

Hawai'i Early Childhood Educator Stipend Program

Investing in our youngest keiki ages 0-5 years old by investing in their educators

The State of Hawai'i Executive Office of Early Learning (EOEL) and University of Hawai'i, in partnership with generous funding from the Samuel N. and Mary Castle Foundation, is proud to offer a tuition stipend to current *and* potential early childhood educators and caregivers! Stipends are available to students enrolled in qualified college-level Early Childhood Education (ECE) certificate and degree programs throughout the University of Hawai'i college system.

? Do I qualify?

You may qualify for this tuition stipend if you are currently enrolled or planning to enroll in a generalist ECE certificate, degree or licensure program at the following University of Hawai'i college campuses:

- UH Hilo (Hawaiian and Indigenous Language Medium programs)
- Hawai'i Community College
- UH Maui College
- UH Mānoa
- UH West O'ahu
- Honolulu Community College
- Kaua'i Community College

? Should I apply?

This stipend is for you if you currently work, or have an interest to work, as an infant/toddler caregiver, preschool teacher or assistant, FCIL educator, home visitor, family childcare provider, or educator in some capacity in an ECE program serving children 0-5 years old.



Photo by Honolulu Community College

? What is a tuition stipend?

While stipends, grants, scholarships and loans can all help students pay for college, some have obligations you must fulfill after you graduate while others do not. A **tuition stipend** is awarded to students to cover tuition costs with some requirements that must be fulfilled after graduation, such as commitments to work in a particular setting and/or type of job; if those work commitments are not fulfilled, the stipend must be paid back.

? Why a tuition stipend?

The goal of this tuition stipend program is to help increase qualifications of our ECE workforce. We are seeking individuals who, **following completion of a certificate, degree, or license program, will commit to provide early care and education services directly to children from birth through 5 years of age for at least two consecutive years in one of the early learning systems described in HRS § 302L-2, including Hawaiian language medium and Hawaiian immersion settings and early learning settings at charter schools.**

How to apply

1. Register for your courses for the upcoming semester. **You must be registered for eligible courses in order to qualify** for this stipend. If you are not yet enrolled in a qualifying early childhood program in the UH system, you must complete this step first by contacting the appropriate Admissions Office: <https://apply.hawaii.edu/>. Qualifying programs are listed on page 1.
2. Access the application on SurveyMonkey using the QR code or weblink below.
3. Complete the application for the semester(s) you are applying by the respective deadlines.
4. Tuition awards will be announced about one week before the semester begins.
5. Awardees will need to sign a stipend agreement before awards are distributed.

Deadlines to apply

Apply by the dates stated below for the term you wish to receive stipend funds:

- Fall term - apply by July 15
- Spring term - apply by December 1
- Summer term - apply by April 15



www.surveymonkey.com/r/FHGD75Y



Photo courtesy of INPEACE



Photo by LCC Children's Center

How much is the stipend?

Awardees could be eligible for up to part- or full-time tuition costs, depending on funds available and the number of qualified applicants.

Please note you are still responsible for any remaining tuition balance not covered by the stipend award. Also, any stipend received for tuition and fees will be considered as part of your financial aid eligibility. Any outside funding a student receives that pays for any portion of the student's cost of attendance must be considered when determining eligibility for financial aid. This stipend is considered "outside funding."

Things to know

- Failure to complete coursework with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 (or better) may jeopardize future opportunities to participate in this stipend program.
- Failure to complete a certificate, degree or license program or to satisfy the work requirements will result in stipend funds needing to be repaid in terms and conditions set by EOEL. The stipend recipient may also be subject to associated collection fees.

Contact

Hawai'i Early Childhood Educator Stipend Program is a collaboration between the EOEL & Graduate Early Childhood Education Programs at the College of Education, UH Mānoa.

For more information go to: tiny.cc/ecestipend

For further inquiries, please contact:

ece@hawaii.edu, (808) 956-2376