

About the Award

The Hualālai 'Ohana Scholars Award is a competitive scholarship award for first-generation college students* (students who are the first in their family to go to college/whose parent(s) did not complete a four-year college degree), providing financial and academic support for Hawai'i high school graduates pursuing an undergraduate degree at one of Hawai'i's universities. The award is renewable for a total of eight semesters (four years) of funding. Scholarships are renewed based on academic standing, participation in program events, activities and community service projects and submission of required proof of grades and enrollment every year.

Each year, the Hualālai 'Ohana Foundation grants two (2) scholarships of \$10,000 each to eligible, qualifying students.

Eligibility Guidelines

1. Must be a Hualālai Community Employee*, the spouse or child(ren) of the employee. Children over the age of 18, must be a dependent of the employee and eligible up to the age of 24 years. Employees who are legal guardians of children they are applying for must provide documentation of legal guardianship.
 - Hualālai Community Employee* includes employees of Hualālai Investors, LLC or Four Seasons Hualālai; and any Hualālai Resort contractor, which means an employee or independent contractor of another company who provide services to the resort, hotel or resident homeowner
 - Hualālai Resort contractor employees must provide (2) two employment references with their application.
2. The Hualālai Community employee must be employed with the resort for a minimum of six (6) months at the time of the application deadline.
3. The Hualālai Community employee must work a minimum average 20 hours a week or more.
4. Families earning a combined annual gross income** of \$230,000 or more are not eligible.
 - Annual gross income is defined as the total of all forms of gross income, prior to any deductions, including pre-tax adjustments, contributions to retirement accounts, and includes any self-employment, unemployment or rental property income/other earned income. Withdrawals from retirement accounts are not included.
 - All employees who earn under the \$230,000 threshold are eligible to apply.

Eligible Recipients:

- Student must be a first-generation college student. This means that your parent(s) did not complete a 4-year college or university degree, regardless of other family member's level of education.
- Student must meet and maintain a minimum cumulative 3.0 GPA or higher.
- Student must be able to demonstrate academic achievement and involvement in community service activities.

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- Student must be a dependent of the Hualālai Community Employee* and eligible up to the age of 24 years.
- Student must be a high school senior or graduate, or re-entry student with a G.E.D.
- Student must be pursuing a degree program at a college or university in the State of Hawai'i. This program is only open to students who are entering Freshmen at a campus within Hawai'i, including the University of Hawai'i System's 10 campuses (UH Hilo, UH Manoa, UH West O'ahu, Maui College, Leeward CC, Honolulu CC, Kapi'olani CC, Hawai'i CC Manono or Palamanui, Kaua'i CC, Windward CC), Brigham Young University, Hawai'i Pacific University or Chaminade University.
- Students attending a 2-year program at a Community College must demonstrate a 4 year academic plan with clear goals for matriculation to a baccalaureate program.
- Student must be at be enrolled for a minimum of 12 credit units (full-time student status) Proof of enrollment will be required.

Application Requirements

1. Submit an online application on 'Ohana Online and complete all required tasks.
2. Complete the Hualālai 'Ohana Foundation Employee Eligibility Verification Form.
3. Complete a confidential personal and financial information form
4. Upload or Type a Personal Statement
5. Upload copies of your last year's W2s
6. Upload copies of your last year's 1040/1040EZ Income Tax Return (first two pages only)
7. Upload enrollment acceptance confirmation
8. Upload an official transcript with the publish date printed within the application period.
 - Transcripts need to be ordered through your school and cannot be a printout from your student portal.
 - Transcripts must meet and maintain a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA)
9. Upload two (2) letters of recommendation
10. Upload tuition invoice/statement or receipt of payment
11. Must complete a FAFSA application and upload your SAI Report

Award Procedure

Interviews will be conducted, and semi-finalists will be invited to participate in an interview with members of the Foundation's Board of Directors/Education Committee. Applicants will be notified by phone once a final decision is made.

Award is \$10,000 annually, renewable. No more than 8 semesters (four years) of funding will be provided. Two (2) awards will be made each year.

Award payments are paid directly to the student and covers tuition costs, official student fees, and textbooks that correspond with each semester's official curriculum. If you receive an award, you must provide a current invoice, tuition statement or receipt with proof of payment directly to the foundation.

Award payments are made twice per academic year. To receive your second semester award payment, you will need to submit a copy of your second semester invoice and first semester grades showing a minimum 3.0 GPA.

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If the employee ends employment within the Hualālai community during the school year, this will disqualify all award payments.

Application Deadline

Application Deadlines are updated annually, please check the list of current deadlines for this and all other programs on our [Applications Deadline page](#).

Benefits

- \$10,000 total award per year
- 8 semesters (four years) of funding
- Guidance and advising support
- Cultural enrichment
- Community outreach opportunities

Renewal

- Attend at least 2 to 3 Foundation events as a Hualalai Scholars Ambassador and volunteer representative each year.
- Register for and complete a minimum of 12 units per semester
- Maintain a minimum cumulative 3.0 GPA
- Determined to be in good standing and eligible for continuation at the post-secondary institution