

**TITLE: State Approval of Teach Away’s Educator Preparation Unit and Programs**

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The Hawaii Teacher Standards Board grants continuing state approval for Teach Away’s Educator Preparation Program unit and programs effective October 8, 2021-December 31, 2028. This approval is based on Teach Away’s accreditation by the Association for Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation (AAQEP). The Decision Letter and Action Report are attached.

Candidates may be recommended for licensure in the following fields:

<b>Non-degree Programs Leading to a Hawaii Teaching License</b>	
•	Secondary English (6-12)
•	Secondary Math (6-12)
•	Secondary Science (6-12)
•	TESOL (K-12)

The unit must submit an annual report to the HTSB.

This NBI will be sent to the provider on behalf of the Board to communicate this decision.

**Submitted by:** Branden Kawazoe

**Referred to:** Teacher Education Committee



Association for **Advancing**  
**Quality** in Educator Preparation

October 27, 2021

Rene Frey, President  
Teach Away

Dear President Frey:

This letter serves as formal notification of action taken regarding the Teach Away Teacher Certification Program in Hawaii by the Accreditation Commission of the Association for Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation at its meeting on October 8, 2021.

**Action:** Based on examination of the case record, including the Quality Assurance Report and the Quality Review Team Report, the AAQEP Accreditation Commission awards **accreditation for a full term of 7 years** to the Teach Away Teacher Certification Program in Hawaii.

This action is effective immediately and remains **in effect through December 31, 2028**, or until Teach Away ceases to be a member in good standing of AAQEP, whichever is earlier. Annual Reports are due by December 31 of each year, with the first report being due December 31, 2022. In addition, please refer to our [substantive change policy](#) for guidance on program changes that must be reported.

Congratulations!

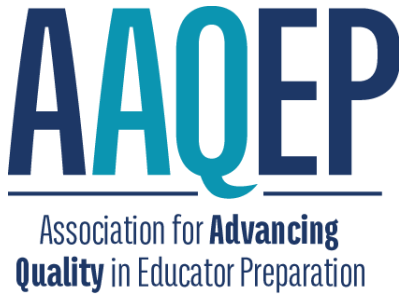
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark LaCelle-Peterson'.

Mark LaCelle-Peterson, Ed.D.  
President and CEO

cc: Irma Berardi, Senior Manager  
Autumn Talebi, Teacher Preparation Coordinator Hawaii  
Nikki Wishard, Online Mentor  
Katie Smith, Learning Experience Design Manager  
Felicia Villalobos, Hawaii Teacher Standards Board

**AAQEP – Always improving together**

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# ACCREDITATION ACTION REPORT

*An official record of actions taken by the AAQEP Accreditation Commission*

**Teach Away**  
**Honolulu, HI**  
**October 2021**

## ACTION

Based on examination of the case record, including the Quality Assurance Report and the Quality Review Team Report, the AAQEP Accreditation Commission makes the following determination regarding the Teach Away Teacher Certification Program in Hawaii:

X	<b>ACCREDIT</b> - The Accreditation Commission finds that the provider/program meets all AAQEP standards and is accredited for a full term of seven years.
	<b>ACCREDIT WITH NOTE</b> - The Accreditation Commission finds that the AAQEP standards are met to accredit with the concerns and/or conditions specified below.
	<b>PROBATIONARY ACCREDITATION</b> - The Accreditation Commission finds that the AAQEP standards are met but that, for reasons specified below, risk failing to be met.
	<b>DO NOT ACCREDIT</b> - The Accreditation Commission finds that the provider/program does not meet AAQEP standards and does not qualify for accreditation for reasons specified below.

## PROGRAM SPECIFICATION

Four alternative licensure programs authorized by the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board are included in this accreditation action:

<b>Non-degree Programs Leading to a Hawaii Teaching License</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secondary English (6-12)</li> <li>• Secondary Math (6-12)</li> <li>• Secondary Science (6-12)</li> <li>• TESOL (K-12)</li> </ul>

## TERM

The accreditation term takes effect immediately and lasts through **December 31, 2028**, or until Teach Away ceases to be a member in good standing of AAQEP, whichever is earlier. Annual Reports are due by December 31 of each year, with the first report being due December 31, 2022. In addition, please refer to AAQEP's [substantive change policy](#) for guidance on program changes that must be reported.

## RATIONALE

The Commission evaluated the program's evidence for each AAQEP standard and determined that all four standards are met. Completers of the program are prepared to work effectively as professional educators and are able to adapt to different contexts and to grow professionally. The program has the capacity to analyze and provide evidence for sustained actions and revisions on behalf of candidates, and it engages with stakeholders and partners to strengthen the P-20 education system in Hawaii.

The program has systems and processes in place that demonstrate engagement across stakeholder groups. Program practices that address teacher shortages in the state of Hawaii have a solid foundation that will allow the program to scale up as more candidates enter and complete the program.

## STANDARDS REPORT

Standard	Met	Not Met
<b>1. Candidate/Completer Performance</b> - Program completers perform as professional educators with the capacity to support success for all students.	X	
<b>2. Completer Professional Competence and Growth</b> - Program completers adapt to working in a variety of contexts and grow as professionals.	X	
<b>3. Quality Program Practices</b> - The program has the capacity to ensure that its completers meet Standards 1 and 2.	X	
<b>4. Program Engagement in System Improvement</b> - Program practices strengthen the P-20 education system in light of local needs and in keeping with the program's mission.	X	

## CONCERNS AND CONDITIONS

*Concerns* are minor problems or shortcomings related to one or more aspects of a standard and must be addressed in the provider's next annual report(s). *Conditions* are more significant problems that undermine one or more of the standards and may result in a shorter accreditation term or require resolution before accreditation takes effect.

Standard	Concern or condition	Remedy and timeline
	None	

*NOTE: Accreditation actions are based on examination of the case record, including the provider's Quality Assurance Report (self-study) and the Quality Review Team Report. Decisions are the sole responsibility of the AAQEP Accreditation Commission and may not be modified by staff or quality assurance reviewers.*