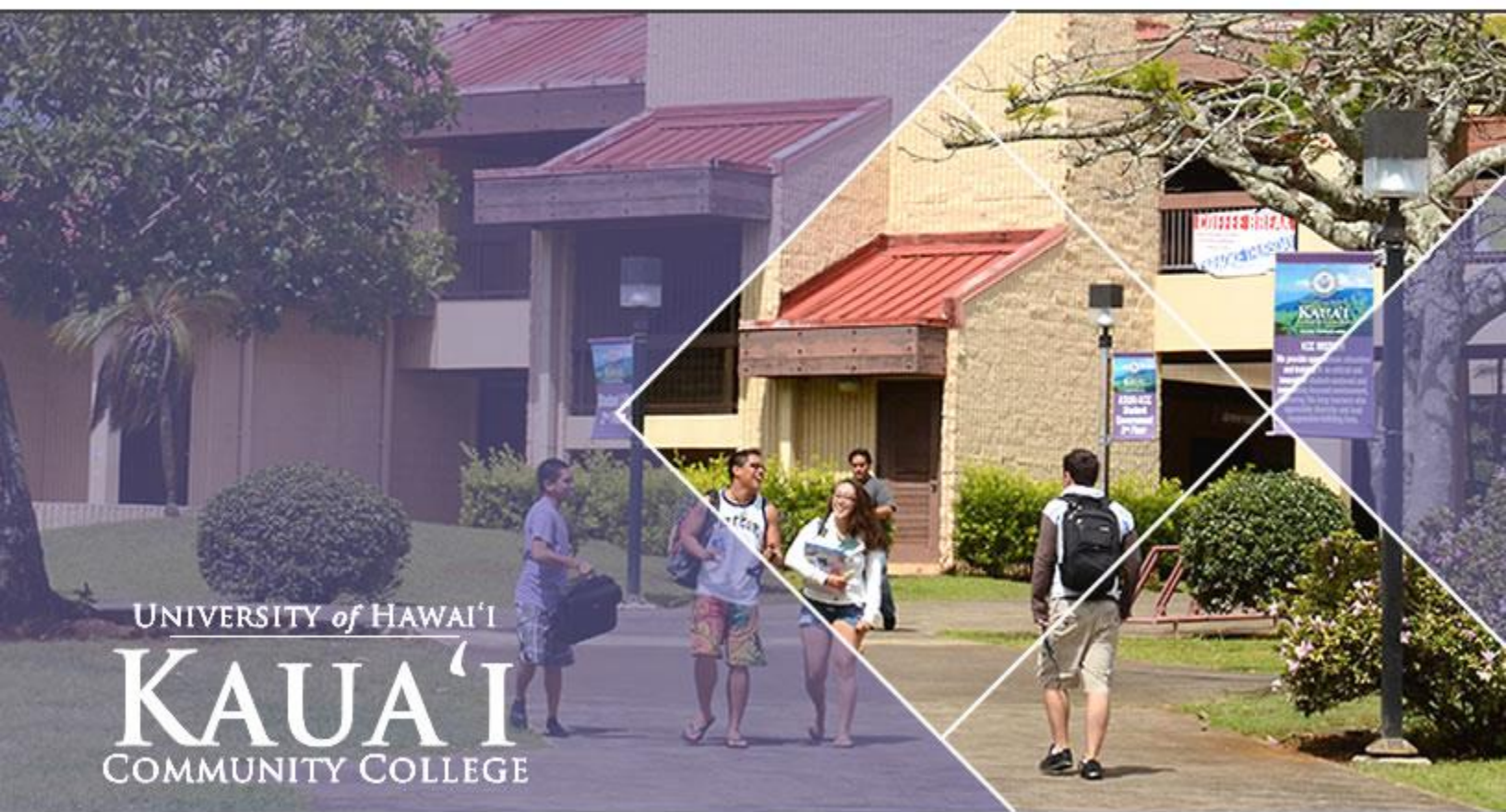


**ANNUAL**  
REPORT OF PROGRAM DATA  
**2023**



UNIVERSITY of HAWAI'I  
**KAUA'I**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



# 2023 Annual Report of Program Data Early Childhood Education

## 1. Program or Unit Mission

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The Early Childhood Education (ECED) Program supports the mission of the Kaua'i Community College (KCC) by providing a readily accessible, quality, training and education program that prepares students to work in varying capacities with 0-8 year-old children and their families in a variety of settings, or to transfer to a University setting to pursue bachelors and advance degrees.

### College Mission Statement (UHCCP 5.202)

Kaua'i Community College is a kahua that inspires, engages, and empowers learners and educators to enrich our community and our world.

The ECED program's mission support's KCC college's mission by emphasizing open access and training in both student-centered and community-focused environments, and provides pathways for transfer to encourage the nurturing of life-long learners.

## 2. Program Student Learning Outcomes or Unit/Service Outcomes

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### Summative assessment Spring 2023

PSLO 1. Use knowledge of child development and of individual children to create healthy, challenging learning environments and experiences.

Assessed: Spring 2023

Benchmark was: 76% meets (Desired outcome: 76%)

Next Formative Assessment Fall 2023.

Plan of Action:

During practicum, ECED students will use their anecdotal observations to create intentional learning experiences for children in creative arts.

Closing the loop:

Coordinate with mentor teachers at affiliate preschools for meaningful creation of literacy activities extending children's learning experiences to complement their themes/study.

PSLO 2. Build respectful partnerships with children, their families, and their communities.

Assessed: Spring 2023

Benchmark was: 86% meets (Desired outcome: 76%)  
Next Formative Assessment Fall 2023.

Action Plan implemented 2022-2023: To build relationships with children and families, ECED students create a take home project, parents are to document the activity with a photo, video or artifact.

Results: 86% of students were able to build relationships with children and families.

Closing the loop:

As COVID-19 subsided, the ECED PSLOs were met as families were allowed back into the classroom for relationship building and interactions. This allowed ECED practicum students to communicate with the families and get involved with take home projects enhancing family time that extended classroom learning for their children at home.

PSLO 3. Observe, document, and assess children's development and learning in partnership with families.

Assessed: Spring 2023

Benchmark was: 84% meets (Desired outcome: 76%)

Next Formative Assessment Fall 2023.

PSLO 4. Use supported interactions to build positive relationships and guide all children.

Assessed: Spring 2023

Benchmark was: 79% meets (Desired outcome: 76%)

Next Formative Assessment Fall 2023.

PSLO 5. Use content knowledge and appropriate pedagogy to create/design, implement and assess learning experiences.

Assessed: Spring 2023

Benchmark was: 84% meets (Desired outcome: 76%)

Next Formative Assessment Fall 2023.

PSLO 6. Use reflective practice to demonstrate professionalism.

Assessed: Spring 2023

Benchmark was: 76% meets (Desired outcome: 76%)

Next Formative Assessment Fall 2023.

Plan of Action:

ECED students will participate in ECED professional events on Kauai and/or virtually in the state for professional development, followed by a reflection on their experience.

Closing the loop:

In partnership with People Attentive To Children (PATCH), Kauai Planning and

Action Alliance, Keiki to Career, Kamehameha Schools, DOE, Department of Health, the “ECE Stakeholders” have planned out future ECE conferences on Kauai to benefit everyone in the field.

### **3. Analysis of the Program/Unit**

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#### **2023 Annual Report of Program Data (ARPD)**

##### **Demand**

Currently, there are 24 licensed preschools both private and public-funded on Kauai, in 2020 there were 27 licensed preschool sites. Additionally, there are 23 licensed Family Child Care homes (FCC) who take care of the infant/toddlers, in 2020 there were 26. Due to unemployment caused by COVID-19 families were forced to pull out their children from licensed child care.

ECED employers of graduates include Child and Family Services Kaua`i -Head Start and Early Head Start, Kamehameha Preschools, various private and charter-school preschools including the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) elementary school sites on Kaua`i: Kekaha, Eleele and Kilauea. Students graduating with the A.S. degree in ECED are sought after by employers, with several of them working in ECE programs while attending college to obtain certification for a current position they are in or promotion within their employment. ECED students graduating with the A.S. degree are in demand as qualified teachers for all Department of Human Services (DHS) licensed facilities and National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) accredited Preschool programs (there are 5 on Kaua`i). Community partners have stated that the ECED program at KCC should be the model of a quality primary training program that fulfills the workforce demand on Kaua`i. The college continually receives inquiries from various private and public preschool entities seeking qualified professional child care experts, as reflected in the 2023 ARPD data, there are currently 31 new and replacement positions with 21 majors. Even though Kaua`i county lost 3 preschool sites, a gratifying job to work with keiki, teachers leaving the field due to being underpaid, living paycheck to paycheck added to the high cost of living in Hawaii.

The number of majors dropped to 21 from 22 prior year (2021-22); and from 33 (2020-21). The Native Hawaiian majors dropped to 9 from 11 prior year (2021-22); from 13 (2021-21). The majority of ECED majors attend part-time: Fall 79% and Spring 76%. Most students seek the Certificate of Competence (CO) in the Fall to enter the job market as a teacher’s aide or educational assistant (EA) in the Department of Education (DOE). Graduating with the Associate’s degree qualifies ECED students as a teacher in a Department of Human Services (DHS) licensed Preschool.

## Efficiency

Class fill rate is 39.5%, decreased from 49.3% (2021-22); and from 67.5% (2020-21). Low-enrolled classes increased to 10 from 7 prior year (2021-22). In reviewing the other CC's ARPD data: Honolulu CC, UHMaui, Hawaii CC all class fill rates have also dropped. The average class size dropped by 2 from 2021-22 to 6; and dropped by 3 from 2021-21.

Based on the data from the Student Focus Groups (2017, 2019, 2022) ECED students preferred hybrid modality - meeting face to face and virtual option due to work schedules and driving to campus from either the west or north sides of the island. There were 4 distance learning classes taught in 2022-23 dropping by one the prior year; with a 48% fill rate (57% prior year). Successful completion for distance learning was: 66% (81% prior year) vs face to face 68% (84% prior year). However, there were 5 withdrawals (prior year zero) and face to face 8 withdrawals with 1 prior year. Students comment on the importance of face to face instruction and receiving full body communication from the instructor during class meetings are vital for their metacognition. In addition, the learning community is safe where asking questions is not an issue and everyone learns from each other.

## Effectiveness

Persistence Fall to Spring dropped to 61% from 79% prior year (2021-22). There were 7 unduplicated degrees/certificates dropping by 9 from 16 the previous year (2021-22). There were 8 withdrawals, an increase from 1 (previous year 2021-22) by 7. Distance learning data reflected 5 withdrawals from zero 2021-22 and 2020-21. There were 2 transfers with credential from program to UH 4-year. Previously, students seeking transfer to UH Manoa towards a BA in Early Education/SPED were placed in the Liberal Arts majors versus ECED. Continued team work with counselors in advising students into the proper pathways along with the ECED Program Coordinators Committee system wide for a true 2 + 2 articulation into UH Manoa College of Ed towards a bachelor's degree in ECED/SPED.

Kaua'i CC has an ECED Student Ambassador (SA) funded by University of Hawaii at Manoa, College of Education (UHM COE) Hawai'i Early Childhood Educator Excellence and Equity (ECE3) and ECED Preschool Development Grant-Birth through Five (PDG) (Honolulu Community College). A huge task for retaining and recruiting ECED students. The SA has been instrumental in getting resources for current ECED students, such as tutoring and financial aid – she is the “go to person” for any issues in helping students succeed. The ambassador has created flyers about the ECED program and uploaded a mini slide presentation at the information kiosk at Kukui Grove Center accessible to all. For recruitment she has visited preschool sites leaving information for young parents who could be interested in a career in ECED.

## Early College

The "ECE Stakeholders" includes People Attentive To Children (PATCH), Kauai Planning and Action Alliance, Keiki to Career, Kamehameha Schools, DOE, and Department of Health have been working with the three high school counselors in seeking early college students. The numbers are small, however there are 3 from each high school. The students sign up for an opportunity of spending a full morning at the Kamehameha Preschools (twice this year), one in Kaumakani and the other at Anahola for a hands-on learning experience of a preschool teacher's role in the preschool setting. Conversations continue with the DOE District Office in ECED early course offerings.

## Infant/Toddler Care

Kaua'i's challenge is the shortage of infant/toddler programs. Currently there is one child development center (CDC) at the Pacific Missile Range Facilities (military) Mana. However a new site has opened in Lihue and Child and Family Services (CFS)-Head Start Early Head Start will open its door in Spring 2024. Having these additional sites in Lihue will benefit the KCC ECED program to fulfill a National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) accreditation process in providing two types of care for practicum students.

## ECED Advisory Committee

The ECED Advisory Committee met in Fall 2022. Concerns raised: needing a workforce and proper wages for preschool teachers. Next meeting will be in Fall 2023. ECED State Champions which includes the ECED Program Coordinator Committee (PCC), UHM COE have come together to advocate for higher wages for preschool teachers at the next legislative meeting in January. Additionally, in 2024, the Lieutenant Governor's Ready Keiki will be opening 44 additional preschool sites statewide - it is unknown at this time as to how many sites slated for Kaua'i, resulting in the need for qualified preschool teachers.

## Apprenticeship in ECED

The apprenticeship program by Honolulu Community College and Keiki O Ka `Aina (KOKA) received Department of Labor approval and will start at Honolulu Community College Spring 2024. Kaua'i CC and Child and Family Services (CFS)-Kauai Head Start/Early Head Start are ready for an apprenticeship program under the HON CC/KOKA program, awaiting formation and processing instructions.

## ECED Program Changes/Updates

This past Spring, the ECED Program Coordinator Committee (PCC) agreed to renaming the certificate of competence (CO) offered including a new 16 credit CO. The 9-credit certificate of competence is **Early Childhood Education Certificate of Competence(CO) (Initial Early Childhood Education)**. The new 16 credit **Early Childhood Education: Certificate of Competence (Practitioner I)**. This enabled the alignment to the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) ECE I leveling of academic degrees.

## Perkins Indicators

### 31. 3P1 Nontraditional Program Concentration — NOT MET

Although the ECED program enrolls a diverse population in regards to ethnicity and age, it enrolls few male students. In the past five years there have been two males enrolled. Several factors may be contributing to non-traditional participation, including societal norms that emphasize women as caregivers to young children.

## Five Year Comprehensive Program Review (CPR)

The last CPR was completed in 2020. The upcoming review will be in 2025.

## 4. Action Plan

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Program alignment with Kaua'i CC strategic imperative goals:

Action Plan	Strategic Goal/Priority (List number)	Anticipated Outcome	Actual Outcome	Plan to continue and rationale
Increase the number of graduates	1	Benchmark:6 Desired Outcome; 10	4	There were 2 ECED students who failed to complete the AS degree in Spring 2023 due to time management between work, school and family issues. There were 10 students in 2021-22 who earned their AS degrees.  Identifying ECED students who lack credits short of the AS degree, assisting with financial

				aid and academic advising by Fall 2024.
Increase Enrollment	3	Benchmark: 35 Desired Outcome: 33	31	This is the same as 2021-22, dropped by 2 in 2020-21 and 36 in 2019-20. With the assistance of the ECED Student Ambassador who can visit preschool sites to recruit parents who are interested in learning about Child Development and participate in community events, Spring 2024.
Increase the number of students who transfer	4	Benchmark: 4 Desired Outcome: 6	2	There were 2 transfers. Identifying students early seeking a bachelor's degree with continued academic advising and assistance for financial aid, Spring 2024.

## 5. Resource Implications

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### Faculty Position

With new additional Infant/Toddler sites on Kaua'i, the ECED program would like to offer a certificate specializing in Infant/Toddler care. Kaua'i CC already offers the majority of classes, however it needs two practicum lab sections. In addition, to fulfill the upcoming ECE apprenticeship program affiliation with Child and Family Services (CFS)-Kauai Head Start/Early Head Start, the program needs a second full time ECED faculty position. Currently, the ECED Program has one full time faculty, the second full time faculty will assist in teaching/mentoring ECED students.



**National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) accreditation fees and site visit (as previously requested).**

<b>Program Goal</b>	National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Academic Accreditation
<b>Resource Requested*</b>	
<b>Cost and Vendor</b>	\$8,183.00 to NAEYC -- Total fees for self-study and site visitation.
<b>Annual Recurring Cost</b>	Will be determined upon approval of self-study, external evaluation, and site visit.
<b>Useful Life of Resource</b>	10-20 years
<b>Person(s) Responsible and Collaborators</b>	Antonia Fujimoto, ECED Program Coordinator; collaborators: UH Maui ECED program and Valerie Barko and Tammie Napoleon
<b>Timeline</b>	2020-2024 Final submission March 31, 2024

I am NOT requesting additional resources for my program/unit.