



## 'O Ka'ū Kākou (*We are Ka'ū*)

A volunteer-based 501(c)(3) non-profit community service organization

*Serving our Ka'ū communities for a better tomorrow*

*P.O. Box 365 Pahala, Hawaii 96777*

[www.okaukakou.org](http://www.okaukakou.org)



# 2024

## 'O Ka'ū Kākou

## Scholarship

## Application



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*The objective of the 'O Ka'ū Kākou organization is to take an active interest in the civic, economic, social health and moral welfare of our community and its people and to support cultural programs of benefit to them and the community.*

Aloha Scholarship Applicant,

'O Ka'ū Kākou (OKK) is proud to sponsor scholarships for the 2024-2025 school year. Scholarships will be offered to high school or home-schooled graduating seniors and to undergraduate college students. Individual scholarship awards are \$1,000 (\$500.00 per semester) for students enrolled full-time at any accredited trade school, 2-year or 4-year college to assist with tuition costs.

Applicants must be residents of Ka'ū district, or if attending an out-of-state college, applicant must be claimed as a dependent whose parent or legal guardian's principal residence remains in the district of Ka'ū.

Instructions, guidelines, and information regarding eligibility, selection criteria, and the application process are detailed in the *Application for Scholarship instructions and guidelines* and *Exhibit A*. Please thoroughly complete the application as requested and carefully follow all instructions. *Incomplete applications will not be considered.*

Only hard copies of your application and supporting documents will be accepted (no electronic submissions). Applications **must** be postmarked on or before the **DEADLINE of APRIL 30, 2024.** *Late submissions will not be considered.*

Recipients of previous scholarships who have not submitted their mahalo letter to OKK will not be considered for further scholarship funding.

Any questions regarding this application can be directed to the OKK Scholarship Committee via email: [okaukakou.org.scholarship@gmail.com](mailto:okaukakou.org.scholarship@gmail.com). Please be aware that it may take up to 24-36 hours for the Committee to respond to your email.

Pomaika'i nō,

OKK Scholarship Committee



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## **APPLICATION FOR SCHOLARSHIP INSTRUCTIONS & GUIDELINES**

- You must use the official 2024-25 'O Ka'ū Kākou scholarship application.
- Application must be dated and have original signatures by you and your parent(s) or legal guardian.
- Typed applications are preferred; however, neatly printed and legible applications are acceptable.
- Applications and all supporting documents must be in English.
- All applications will remain confidential and become the property of 'O Ka'ū Kākou and will not be returned to you.
- Applications & all supporting documents must be hard copy & postmarked on or before **APRIL 30, 2024.**
- Applications and all supporting documents must be hard copy mailed to:  
OKK Scholarship Committee, Attn: Chairperson Tim, c/o P.O. Box 819, Pahala, HI 96777.
- No electronic applications permitted. Late submissions will not be considered.
- If you have previously received a scholarship from 'O Ka'ū Kākou, please follow the instructions for "Repeat Application".

### **ELIGIBILITY**

- Applicant must be a current high school or home school senior or full-time college student in good standing.
- Applicant must be residing in the district of Ka'ū, or out-of-state college student whose principal residence is in Ka'ū.
- Applicant must attend an accredited trade school or a two or four year accredited college as a full-time student in the 2024-2025 school year.

### **COMPLETED APPLICATION PACKAGE**

- The completed application package must include the application, essays, transcript, test scores and exhibits, Counselor's Report and Parent/Guardian Consent; all pages should be firmly attached together in a binder or via large binder clip, brad or multi-prong metal clasp (no staples).

### **EMPLOYMENT**

- List all employment held from January 1, 2023, until date of application.
- List approximate total hours worked, not average hours per week.
- Include letter of recommendation from most recent employer signed by direct supervisor.

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

- List community service performed January 1, 2023, until date of application.
- List approximate total hours served, not average hours per week.

### **HONORS AND AWARDS**

- List any and all awards received during grades 9 through 12. Complete segment as instructed in Honors and Awards section.

### **LEADERSHIP AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

- Complete this section as instructed.

### **ESSAYS**

- Write essays of no more than 1,000 words (12pt. font, 2 pages maximum).
- The essays must be typed, dated and signed; and include total word count.



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## INSTRUCTIONS & GUIDELINES (CONT.)

### COUNSELOR REPORT

- This report must be completed by your high school guidance counselor or appropriate school official.

### TRANSCRIPT & SAT/ACT SCORES

- Include an official, current high school/college transcript of student grades.
- Transcript may be a photocopy of an original that bears the signature of the proper school authority.
- The transcript must include seventh semester classes but not grades.
- Test scores must be included in the application, but may be photocopies or printed from SAT and/or ACT websites.
- The SAT essay score will not be taken into consideration.
- It is not necessary to send a separate sheet of test scores if they are included on your transcript.

### HOME SCHOOLING

- Home-schooled students are eligible to apply for the scholarship. However, all aspects of the application must be filled out completely.
- When possible, a third party should complete the Counselor's Report for the applicant.

### UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

- Undergraduate students are eligible to apply for the scholarship. However, all aspects of the application must be filled out completely.

### ADDITIONAL EXHIBITS (OPTIONAL)

- Exhibits are optional supplemental material.
- Attach exhibits of achievement in scholarship, leadership, athletics, community services or other activities.
- Emphasis is given to quality of activities over quantity.

### SELECTION CRITERIA

- Incomplete applications or late submittals will not be considered for funding.
- Academic achievement-grade point average, college prep courses.
- Community service and volunteer work.
- References.
- Letters of recommendation.
- See Exhibit A for scoring system.

### SCHOLARSHIP OFFERS

- All scholarships will be paid by the semester.
- Scholarships will be paid to college financial office after proof of registration.
- Scholarships apply only to full-time students.

### REPEAT APPLICATION

If you have previously received a scholarship from 'O Ka'ū Kākou, you can submit a shortened application. Please submit the following:

1. Application Form/Personal Information.
2. Essays.
3. Work experience and community service in 2023.
4. Honors and awards received in 2023.
5. Official, current transcript of grades.



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## **APPLICATION FORM** **PERSONAL INFORMATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Last

First

Middle initial

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Month

Day

Year

City & State or Country

Name and Location of High School \_\_\_\_\_

Name of college or university planning to attend \_\_\_\_\_

Address of college or university \_\_\_\_\_

List all scholarships you have applied for or already been awarded for the 2024-25 school year

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member or related to a member of 'O Ka'ū Kākou? Yes / No

Where will you be living while attending secondary education? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you plan to be employed during the school year? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Please read this carefully before signing below**

I have answered all the questions on this application to the best of my ability. I understand that in order to receive my scholarship funds I must provide the 'O Ka'ū Kākou treasurer with a formal "verification of enrollment" form before any funds will be released. I understand that the financial aid office will not receive any funds until I am officially enrolled and attending classes at my school.

### **SIGNATURES**

Applicant's signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Legal Guardians signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



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## **GOALS AND ASPIRATIONS**

**Essay #1:** Attach a typed short essay (single spaced, 12pt font, 2-page maximum, 1,000 words or less) explaining in detail what your future goals and aspirations are. Be as specific as possible and include your academic or higher education goals, post-academic employment/career plans and goals, what you're passionate about and why. **What are your future plans to use your degree to improve life in Ka'ū?** Include your name and the total word count in the bottom corner.

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

**Essay #2:** Attach a typed short essay (single spaced, 12pt font, 2-page maximum, 1,000 words or less) explaining in detail how you feel about volunteering and giving back to the community. Describe what impact your volunteer experience(s) had on you, what you contributed, what you learned about yourself, and how it influenced your plans for the future. **Be as specific as possible about what your intentions and goals are to give back to the community in the decade following your graduation from college or trade school.** Include your name and the total word count in the bottom corner.

List all community service or volunteer work you performed from **January 1, 2023, until date of application**, starting with the most recent. If necessary, attach a separate sheet to this section. List approximate total hours worked, not average hours per week.

Name of Organization	Activities/Positions	Dates of Involment
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

GRAND TOTAL HOURS VOLUNTEERED= \_\_\_\_\_

## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

List jobs you have held from **January 1, 2023, until date of application**. Start with the most recent and include work on a family farm or family business, even if you are not paid. If necessary, attach a separate sheet to this section. List approximate total hours worked, not average hours per week.

Type of Work / Total Hours	Employer	Approximate Dates of Employment
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

GRAND TOTAL HOURS WORKED= \_\_\_\_\_



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## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

List scholastic, extracurricular, and civic honors and awards received during grades 9 through 12. Include the year of the award and select your grade level at time of recognition. Photocopies of Certificates, Awards, etc. may be included as Additional Exhibits, but are not required. On a separate sheet of paper briefly describe in 25 words or less the purpose of each award and why you received it. **Please do not abbreviate names of awards**, as we may not understand their meanings. **Complete this section even if you plan to attach an activity sheet or resume.**

Honors and Awards	Grade level at Time of Recognition			
	9	10	11	12
	1. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## **LEADERSHIP AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

List your **principal** leadership roles and extracurricular activities **in the order of importance to you**. State the activity or organization name, grade level(s) you were involved, hours-per-week commitment, position held and your responsibilities. **Complete this section even if you plan to attach an activity sheet or resume.**

Activity / Organization	Grade Level				Hours/week	Position Held / Responsibilities
	9	10	11	12		
1. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
2. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
3. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
4. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
5. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____



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## **REFERENCES AND LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION**

List four (4) persons other than a relative (i.e.: counselor, teacher, clergy, mentor, etc.) who have known you long enough to confirm your personal qualities and academic abilities. Two (2) letters of recommendation must be attached to your application or mailed separately to 'O Ka'ū Kākou.

Name _____	Name _____
Email Address _____	Email Address _____
Phone _____	Phone _____
Relationship _____	Relationship _____
Name _____	Name _____
Email Address _____	Email Address _____
Phone _____	Phone _____
Relationship _____	Relationship _____

## **STUDENT & PARENT/GUARDIAN CONSENT**

Permission to Use Name and Photograph

- ( ) I grant to OKK, its representatives and employees the right to take photographs of me. I authorize OKK, its assignees and transferees to use and publish the same in print and/or electronically.
- ( ) I authorize OKK, its assignees and transferees to use and publish the same in print and/or electronically.
- ( ) I agree that OKK may use such photographs of me with or without my name and for any lawful purpose, including for example such purposes as publicity, illustration, advertising, and web content.

I have read and understand the above:

Applicant (Student) signature:

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s) or legal guardian(s) signature(s):

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_





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## COUNSELOR REPORT

**Applicant:** Fill out your name and give this page to your counselor or appropriate school official. This section can be completed by your counselor before you are finished with the application, but must be in a sealed envelope and signed across the seal.

**Student Name** \_\_\_\_\_

Last

First

Middle Initial

**Counselor:** This form will be used to verify the student's academic status, so be sure to provide accurate information. Please include a copy of your school profile if available, and answer all of the following questions, even if the information is included in the profile. A school profile is a document describing your school's demographics and course offerings. If your school has policy of not ranking students, provide information to help us identify promising applicants. **Please secure these items in a sealed envelope, signed across the seal, and give to the student to include in the application package.**

Applicant's grade point average (A=4.0) \_\_\_\_\_ (required) The highest GPA in the graduating class? \_\_\_\_\_ (required)

Is the GPA based on weighted grades?  Yes  No

Class rank: The applicant ranks \_\_\_\_\_ in a class of \_\_\_\_\_. How many have this rank? \_\_\_\_\_

How many rank above? \_\_\_\_\_ is the rank based on weighted grades?  Yes  No

If exact rank is not available, indicate rank to the nearest 10<sup>th</sup> from the top \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's **highest** test scores (required): ACT \_\_\_\_\_ /Date taken \_\_\_\_\_

SAT Critical Reading \_\_ Math \_\_\_\_\_ /Date(s) taken \_\_\_\_\_

Are honors courses available?  Yes  No Has the applicant taken honors courses?  Yes  No

If yes, in which subjects has the applicant taken honors courses? \_\_\_\_\_

Are Advanced Placement courses available?  Yes  No

Has the applicant taken Advanced Placement courses?  Yes  No

If yes, in which subjects has the applicant taken Advanced Placement courses? \_\_\_\_\_

How would you describe this applicant's academic program compared with that of the other students applying for scholarships?

Below Average  Average  Above Average  Rigorous  Most Rigorous

Is there a community service requirement to graduate?  Yes  No If yes, how many hours? \_\_\_\_\_

Has the applicant ever been suspended or dismissed from school?  Yes  No

If yes, please explain the circumstances. \_\_\_\_\_

Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_ School Phone \_\_\_\_\_

School Email \_\_\_\_\_ Length of time acquainted with applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Attach completed Counselors Report to completed application.**



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## **EXHIBIT A**

**(For applicant's information – do not include with application)**

A minimum of \$5,000 in scholarships will be funded by 'O Ka'ū Kākou for the 2024-25 school year. This amount may increase pending funding availability and Board of Directors approval. All applications are equally evaluated based on the following criteria and scoring system:

0-5 points will be given for each of these categories:

1. Application Completeness
2. Letters of Recommendation
3. Leadership and Extra-curricular Activities
4. Community Service and Volunteerism
5. Work/employment experience
6. Academic Strength (GPA/SAT score)
7. Honors and Awards
8. Essay #1 Career Goals and Aspirations
9. Essay #1 Future plans to improve life in Ka'ū
10. Essay #2 Volunteer/Civic Experience
11. Essay #2 Give back plans and goals for the decade after completing higher education
12. Essays: General grammar, spelling, punctuation, complete sentences, etc.

The Scholarship Committee will conduct and complete review of all applications by mid-May. Scholarship recipients will be notified by mail no later than May 31, 2024.

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### **CHECKLIST FOR APPLICANT:**

- Completed and Signed Application Form
- Goals and Aspirations Essay
- Community Service Essay
- Employer letter of recommendation, if applicable
- Honors and Awards Description/Explanation
- Additional Exhibits, if applicable
- Photocopies of any Awards or Honors (Optional)
- Letters of Recommendation (if not mailed separately)
- Completed and Signed Name and Photo Authorization
- Completed and Signed Counselor Report
- Mailed with postmark on or before **APRIL 30, 2024**