SCHOLARSHIPS

DEADLINE TO APPLY:
TUESDAY JAN 31, 2017 4PM HST

STEP 1

STEP 2

Apply Online!
at HawaiiCommunityFoundation.org

Hawai'i Community Foundation has over $4 million available for scholarships from more than 200 funds to make the road to college easier. Just complete our online application process to be matched to our multiple scholarships.

BEGINNING November 15, 2016, log onto Scholarship Manager via the Hawai'i Community Foundation website and begin your 2017-18 Common Application online.

GATHER your required supporting materials to upload to your online application:

1. **2017-18 Student Aid Report (SAR)** – A 2017-18 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) must be submitted and processed in order for you to obtain your 2017-18 SAR. You can now submit your FAFSA as early as October 1, 2016, using your 2015 income tax information. For more information go to https://fafsa.ed.gov.

2. **Grade Transcript** – Obtain your most recent grade transcript from your school's registrar's office.

SUBMIT your application online by **January 31, 2017 at 4:00pm, Hawai'i Standard Time** with all your supporting materials.

HAWAI'I COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Visit our website for details on how to apply: **HawaiiCommunityFoundation.org**
For assistance, contact HCF's Scholarship Department:
scholarships@hcf-hawaii.org or call toll-free: **1-888-731-3863**

Scholarships
FAQ

When is the scholarship application deadline? The 2017-2018 application deadline is 4:00pm (HST) on Tuesday, January 31, 2017.

How do I apply? Beginning November 15, 2016, go to HawaiiCommunityFoundation.org/scholarships to start your online application. Returning applicants must login with your existing account information. Once you fill out your basic information, you can electronically upload your supporting documents to your application. Letters of Recommendation are also sent to the recommender and submitted online.

What should I do if I am a returning applicant and I forgot my user name and/or password? Send us an email at scholarships@hcf-hawaii.org and let us know that you have forgotten your user name and/or password. We can help you reset your account. Please do not create another account if you forgot your user name, password, or email address.

How much time will it take to complete the online application? It will take approximately 2-3 hours to complete the application. Your application session will time out after 45 minutes of inactivity. You may save your application and return to it at any time prior to the deadline date.

What do I need in order to complete my online application? You will need to prepare the following support materials to upload to your scholarship application:

• Copy of your full 2017-18 Student Aid Report (SAR) that you received after your 2017-18 FAFSA has been processed (FAFSA.ed.gov).
• Your most recent Grade Transcript printed by your school registrar's office, which must contain the following information:
  - Institution name and logo
  - Student's full name
  - Course history
  - Grades for each course
  - Current cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA)
  - For continuing college students, your current year's fall semester grades and information must be included.
• Personal Statement - Two required essays; one is your personal statement, and the second asks you to address how you plan to give back to Hawai'i. (Essays may be copied and pasted onto the application)
• Letters of Recommendation(s) (required for some funds)
• Additional Essay (required for some funds)
• SAT/ACT scores (required from high school seniors for some funds)

What if I don't have a scanner to scan and upload my support documents? You may want to seek assistance from a relative, friend, working professional, or counselor who may have access to a scanner. You can also visit copy centers such as Kinkos, which can assist you for a small fee. The recommended file format is PDF for attachments.

Can I mail my supporting documents? Everything must be submitted online. We recommend that you gather the necessary tax documents to complete your FAFSA (estimated numbers are accepted) as early as October 1. Your online application can only be submitted once all supporting documents have been uploaded.

Do I need to select the scholarships for which I want to apply? We will automatically match your application to all the scholarships for which you may be eligible once your online application is processed for committee review. You may search scholarships for specific eligibility criteria on our website, and note that some scholarships require you to complete extra questions or have letters of recommendation. Be sure to fully complete the entire application to increase your chances of eligibility for as many scholarships as possible.

What are the basic eligibility criteria? Each scholarship has specific eligibility criteria defined by the donor when the fund is established. General criteria that apply to most scholarships include: resident of the state of Hawai'i; demonstrate financial need; attend an accredited two or four year, not for profit institution within the U.S. (including U.S. territories); attend as a full-time student (as determined by your school's financial aid office).

How much will I receive in scholarships? Scholarship funds offer varying award amounts, which generally range from $1,000 to several thousand dollars, depending on the size of the particular fund, the number of qualified applicants, and directions given by the donor(s) of the fund. Applicants are encouraged to complete the application as thoroughly as possible (i.e. answer as many questions that are applicable, provide essays as requested) in order to increase their chances of being eligible for multiple scholarship opportunities. The average award for students is approximately $2,500.

How will I know if I am awarded a scholarship? An award will be posted to a student's account online, which can be viewed at any time between April and July by simply logging into his/her account. With over 3,000 applicants each year, the awarding process is extremely competitive and not all applicants may receive a scholarship, however we encourage you to apply every year.

When will I be notified of my award status? You will be notified online after the selection committees meet, which may be any time between April and July. Once awarded, we need you to accept each award online and submit the Student Enrollment Form to let us know your education plans for the following year.

When will I receive the scholarship money? Scholarships are paid directly to the school you are attending, usually in two payments. Payments are made in August for the fall semester and December for the spring semester.

HAWAI'I COMMUNITY FOUNDATION