The school impact fee statute is Chapter 302A, Sections 302A-1601 to 302A-1612, Hawaii Revised Statutes. The law includes a specific formula to calculate fee amounts. Builders of large residential projects within School Impact Districts are required to provide land for school facilities depending on the numbers of students expected in their projects and the amount of available classroom space in existing area schools. Projects of 50 or more units need an agreement with the DOE on the amount of land and or fees to be paid, prior to county approval to subdivide, rezone, or any other approval. Smaller developers and individual home owner-builders are required to pay a fee-in-lieu of land, when their project is too small to entertain a school site. All home builders or buyers must also pay a construction cost fee.

The Department of Education (DOE) is collecting school impact fees in two school impact districts on Maui and one district on Oahu.

The DOE is collecting impact fees from the Leeward Oahu District with the assistance of the City and County of Honolulu. Collections in the first three fiscal years to the close of FY2016 have totaled $823,392.

For the island of Maui, the DOE has collected fees since January 2011, with the cooperation of Maui County. There are two separate districts on Maui: Central Maui and West Maui. Collections at the close of FY2016 totaled $2,092,000. Funds must be spent for land and facilities within the district that they are collected.

The DOE is seeking the approval of the Board of Education for an urban Honolulu district called the Kalihi to Ala Moana School Impact Fee District. If approved, implementation of the new district should occur in 2017. Work will also done on updating the analysis for the West Hawaii School Impact District. Implementation of the West Hawaii District will depend on cooperation from Hawaii County.