

SENATOR DONNA MERCADO KIM

PROUDLY SERVING
DISTRICT 14

KAPALAMA • 'ALEWA • KALIHI VALLEY • FT. SHAFTER • RED HILL • MOANALUA GARDENS & VALLEY
PORTIONS OF HALAWA & 'AIEA



HAWAII TAX REBATE CHECKS

About 600,000 Hawaii taxpayers are scheduled to receive approximately \$294 million in tax refunds.



In the first round of refund distributions, 100,000 taxpayers will receive their refunds through either direct deposit or by mail on or about Sept. 12.

The Department of Taxation says two additional distribution dates are scheduled for Sept. 9 and Sept. 13, which should complete the bulk of direct deposit refunds.

This bill, passed by the Legislature this past session, was the product of the State's billion dollar surplus, providing a one-time refund of \$300 or \$100 (dependent upon adjusted gross income) for individuals who filed a state tax return for 2021. That entitles a family of four a one-time tax refund of up to \$1,200 from the State if their adjusted gross income is below \$100,000 per year.

For many local families, this refund will provide significant relief, especially at a time in which we are navigating the economic challenges of inflation. For those who filed their tax return between January 1 and July 31, rebates should have been sent via a paper check or direct deposit, with those who filed after July 2022 anticipating their returns between September and October.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Do I have to do anything to get this money?

A: You must file a Hawaii individual income tax return (Form N-11) for the 2021 tax year by the end of 2022, according to DOTAX. Beyond that, the refund process should be automatic for qualifying resident taxpayers. See tax.hawaii.gov.

Q: Are retirees eligible?

A: Yes, if they are qualifying resident taxpayers who file a Hawaii individual income tax return for tax year 2021 by the end of this year. Under the law, which you can read at 808news/ACT115, "qualifying resident taxpayer" means an individual taxpayer who has been a Hawaii resident, as defined in Hawaii Revised Statutes 235-1, for at least nine months, regardless of whether they were physically in the state for nine months.

Q: Will this money count as taxable income on our 2022 Hawaii income tax return? What about the federal tax return?

A: No. The rebate would not be included as income on the federal or state return.



As designated by Act 115, tax refunds are coming soon for qualified individuals

HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



September 12

The bulk of direct deposit refunds for eligible taxpayers will occur on or about this date.



End of October

Taxpayers receiving refund checks by mail and who filed tax returns by 7/31 should receive them before or by this date (dependent on arrival of check stock)



December 31

Eligible taxpayers must file their 2021 tax returns by this date to qualify for this tax refund.

Taxpayers who filed individual income tax returns for 2021 and have been residents of Hawai'i for at least 9 months are eligible.



Taxpayers who earn less than \$100,000/year or couples earning less than \$200,000/year will receive: \$300 each, including dependents



Taxpayers who earn \$100,000+/year or couples earning more than \$200,000/year will receive: \$100 each, including dependents



Members of the Senate Special Committee on COVID-19 and House Leadership presented a certificate to recognize and honor Hawaii Pacific Health for services provided throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.



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SEPTEMBER 2022

BE A COCA-COLA SCHOLAR!

HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

We're giving \$20,000 college scholarships to 150 change agents across the country.

Apply Online
CokeURL.com/Apply2022
August 1 - October 31, 5pm EDT

Learn more at coca-colascholars.org



COCA-COLA SCHOLARSHIP

Coca-Cola is offering \$3,000,000 in college scholarships for current high school students who will graduate in the 2022-2023 school year. Applications are open through October 31, 2022.

Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must be:

- ◇ Current high school (or home-schooled) student attending a school **in the U.S.** (or select DoD schools) who will graduate during the 2022-2023 academic school year
- ◇ U.S. Citizens, U.S. Nationals, U.S. Permanent Residents, Refugees, Asylees, Cuban-Haitian Entrants, or Humanitarian Parolees - based on the guidelines utilized by U.S. Department of Education for Federal Financial Aid eligibility
- ◇ Expecting to receive high school diploma during current academic year
- ◇ Planning to pursue a degree at an accredited U.S. post-secondary institution
- ◇ Able to verify a minimum overall B/3.0 GPA in high school coursework

Information webinars are limited to the first 500 who register for each date.

September 7, 7-7:45 pm eastern
September 12, 7-7:45 pm eastern
September 14, 4-4:45 pm eastern
September 20, 4-4:45 pm eastern

Apply for the scholarship at <https://www.cocacolascholarsfoundation.org/>.



The Biden Administration's Student Loan Debt Plan

FORGIVING DEBT

\$20,000 if you went to college on Pell Grants

\$10,000 if you didn't receive Pell Grants

Forgiveness only applies to those earning less than \$125,000

Student loan pause extended one final time through Dec 31, 2022

PAYMENT BASED ON INCOME

If you have undergraduate loans, you can cap repayment at 5% of your monthly income

On Aug. 24, 2022, the Biden-Harris Administration announced a Student Debt Relief Plan that includes one-time student loan debt relief targeted to low- and middle-income families.

The U.S. Department of Education (ED) will provide up to \$20,000 in debt relief to Federal Pell Grant recipients and up to \$10,000 in debt relief to non-Pell Grant recipients. Borrowers with loans held by ED are eligible for this relief if their individual income is less than \$125,000 (or \$250,000 for households).

An online form will be available by early October. For more information, go to <https://studentaid.gov/debt-relief-announcement/one-time-cancellation>.

REPLACEMENT VACCINATION CARD

Replacing a lost COVID-19 vaccination card starts with knowing where you got vaccinated. If you were vaccinated by multiple providers, you may need to contact each provider. In general, contact the same provider that administered your vaccine. If you were vaccinated at a pop-up or temporary clinic, you may need to call the Department of Health District Office for your county, or the DOH Immunization Branch at 808-586-8332.



Process to Request a Replacement Vaccination Card/Certificate

Updated 6/1/2022

Only for individuals vaccinated in Hawaii

Where you got vaccinated	How to request a replacement card/certificate
Hospital, Pharmacy, clinic, health center, DOD, or VA	Contact the location/provider that administered the vaccine
Windward Community College, Windward Health Center Point of Dispensing (POD), Behavioral Health Administration POD, Leeward Community College, University of Hawaii, Project Vision Hawaii, Oahu in-home vaccination of Oahu Correctional Facilities	Call 808-586-8332
Hawaii Department of Health (HI-DOH) POD on Kauai, Maui, or Big Island	Contact HI-DOH's District Health Office in the respective county. Kauai 808-241-3495; Maui 808-984-8201; Big Island 808-974-6012
At a POD that is now closed AND you KNOW who was running the POD	Contact the provider that operated the POD (e.g., Queens, Hawaii Pacific Health, etc.)
You don't know who was operating the POD where you got your vaccination	Call 808-586-8332 or 833-711-0645. Provide your name, date of birth, vaccination location, date and approximate time you got vaccinated, your return phone number or email address

The Vaccine Administration Management System (VAMS) printout will be accepted. If you registered for your vaccination using VAMS, log into the system and print out the VAMS certificate.