

## Application Submittal Checklist

*The following items are required for submittal of the grant application. Please verify and check off that the items have been included in the application packet.*

- 1) Hawaii Compliance Express Certificate (If the Applicant is an Organization)
- 2) Declaration Statement
- 3) Verify that grant shall be used for a public purpose
- 4) Background and Summary
- 5) Service Summary and Outcomes
- 6) Budget
  - a) Budget request by source of funds ([Link](#))
  - b) Personnel salaries and wages ([Link](#))
  - c) Equipment and motor vehicles ([Link](#))
  - d) Capital project details ([Link](#))
  - e) Government contracts, grants, and grants in aid ([Link](#))
- 7) Experience and Capability
- 8) Personnel: Project Organization and Staffing

*Alice Tupou*  
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

Alice Tupou, Asst. Director, Finance & HR  
PRINT NAME AND TITLE

1/23/2026  
DATE



STATE OF HAWAII  
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

**CERTIFICATE OF VENDOR COMPLIANCE**

This document presents the compliance status of the vendor identified below on the issue date with respect to certificates required from the Hawaii Department of Taxation (DOTAX), the Internal Revenue Service, the Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR), and the Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA).

**Vendor Name:** HAWAII AGRICULTURE RESEARCH CENTER

**Issue Date:** 12/01/2025

**Status:** **Compliant**

Hawaii Tax#: [REDACTED]  
New Hawaii Tax#: [REDACTED]  
FEIN/SSN#: [REDACTED]  
UI#: XXXXXXX1270  
DCCA FILE#: 37120

Status of Compliance for this Vendor on issue date:

Form	Department(s)	Status
A-6	Hawaii Department of Taxation	Compliant
8821	Internal Revenue Service	Compliant
COGS	Hawaii Department of Commerce & Consumer Affairs	Exempt
LIR27	Hawaii Department of Labor & Industrial Relations	Compliant

**Status Legend:**

Status	Description
Exempt	The entity is exempt from this requirement
Compliant	The entity is compliant with this requirement or the entity is in agreement with agency and actively working towards compliance
Pending	A status determination has not yet been made
Submitted	The entity has applied for the certificate but it is awaiting approval
Not Compliant	The entity is not in compliance with the requirement and should contact the issuing agency for more information



## PUBLIC PURPOSE

The requested grant will be used for a public purpose pursuant to Section 42F-102, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

The Hawaii Agriculture Research Center (HARC) requests a grant in order to improve the overall benefits to the people of Hawaii by providing increased diversified agriculture and economic opportunity in the state. The grant will be used to secure long-term access to agricultural irrigation water by replacing the primary irrigation supply pipe to HARC's Kunia Farm.

HARC requests \$750,000 to achieve the stated goals.

Further, the undersigned authorized representative certifies that this statement is true and correct to the best of the applicant's knowledge.

Hawaii Agriculture Research Center  
(Typed Name of Individual or Organization)

*Alice Tupou*  
(Signature)

1/23/2026  
(Date)

Alice Tupou  
(Typed Name)

Asst. Director of Finance & HR  
(Title)

## **II. Background and Summary**

### *1. Description of the Applicant's Background*

The Hawaii Agriculture Research Center (HARC) is a private, nonprofit organization (501c3) supporting diversified agriculture in Hawaii through scientific research, technology transfer and business development. HARC has a long track record of successful projects in collaboration with local, state and federal agencies, universities and private industry. HARC's diverse expertise in a wide range of agricultural subjects provides a valuable resource for Hawaii's farmers in a rapidly changing agricultural environment. The Hawaii Agriculture Research Center's 100-acre parcel in lower Kunia directly supports new farmers, agriculture research, community organizations and educational programs by providing expertise, access to affordable land, and infrastructure.

### *2. Goals and Objectives*

To continue HARC's 125-year history, HARC requests Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Grant-in-Aid funding to replace 8,000 linear feet of irrigation pipe to enable continued support of these valued community services. HARC's Kunia property functions as a multi-use agricultural hub, integrating research, farmer incubation, and hands-on community and K-12 education. Reliable irrigation is foundational. However, the existing 8-inch water line that connects the HARC Farm to the Kunia Water Authority (KWA) reservoir is years past its expected lifespan resulting in structural failure, including leaks at joints, pressure loss, and emergency repairs that disrupt farm operations and instructional programming. HARC is solely responsible for the water line, with breakages resulting in approximately \$50,000 a year in repair costs. Beyond the economic loss, the lack of water access during breakages disrupts the agricultural, conservation, and forestry operations and negatively impacts crop health.

The requested funds will be used to **install approximately 8,000 linear feet of 8-inch HDPE irrigation pipeline (DR-11)** at HARC's Kunia facility. The scope includes the following components:

- Complete **butt-fusion of all pipe joints** using certified fusion equipment and operators.
- Trenching, bedding using native soil, and full backfill along the pipeline alignment.
- Connection to existing infrastructure, including **pressure-reducing valve (PRV) connections**, existing 8-inch HDPE lines, and filter connections.
- Installation of miscellaneous fittings, air relief assemblies, concrete kickers, and appurtenances.
- Final system testing and commissioning to verify pressure integrity and flow performance.

The HARC water line connects to a Kunia Water Authority (KWA) Reservoir and then runs along Kunia Road above the HARC property for a total distance of approximately 8,000 linear feet. The existing pipe is buried three to four feet below ground, contributing to the high costs of repair. The requested funds will modernize critical water infrastructure that supports HARC agricultural and forestry research operations, 11 beginning farmers, active agricultural research plots, and K-12, teacher, and community education programs operating on site. The existing pipeline has reached the end of its useful life, resulting in frequent leaks, water loss, pressure instability, and recurring maintenance disruptions.

The proposed project will install a fully fused HDPE system designed for long-term durability, improved hydraulic performance, and reduced water loss. HDPE pipe is a significant upgrade over the existing PVC pipe due to its increased strength, flexibility and long-life span (40-50+ years). The superior flexibility is particularly important due to the vibrations caused by vehicles on Kunia Road.

In addition to replacing the water line, the requested funds will be used to upgrade the water filter station. The filter station removes large particles of debris down to some fine soil size particles to prevent clogging of drip irrigation systems. In recent years, HARC has partnered with new farmer training programs (GoFarm) and local farmers to provide access to affordable agriculture land at the Kunia Farm. The existing water filter station is undersized to accommodate this increased demand, resulting in large amounts of debris and sediment in the system. The sediment clogs the filters and slows the flow of water. This in turn reduces the water pressure on the farm, sometimes going as low as 0 psi, making irrigating some fields impossible. An upgraded/larger filter station will increase the surface area of filters and enlarge pipe size, allowing more water to pass through, reducing debris build up. With increased water flow and the confidence of reliable pressure under higher water draw, HARC can increase research project acreage and even increase our land lease partnerships with new farmers. The increased capacity will allow HARC to expand their plantings in locally important species such as coffee, papaya and *Acacia koaia*.

Upon completion, the upgraded system will dramatically improve the irrigation system performance and provide reliable irrigation services, conserve water resources, and ensure continuity of HARC research, education and workforce development activities central to HARC's mission.

Objective 1: Replace 8,000 linear feet of 8" diameter PVC water line with 8" HDPE pipe to connect HARC Kunia Farm with the KWA reservoir.

Objective 2: Install new water filter station to increase irrigation water quality and quantity at the HARC Kunia Farm.

All work will be performed by experienced contractors using industry-standard equipment and methods to ensure compliance with applicable construction and safety standards.

### *3. Public purpose and need to be served*

As large commercial agricultural production of sugarcane and pineapple decreased in the state, many agricultural workers and their families have struggled to survive. The HARC Kunia Research Station is instrumental for developing new opportunities in diversified agriculture. The Kunia Farm is an ideal location for research on a wide range of crops such as papaya, coffee, moringa and biofuels. The Kunia Farm also hosts the HARC k-12 agricultural education program (Seeds4Tomorrow), providing hands-on science education to Hawaii school children. Finally, HARC provides affordable agriculture leases to new farmers helping to ensure the future of farming in Hawaii.

### *4. Target population*

The immediate population served by the project will be the diversified agriculture farmers around the state that rely on practical research to ensure long-term sustainability. Additionally, current HARC farming tenants will benefit from increased reliability, quantity and quality of irrigation water for their crops. The upgrades will also allow HARC to make more land available

for future tenants. The agricultural workers of Hawaii will benefit through the increased employment opportunities created. The general public will benefit from increased local food production, improving the sustainability and resilience of Hawaii’s food system.

*5. Geographic*

The project has statewide implications as HARC’s research is focused on crops grown throughout the state.

**III. Service Summary and Outcomes**

*1. Scope of work, tasks and responsibilities*

Installation of the new HARC Kunia water line and filter station will be managed by the HARC Director of Facilities, Michael Kaufmann.

*2. Timeline*

A: Secure contractor(s) to install water line and filter station: Months 1-4

B: Complete installations: Months 4-12.

*3. Quality assurance and Evaluation Plans*

HARC has a long, successful history of R&D on a wide range of crops. HARC utilizes an internal review process to ensure proper quality control. HARC regularly conducts external reviews with DLNR-DOFAW, the US Department of Agriculture and the US Forest Service. HARC hires a third-party auditor annually for financial compliance.

*4. Measure of effectiveness*

Reports will be made to the legislature describing the success of proposed activities. Linear feet of water pipe replaced and the increased filter station capacity to serve as the primary measure of effectiveness.

**IV. Financial**

*1. See Enclosed Budget Forms*

*2. Quarterly Funding Needs*

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Total Grant
\$300,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$750,000

*3. No other funding sources are requested at this time.*

*4. HARC has not applied for or received any tax credits in the past three years and does not anticipate receiving any in the foreseeable future.*

*5. Government contracts, grants and grants in aid received by HARC*

A: Federal:

B: State of Hawaii: 2019 OP GIA, AGR 192, \$50,000; 2022 CIP GIA, \$650,000

C: County:

6. As of December 31, 2025, HARC had unrestricted current assets of \$568,504

## V. Experience and Capability

### 1. Necessary Skills and Experience

HARC staff have over 100 years of combined experience in farm and irrigation management. HARC's diverse professional staff and long history of working in Hawaii provides access to a network of local, highly qualified contractors and suppliers.

### 2. Facilities and Equipment

HARC has a standard plant tissue culture laboratory to conduct the micropropagation, including a medium preparation room containing an autoclave, washing area, glass wares, a pH meter, weighing balances etc, and tissue culture rooms containing laminar hoods, bio-safety hoods, incubators and shakers etc. The laboratory provides well-controlled temperature, humidity, air circulation, and light quality and duration. HARC has approximately 180 acres of actively farmed land on Oahu between its Kunia and Maunawili Farms. Both sites have all the requisite vehicles, tractors, irrigation and other standard farm equipment needed for the field plantings.

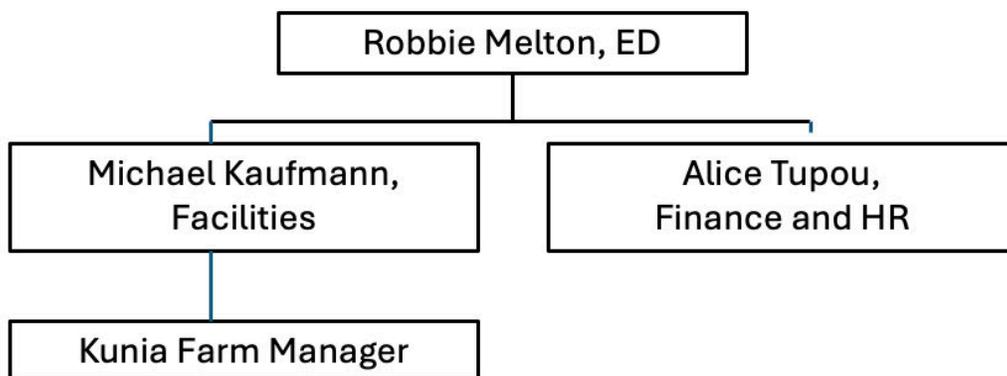
## VI. Personnel: Project Organization and Staffing

### 1. Proposed staffing, qualifications, supervision and training

**Michael Kaufmann, Facilities Director:** Michael Kaufmann has over 15 years of agriculture and farm infrastructure management in Hawaii. Michael will work with the HARC Kunia Farm manager to install the infrastructure improvements. Through his education, training and experience, Michael is a proven team leader, supervisor and trainer.

**Alice Tupou, Finance Director, MBA:** Alice Tupou will oversee the project finances including compliance with all grant requirements, procurement, reimbursement and financial reporting.

### 2. Organizational Chart



### *3. Compensation*

The highest compensation for HARC employees are:

Executive Director	\$	113,300
Assistant Director, Finance & HR	\$	99,576
Horticulturalist	\$	89,760

## **VII. Other**

- 1. HARC has no pending litigation or outstanding judgements.*
- 2. No special licensures or accreditation is necessary to complete the project.*
- 3. No grant funds will be used to support or benefit a sectarian or non-sectarian private educational institution.*
- 4. Future sustainability of the project will rely on private funding.*

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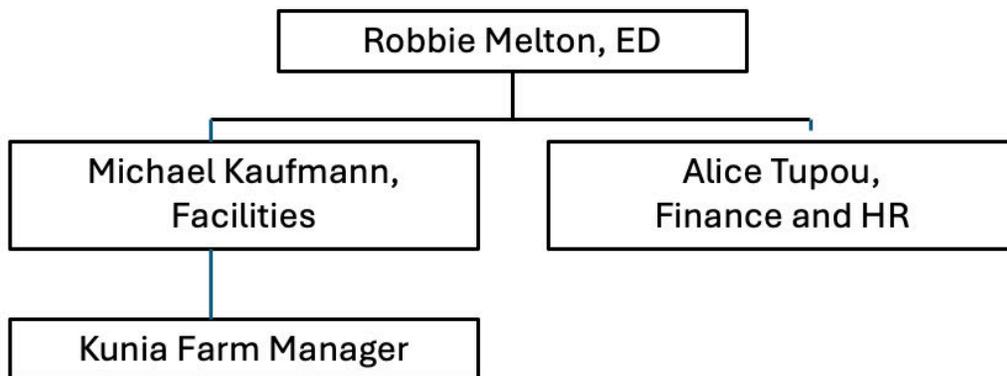
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## BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - EQUIPMENT AND MOTOR VEHICLES

Period: July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027

Applicant: Hawaii Agriculture Research Center

DESCRIPTION EQUIPMENT	NO. OF ITEMS	COST PER ITEM	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
N/A			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
<b>TOTAL:</b>				

JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:

DESCRIPTION OF MOTOR VEHICLE	NO. OF VEHICLES	COST PER VEHICLE	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
N/A			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
<b>TOTAL:</b>				

JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:

## BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - CAPITAL PROJECT DETAILS

Period: July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027

Applicant: Hawaii Agriculture Research Center \_

FUNDING AMOUNT REQUESTED						
TOTAL PROJECT COST	ALL SOURCES OF FUNDS RECEIVED IN PRIOR YEARS		STATE FUNDS REQUESTED	OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDS REQUESTED	FUNDING REQUIRED IN SUCCEEDING YEARS	
	FY:2024-2025	FY:2025-2026	FY:2026-2027	FY:2026-2027	FY:2027-2028	FY:2028-2029
PLANS						
LAND ACQUISITION						
DESIGN						
CONSTRUCTION			750000			
EQUIPMENT						
<b>TOTAL:</b>			<b>750,000</b>			
<b>JUSTIFICATION/COMMENT</b> All requested funds to be used for installation of new water line infrastructure						

**GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND / OR GRANTS IN AID**

Applicant: Hawaii Agriculture Research Center

Contracts Total: -

	<b>CONTRACT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATES</b>	<b>AGENCY</b>	<b>GOVERNMENT ENTITY (U.S./State/Hawaii/ Honolulu/ Kauai/ Maui County)</b>	<b>CONTRACT VALUE</b>
1	N/A				
2					
3					
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