

About the Award

The Hualālai ‘Ohana Scholars Award is a need-based 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.

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

Award amounts will be determined by these criteria after all applications are received:

- Financial Need – based upon income, size of household and individual circumstances based off of information provided from your FAFSA
- Academic Merit – based upon a minimum 3.0 GPA, academic achievement and community service involvement
- Tuition Cost - based upon tuition cost for fall and spring semesters combined
- Chosen Standardized Test Scores

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 (effective March 1, 2023) 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 or cafeteria plans, and includes any self-employment, unemployment or rental property 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 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
- Current students enrolled in an accredited college or university in the state of Hawai'i
- Student must be at be enrolled for a minimum of 12 credit units (full-time student status) Proof of enrollment will be required.

SCHOLARSHIPS – Hualālai ‘Ohana Scholars

- Student must be a first-generation college student. Being a first-gen student 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
- Student must be a dependent of the Hualālai Community Employee* and eligible up to the age of 24 years.

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 2024 W2s
6. Upload copies of your 2024 1040/1040EZ Income Tax Returns (first two pages only)
7. Upload enrollment acceptance confirmation
8. Upload official 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 SAR Report

Award Procedure

Up to \$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. The tuition information provided in your application to the Foundation is not acceptable for payment of your award.

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.

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

Application Deadline

Application Deadline: Friday March 14, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. HST

Benefits

- \$10,000 total award per year
- 8 semesters (four years) of funding
- Hualālai ‘Ohana academic advisor
- Cultural enrichment
- Community outreach opportunities
- Tutoring and mentoring
-

SCHOLARSHIPS – Hualalai ‘Ohana Scholars

Renewal

- Complete a new application
- Attend all Program events, meetings and summer experiences
- Register for and complete a minimum of 12 units per semester
- Maintain a minimum cumulative 3.0 GPA
- Update FAFSA annually
- Determined to be in good standing and eligible for continuation at the post-secondary institution
- Demonstrated participation in 40 hours of volunteer service each academic year
- Submit a year-end report and meet the terms and conditions of Scholar Participation Agreement
- In addition to any other terms and conditions, the number and amount of all scholarship awards and renewals is contingent on the availability of funding.

Deadlines:

The applicant is responsible for ensuring that all materials, including transcripts and letters of recommendation, are submitted no later than the deadlines listed. Failure to have all materials submitted by the specified deadlines will result in an incomplete application. Meeting the application requirements and scholarship criteria does not guarantee that you will receive a scholarship. Once an application has been submitted, it cannot be accessed for changes.

December 2024	The 2024-25 FAFSA form will be available
January 1, 2025	Hualālai ‘Ohana Scholars Online Application Opens
February 1, 2025	Have your FAFSA completed
March 14, 2025 – by 5:00 p.m.	‘Ohana Scholars Application Deadline Completed application must include online application, 2 recommendation letters, transcripts, proof of acceptance at Hawaii-based college, personal statement, examples and reference to leadership & volunteer / community service
March 17 - 21	Application Review Period
April 7 - 11	Finalist Interviews
April 18	Finalists Announced
June 7, 2025	Hualālai ‘Ohana Scholars Breakfast & Orientation Meeting