

OHA Kāko`o Ho`ona`auao 2010-11
Questions, notes and helpful information.

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Applications can be downloaded at: <http://www.chaminade.edu/oha/>

Two year Family Education Assistance Program –Kako`o Ho`ona`auao

Second Year, \$500,000 available for all eligible applicants

\$5,000 maximum award **per family**

Deadline – **June 30th, 2010**

Only taking applications for 2010-11 school year.

How does the applicant establish living on or eligible to live on Hawaiian Homelands?
The requirement to live on or eligible to live on Hawaiian Homelands is best established by documentation from DHHL. The Applicant need not actually be living on Hawaiian Homelands, but must establish that he or she is eligible to live on Hawaiian Homelands either as a Homestead Applicant or as a successor. To be a Homestead Applicant, you must have 50% Hawaiian blood quantum, and to be a successor, you must have 25% Hawaiian blood quantum. The only organization that verifies blood quantum in the state is the Department of Hawaiian Homelands.

If I am not registered with DHHL, how do I prove my Hawaiian ancestry?

The easiest way is to be registered with DHHL, as OHA and Chaminade do not provide ancestry verification proving blood quantum.

Does registration with OHA, Kau Inoa, or Kamehameha schools verify 50% Hawaiian Ancestry? -- *No, the only organization that proves a blood quantum is DHHL.*

Does the applicant have to live in the same household as the child applying for assistance? *Yes, family member applying must live in same household as student, and must meet other eligibility requirements as well.*

What if the applicants income has changed from 2009 to the current year (i.e. lost job since filing 2009 taxes)? -- *Please include a written statement describing your current financial situation.*

What if I don't fall within the poverty scale or poverty chart included in information sheet? Should I still apply?

The scale included in the information sheet is provided by the US Dept. of labor and reflects the current situation in the state of Hawaii. This chart is only for reference and does not disqualify anyone from receiving grant monies. We encourage all families to apply for the funds. The main factor is that the applicants meet the Hawaiian ancestry requirements. If the eligible applicant pool exceeds 100, then the chart on the application will be used to verify highest need.

Will I automatically qualify for funds during future years of the program if I receive assistance during the 2009-10 school year?

No, all applicants will have to apply every year for the funds. We can not guarantee you will receive the funds in future years or guarantee the amount of funds you may receive on a year to year basis.

Do I need to send my entire tax return to verify income?

No, we will only need the 2009 1040 federal forms (2pages). If there has been a change to your family income for 2010, please explain on another sheet of paper and provide any supporting documentation if possible.

Should I apply for all students in my household attending private schools?

All applicants only need to file one application with OHA/Chaminade. If there are other children in the household attending private school, please include them in the dependent section at the bottom of the application. This will be taken into consideration when deciding award amounts. Also, there is a maximum of \$5,000 in assistance that will be provided to any one household.

What if I haven't filed my taxes yet for 2009? Can I give you my 2008 taxes or do I have to use the NTFF sheet that is provided with the application? *Please use the NTFF and/or include W-2s for the 2008 year if available.*

What information do I need to provide to show that the student is admitted or attending a private school or program?

The best document would be an admittance letter from the school, although we will accept any document or information that will show current enrollment or acceptance. i.e. progress report or grade report.

Does the applicant or the child have to be registered with OHA's Hawaiian Registry Program?

The applicant is the person who needs to be on the OHA Hawaiian Registry in order to qualify for funds under this program. Although, it is highly recommended that the child is registered as well.

How soon until I know if my family received an award or not?

We will notify all applicants of whether they will be receiving an award no later than July 30th. Award checks will go out during the month of August.

Does the check go directly to the school?

No, award checks will go directly to the applicant.

What are my responsibilities if I should receive an award?

By accepting an award pursuant to this program, the Applicant agrees that:

- the information in the Application is true and correct; and there have been no substantive changes to the information in the Application;*
- upon request, Applicant will provide documentation to verify the information in the application;*
- Applicant will use the funds received for the purposes intended by this program and will not use the funds for purposes of entertainment or perquisites (privileges, gain, or profit);*
- Applicant will immediately notify Chaminade of any changes to the information provided in the Application;*
- Applicant will return to Chaminade any funds not used for the above-stated purposes and in accordance with above-stated conditions;*
- Applicant will be required to provide proof of enrollment and proof of payment of tuition or other extraordinary educational expenses for the school year covered by the award;*
- Applicant gives permission to allow Chaminade and OHA to verify information stated in the Application.*

Applicants are given notice that Chaminade and OHA reserve the right to request repayment of funds awarded for failure to use funds for the stated purposes, or for failure to comply with any of the above conditions. Additionally, failure to comply with any of the above conditions may disqualify Applicant from future funding opportunities.