

SENATOR DONNA MERCADO KIM

PROUDLY SERVING
DISTRICT 14

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



NEW BENCHMARKS SET FOR TRAVEL, GATHERINGS, & RESTAURANTS; ID RENEWALS & MORATORIUM EXTENDED

Beginning June 15, travelers entering the state who have been vaccinated in Hawaii may bypass quarantine without a pre-travel test. The new benchmarks for travel based on the State's vaccination rates are as follows:

- ⇒ On June 15, all inter-island travel restrictions will be dropped. Travelers entering the State who have been vaccinated in Hawai'i, may bypass quarantine without a pre-travel test.
- ⇒ At 60% fully vaccinated, the State will accept proof of vaccination for domestic travel.
- ⇒ At 70% fully vaccinated, all restrictions will be dropped.

Restrictions for inter-county travel will also end starting June 15. That means inter-county travelers will not longer be subjected to testing and quarantine rules.

As of June 14, 55% of Hawaii's residents have been fully vaccinated.



The governor designated June as "Hawaii Got Vaccinated Month," as the state pushes a number of incentives to get more people vaccinated.

If you have received at least one COVID-19 vaccination shot of Moderna, Pfizer or Johnson & Johnson, you are eligible to enter for prizes from any island in Hawaii. Visit [higotvaccinated.com](https://www.higotvaccinated.com) for more information. All entries must be received by 11:59 pm on June 30.

Additionally, vaccination benchmarks for gatherings and restaurants were announced on June 7. When the state achieves a 60% vaccination rate, the following will be permitted:

- ⇒ Social gatherings: 25 allowed indoors and 75 allowed outdoors
- ⇒ Restaurants: Up to 75% capacity (with maximum groups size of 25 indoors and 75 outdoors)

The 21st emergency proclamation also extends the eviction moratorium for those unable to pay rent. Renters and landlords are encouraged to seek and accept the rental assistance relief being distributed in each county.

The proclamation also allows for the extension of expirations for driver's licenses, state IDs, and instructional permits that expired during the emergency period. This extension allows county driver's licensing centers to recover from the ongoing effects of the pandemic on availability of services.

The 21st emergency proclamation is effective immediately and will expire on August 6, 2021.



Area legislators honored longtime Aiea board member, Bill Clark, on his numerous years of service to the community. Certificates from the House and Senate and the City Council were presented to Bill at Aiea Library.

HONOLULU EASES RESTRICTIONS IN TIER 4

Some of the major changes include the following:

- ⇒ Social gatherings outdoors of up to 25 people
- ⇒ Indoor gatherings with up to 10 people
- ⇒ Indoor organized sports with spectators up to 33% capacity
- ⇒ Social establishments, like clubs and karaoke bars, can finally reopen at up to 50% capacity if all attendees are tested or show proof of vaccinations
- ⇒ Outdoor weddings of up to 200 people
- ⇒ Indoor events, including concerts, meetings and conventions, with a mitigation plan and 50% capacity if all attendees are tested or show proof of full vaccination
- ⇒ Large outdoor events with a mitigation plan and capacity can be higher if attendees are tested or provide proof of vaccination

JOB SEARCH REQUIREMENT REINSTATED FOR UNEMPLOYMENT RECIPIENTS



Hawaii residents currently receiving unemployment insurance benefits will again be required to prove they are searching for work. This requirement applies to individuals who have lost their full-time jobs and are on regular unemployment or Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation.

Claimants must make at least three job search contacts per week. This includes registering for work on HireNet Hawai'i, applying for jobs by submitting a resume, or attending a job fair. Individuals must keep a written log of job contacts and must be ready to submit the log to the UI Division upon request. Failure to do so could result in ineligibility for UI benefits.

For more information go to: [hawaiiunemploymentinfo.com](https://www.hawaiiunemploymentinfo.com)



SUMMER MEALS PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN START JUNE 4

The State's Department of Education's Grab-and-Go meal service will continue to provide meals to the community during the summer. All children ages 18 and younger may participate at the approximately 80 distribution sites, regardless of their enrollment status.

The summer meals program began on June 4 and will run until July 19. Meal distribution will be at lunchtime only. Pick-ups will include one lunch for that day and one breakfast for the following day, per child.

Families are encouraged to visit their nearest participating school — and not visit multiple locations — to ensure that schools can produce the appropriate number of meals each day. Please contact the school of your choice for more details. Sponsor sites at public agencies, churches and nonprofit organizations will also be distributing meals to children over the summer. Details will be forthcoming. Click [here](#) for a current list of meal locations.

Parents or guardians who choose to pick up meals without their child(ren) present must provide one of the following verification documents daily:

- ⇒ Official letter or email from school listing child(ren) enrolled.
- ⇒ Recent student report card(s).
- ⇒ Attendance record(s) from parent portals of school websites.
- ⇒ Birth certificate(s) of child(ren).
- ⇒ Student ID card(s).
- ⇒ Driver's permit/license(s) for high school students.
- ⇒ State-issued ID of the student.

For special diet accommodations, please send an email to specialdiets@k12.hi.us.

HAWAII RESIDENTS ENCOURAGED TO REVIEW INSURANCE POLICIES AND DEDUCTIBLES AHEAD OF HURRICANE SEASON

As hurricane season approaches and Hawaii residents prepare their 14-day emergency kits, the State Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs Insurance Division would like to encourage consumers to review their insurance policies and understand their deductibles.



Consumers need to be aware that standard homeowners and renters insurance policies do not cover hurricane and flood damage. Hurricane insurance can be purchased separately or endorsed onto the policy to supplement home insurance to cover hurricane related damages. Homeowners need to keep in mind that once a

tropical storm approaches our islands, insurance companies may issue a moratorium and stop writing any new policies.

In addition, damage caused by flood is not covered by homeowners or hurricane insurance. Because flooding can occur anytime and anywhere, even if you are outside a high-risk area, it is important for consumers to consider adding flood insurance coverage. Consumers who purchase a National Flood Insurance Program policy need to plan ahead as there is typically a 30-day waiting period for the policy to go into effect.

Consumers should check their policy's Declarations page to understand the amount of their hurricane deductible and contact their agent or insurance company if they have any questions.

Additional information on flood and hurricane insurance can be found on the Insurance Division's website under Consumer Resources at cca.hawaii.gov/ins/resources/

FUNDS RELEASED FOR RED HILL ELEMENTARY

Project: Finance design work for a covered playcourt

Amount Released: \$250,000



MORATORIUM WILL NOT TRIGGER DISCONNECTIONS

Hawaiian Electric will not disconnect customers with past due accounts immediately after May 31, 2021, the end of the moratorium on disconnections set by the Public Utilities Commission. But customers are urged to act now to set up a payment plan to avoid disconnection in the future.



Hawaiian Electric

Customers may go to hawaiianelectric.com/paymentarrangement to see payment plan options, including an 18-month plan for residential customers, and submit a request. (Late fees and interest are waived while on a plan.) The payment arrangement request form and an informational flyer are available in eight languages on Hawaiian Electric's website.

If a customer does not pay the amount due while on a payment plan, it may trigger collection activity and service may be disconnected at some point in the future. Contact Hawaiian Electric right away for assistance or to make an adjustment to the payment arrangement.

Customers experiencing hardship related to the COVID-19 pandemic are encouraged to seek government and nonprofit agency assistance. Hawaiian Electric does not administer these programs, but it works with many of these agencies. See a listing of resources at hawaiianelectric.com/COVID19.

REAL PROPERTY TAX CREDIT FOR HOMEOWNERS

The City & County of Honolulu offers a real property tax credit for homeowners who meet certain eligibility requirements. If you qualify, the amount of credit that you will receive to reduce your property tax next year will be based on your income and your current year's taxes.

The Eligibility Requirements are as follows:

- * Homeowner must have a home exemption in effect at the time of application and for the subsequent tax year.
- * Any of the titleholders do not own any other property anywhere.
- * The combined income of all titleholders cannot exceed \$60,000.



How to obtain a Tax Credit Application:

Online: <http://www.honolulu.gov/cms-bfs-menu/site-bfs-sitearticles/6416-treasury-division.html>

Call the Tax Relief Office at 768-3205 to request an application and it will be mailed to you.

Applications will be mailed to everyone who applied for the credit in 2020. You should receive the application in late June. The application deadline is September 30, 2021

Note: If you qualify for the credit, the credit will be applied to your property tax bill that you will receive in July of 2022.

For more information or assistance, contact the Real Property Tax Relief Office at 768-3205.



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