

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



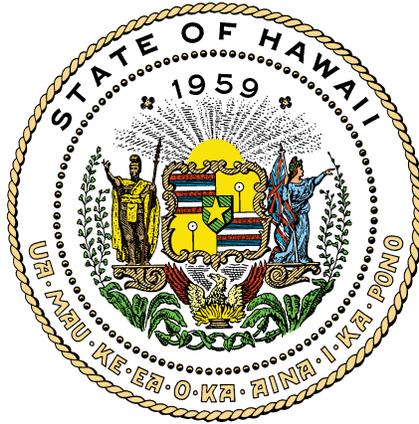
Kēhaulani Kupihea, Executive Director

1/22/2026

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

PRINT NAME AND TITLE

DATE



Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

CERTIFICATE OF GOOD STANDING

I, the undersigned Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs of the State of Hawaii, do hereby certify that

MAULIOLA KE`EHI

was incorporated under the laws of Hawaii on 04/22/2019 ; that it is an existing nonprofit corporation; and that, as far as the records of this Department reveal, has complied with all of the provisions of the Hawaii Nonprofit Corporations Act, regulating domestic nonprofit corporations.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, at Honolulu, Hawaii.

Dated: January 17, 2026

Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

**DECLARATION STATEMENT OF
APPLICANTS FOR GRANTS PURSUANT TO
CHAPTER 42F, HAWAII REVISIED STATUTES**

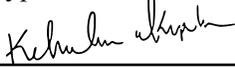
The undersigned authorized representative of the applicant certifies the following:

- 1) The applicant meets and will comply with all of the following standards for the award of grants pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes:
 - a) Is licensed or accredited, in accordance with federal, state, or county statutes, rules, or ordinances, to conduct the activities or provide the services for which a grant is awarded;
 - b) Complies with all applicable federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, creed, sex, age, sexual orientation, or disability;
 - c) Agrees not to use state funds for entertainment or lobbying activities; and
 - d) Allows the state agency to which funds for the grant were appropriated for expenditure, legislative committees and their staff, and the auditor full access to their records, reports, files, and other related documents and information for purposes of monitoring, measuring the effectiveness, and ensuring the proper expenditure of the grant.
- 2) If the applicant is an organization, the applicant meets the following requirements pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes:
 - a) Is incorporated under the laws of the State; and
 - b) Has bylaws or policies that describe the manner in which the activities or services for which a grant is awarded shall be conducted or provided; and
- 3) If the applicant is a non-profit organization, it meets the following requirements pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes:
 - a) Is determined and designated to be a non-profit organization by the Internal Revenue Service; and
 - b) Has a governing board whose members have no material conflict of interest and serve without compensation.
- 4) The use of grant-in-aid funding complies with all provisions of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii (for example, pursuant to Article X, section 1, of the Constitution, the State cannot provide "... public funds ... for the support or benefit of any sectarian or nonsectarian private educational institution...").

Pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for grants used for the acquisition of land, when the organization discontinues the activities or services on the land acquired for which the grant was awarded and disposes of the land in fee simple or by lease, the organization shall negotiate with the expending agency for a lump sum or installment repayment to the State of the amount of the grant used for the acquisition of the land.

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

Mauliola Ke'ehi
(Typed Name of Individual or Organization)


(Signature)

1/20/2026
(Date)

Kehaulani Kupihea Executive Officer
(Typed Name) (Title)

Application for Grants

If any item is not applicable to the request, the applicant should enter "not applicable".

I. Certification – Please attach immediately after cover page

1. Hawaii Compliance Express Certificate (If the Applicant is an Organization)

If the applicant is an organization, the applicant shall submit one (1) copy of a Hawaii Compliance Express Certificate from the Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and General Services that is dated no earlier than December 1, 2025.

A Certificate of Vendor Compliance for Mauiola Ke'ehi is included in this proposal.

2. Declaration Statement

The applicant shall submit a declaration statement affirming its compliance with [Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes](#).

The Declaration Statement affirming compliance with Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes is signed by the Kēhaulani Kupihea, Executive Director of Mauiola Ke'ehi, and is included in this proposal.

3. Public Purpose

The applicant shall specify whether the grant will be used for a public purpose pursuant to [Section 42F-102, Hawaii Revised Statutes](#).

Mauiola Ke'ehi requests operating support for the public purpose of improving the health and wellbeing of Hawai'i residents by empowering them with Native Hawaiian cultural practices and practical tools for self-regulation, resilience, and mental fitness and environmental justice. This purpose is in alignment with Section 42F-102, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

II. Background and Summary

This section shall clearly and concisely summarize and highlight the contents of the request in such a way as to provide the State Legislature with a broad understanding of the request. Please include the following:

1. A brief description of the applicant's background;

Mauiola Ke'ehi is a **Native Hawaiian Holistic Health organization** that empowers individuals with practical tools for **self-regulation, resilience, and mental fitness**. Rooted in the historic tidal islands of Ke'ehi, we offer **ocean-focused therapeutic experiences** grounded in cultural practices for **mental health and environmental justice**. Mauiola Ke'ehi has reached over 20,000 individuals since its founding, integrating Hawaiian practices, science, and healing traditions through culture-based education. Participants experience physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual growth through our healing curriculum, Kino Kino and place-based learning curriculum.

Our mission is to promote transformative healing through understanding the frequencies, vibrations, and Mana (energy) of the Honua (earth) that our kūpuna utilized to achieve Mauiola (wellbeing). Our vision is a future where community well-being, ecological health, and cultural values thrive together to maintain the frequency of Mauiola (Mental, Physical, Spiritual Wellbeing).

2. The goals and objectives related to the request;

1. Reconnecting Keiki and Community to Nature

- Provide culture-based learning rooted in kilo (observation), mo'olelo (storytelling), and hands-on interaction with native ecosystems
- Foster environmental and cultural stewardship by engaging youth and adults in marine debris removal, native plant restoration, and reef walks
- Strengthen pilina (connections) with 'āina and kai to inspire a deep sense of kuleana

2. Addressing Trauma and Promoting Wellbeing

- Utilize ancestral healing practices such as kilo kino (internal reflection), protocol (oli, pikai), and cultural art therapy
- Facilitate healing for communities impacted by intergenerational trauma, incarceration, substance use, or systemic marginalization
- Improve individual and collective wellbeing through culturally grounded therapeutic engagement with the environment and heritage

3. Education and Empowerment through Hawaiian Knowledge

- Support DOE teachers through professional development in place-based and culture-based learning
- Integrate Hawaiian science, history, and health into a classroom-ready curriculum

- Expand hands-on learning experiences to underserved schools to address educational achievement gaps and socio-emotional learning disparities

4. Cultural Revitalization and Community Capacity Building

- Preserve and perpetuate traditional practices such as hoe wa'a (canoe paddling), 'imi papa ola kai (marine life observation), and kilo
- Uplift community voices through storytelling, art, and direct involvement in stewardship of wahi pana (sacred places) of Mauiola and Ke'hei
- Train youth and educators to serve as cultural ambassadors and environmental stewards

3. The public purpose and need to be served;

Mauiola Ke'ehi integrates Native Hawaiian holistic health practices together with ocean-based lessons in environmental stewardship for Hawai'i Department of Education (DOE) teachers and students. Activities seek to increase cultural identity, environmental awareness, and improved health and wellbeing.

4. Describe the target population to be served; and

This project will serve the following:

- Over 500 DOE students, grades K-12
- At least 150 DOE teachers
- At least 100 Hawaii residents
- 50 university students and professors
- Approximately 20 keiki that live at the Kahauiki Village

For over a decade, we have been working with DOE schools. The list includes but is not limited to the following (partial list):

High Schools:

Mililani
Nanakuli
Farrington
Castle
Moanalua
Waianae High School
Mililani
Moanalua

Middle School

Wahiawa
King Intermediate
Mililani Middle

Elementary

Kauluwela
Pearl City Highlands
Kaneohe
Mililani Waena
Kipapa

Chart Schools

Halau Ku mana
Kula Kaiapuni 'O Anuenue
Kula Kaiapuni 'O Hau'ula
Punanaleo
Hawaii Tech Academy

We also began partnering with Kahauiki Village, a homeless shelter located on Nimitz Highway, to support their keiki.

5. Describe the geographic coverage.

Mauiola Ke'ehi supports the Island of O'ahu and hosts visits from schools originating from the outer islands.

III. Service Summary and Outcomes

The Service Summary shall include a detailed discussion of the applicant's approach to the request. The applicant shall clearly and concisely specify the results, outcomes, and measures of effectiveness from this request. The applicant shall:

1. Describe the scope of work, tasks and responsibilities;

Mauiola Ke'ehi's curriculum is comprised of a series of five Learning Stations. These experiential "learning stations" form the core structure of our healing and educational model. They blend Hawaiian cultural practices with environmental science and trauma-informed care.

Station 1: Kilo / Kilo Kino – Deep Observation/self

Key Concepts:

- External and internal kilo for developing awareness
- Weather, ocean, and self-assessment
- Cultural practice for mental clarity and reflection
-

Outcomes:

- Increased emotional regulation and self-awareness
- Stronger observational and scientific thinking
- Increase understanding, it is our kuleana to malama our mauiola

Station 2: Mo'olelo Art & Cultural Mapping

Key Concepts:

- Storytelling as data
- Historical understanding of Ke'ehi, ali'i, and migration chants
- Connection to ancestral knowledge systems
- Mo'olelo Art therapy

Outcomes:

- Strengthened cultural identity
- Increased appreciation for Hawaiian worldview and genealogy

Station 3: 'Imi Papa Ola Kai – Marine Exploration

Key Concepts:

- Hands-on identification of reef species and limu
- Understanding connections to the Kumulipo and creation

Outcomes:

- Workforce development Increased interest in marine biology and ocean literacy
- Fostered kuleana for ocean ecosystems

Station 4: Hoe Wa'a – Canoe Paddling

Key Concepts:

- Deep water confidence building
- Navigation, teamwork, safety
- Understanding of hanu (breath) and how to control it in high-stress environments

Outcomes:

- Strengthened resilience and teamwork
- Improved physical health and confidence in ocean spaces

Station 5: Mālama 'Āina & Kai – Stewardship

Key Concepts:

- Invasive species removal
- Native plant restoration
- Marine debris cleanup

Outcomes:

- Strengthened kuleana and civic responsibility
- Improved understanding of human impact on ecosystems
- Deep understanding of heal the 'āina and heal ourselves

2. Provide a projected annual timeline for accomplishing the results or outcomes of the service;

- **May–July 2026:** Curriculum & resource development, training
- **August 2026–May 2027:** School-year delivery of learning stations,
- **June–July 2027:** Kaiola Summer Program, educator PD
- **Fall 2027:** Evaluation, data analysis, reporting

3. Describe its quality assurance and evaluation plans for the request. Specify how the applicant plans to monitor, evaluate, and improve their results; and

We use mixed-method evaluation including:

- post participant reflections and qualitative data (journals, art, stories)
- Surveys measuring increase in cultural confidence, wellbeing, resilience, and stewardship
- Educator curriculum implementation tracking and student projects

4. **List the measure(s) of effectiveness that will be reported to the State agency through which grant funds are appropriated (the expending agency). The measure(s) will provide a standard and objective way for the State to assess the program's achievement or accomplishment. Please note that if the level of appropriation differs from the amount included in this application that the measure(s) of effectiveness will need to be updated and transmitted to the expending agency.**

Key Metrics:

- of participants served: 500+
- of teachers trained and DOE schools engaged: 150+
- of learning stations delivered: 50+
- % increase in cultural identity, environmental awareness, and reported wellbeing: 75%

IV. Financial

Budget

- 1. The applicant shall submit a budget utilizing the enclosed budget forms as applicable, to detail the cost of the request.
 - 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](#))

- 2. The applicant shall provide its anticipated quarterly funding requests for the fiscal year 2027.

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Total Grant
\$41,250	\$41,250	\$41,250	\$41,250	\$165,000

- 3. The applicant shall provide a listing of all other sources of funding that they are seeking for fiscal year 2027.

Mauiola Ke'ehi will submit requests for support from the following; Queens Health Care System, Kamehameha Schools, Consuelo Foundation, County/City of Honolulu, Pa'i Foundation, Hawaii Pacific Foundation.

- 4. The applicant shall provide a listing of all state and federal tax credits it has been granted within the prior three years. Additionally, the applicant shall provide a listing of all state and federal tax credits they have applied for or anticipate applying for pertaining to any capital project, if applicable.

Not applicable.

- 5. The applicant shall provide a listing of all federal, state, and county government contracts, grants, and grants in aid it has been granted within the prior three years and will be receiving for fiscal year 2027 for program funding.

Not applicable.

- 6. The applicant shall provide the balance of its unrestricted current assets as of December 31, 2025.

\$150,000

V. Experience and Capability

1. Necessary Skills and Experience

The applicant shall demonstrate that it has the necessary skills, abilities, knowledge of, and experience relating to the request. State your experience and appropriateness for providing the service proposed in this application. The applicant shall also provide a listing of verifiable experience of related projects or contracts for the most recent three years that are pertinent to the request.

Mauiola Ke'ehi brings over a decade of community-based education rooted in Hawaiian healing practices. Our staff is made up of cultural practitioners, educators, scientists, and healers, many of whom are genealogically tied to the wahi pana of Ke'ehi.

Our achievements include:

- Serving 20,000+ participants since inception
- Decade-long partnerships with DOE schools, private schools, and UH campuses, serving approximately 1,000 individuals annually
- 4 years partnering with City and County EMT services
- Student transformation stories (e.g., marine biology career pivots, STEM projects from reef walks)
- Community impact through ocean-based therapy, cultural identity work, and environmental healing
- Recently entered into an agreement with the state parks to “adopt a park” on the coastline of Mauiola (Sand Island).

Verifiable experience

Organization: State Parks
Contact: Kekai Mar, kekai.k.mar@hawaii.gov
Dates: Dec 5, 2025
Description: Interpretive Program Specialist

Organization: Consuelo Foundation
Contact: Dawn Mahi, Program Director, dmahi@consuelo.org
Dates: 2019 - current
Description: Funding and technical support to increase capacity and sustainability.

2. Facilities

The applicant shall provide a description of its facilities and demonstrate its adequacy in relation to the request. If facilities are not presently available, describe plans to secure facilities.

All activities take place at our site at the Sand Island State Park (Mauiola). This is where our canoes and all of our other equipment are located in a locked shed and Matson Container. We recently entered into an agreement with the state parks to “adopt a park” on the coastline of Mauiola (Sand island) where we are located. This agreement provides us with the ability to use the space and in return for our time and effort, revitalizing the area with native plants and clearing of marine debris.

All administrative work is conducted remotely.

VI. Personnel: Project Organization and Staffing

1. Proposed Staffing, Staff Qualifications, Supervision and Training

The applicant shall describe the proposed staffing pattern and proposed service capacity appropriate for the viability of the request. The applicant shall provide the qualifications and experience of personnel for the request and shall describe its ability to supervise, train and provide administrative direction relative to the request.

Staffing

Position: Executive Director
Status: Full-time
Name: Kēhaulani Kupihea
Supervisor: Board of Directors
Responsibilities: Hire/ manage staff, contractual services and volunteers; administer day-to-day activities, create budgets and budget proposals, oversee all grants which includes all grant reports to funders, build capacity through interfaces with organizations and county agencies, work with all contractors and secure permitting for land development when necessary, carry out due diligence tasks and ensure the quality assurance and controls of all projects and programs reach strategic goals and impact.
Qualifications: Kehaulani Kupihea is the Founder and Executive Director of Mauiola Ke'ehi. A Kānaka Maoli cultural practitioner, educator, and trained Archaeologist, she brings over two decades of experience in teaching and activating ancestral Hawaiian knowledge systems for community healing. Genealogically tied to the sacred lands and waters of Ke'ehi, Kehaulani leads with a deep commitment to 'āina-based education and cultural revitalization.

Position: Marine Biologist
Status: Part-time
Name: Addison Trainer
Supervisor: Executive Director
Responsibilities: Leads marine education and reef ecology programming through culturally grounded, hands-on experiences that connect participants to ocean science and stewardship
Qualifications: B.A in marine biology

Consultants:

- ***Evaluator/Program Manager:*** Manage evaluation of activities, collecting and assessing data, writing reports

- **Education Kumu:** Implement programs, organize lesson plans, work directly with participants.
- **Lifeguards:** Kanalu Lifeguards are retained to accompany participants on the ocean.

Supervision. The Executive Director is responsible for supervision of Mauiola Ke'ehi's small but efficient staff. She has over 10 years of supervisory experience, including managing large numbers of volunteers.

Monthly staff meetings are held to go over the challenges and successes of the previous month, and discuss upcoming events. The Executive Director has an open door policy so that staff members may bring up any issues or ideas at any time.

2. Organization Chart

The applicant shall illustrate the position of each staff and line of responsibility/supervision. If the request is part of a large, multi-purpose organization, include an organization chart that illustrates the placement of this request.

See the organizational chart attached.

3. Compensation

The applicant shall provide an annual salary range paid by the applicant to the three highest paid officers, directors, or employees of the organization by position title, not employee name.

The Executive Director of Mauiola Ke'ehi receives compensation of between \$60,000 and \$85,000.

Marine Biologist \$60,000-65,000

Artistic Director part-time \$30,000-\$35,000

VII. Other

1. Litigation

The applicant shall disclose any pending litigation to which they are a party, including the disclosure of any outstanding judgement. If applicable, please explain.

Mauiola Ke'ehi is not involved in any litigation.

2. Licensure or Accreditation

The applicant shall specify any special qualifications, including but not limited to licensure or accreditation that the applicant possesses relevant to this request.

Mauiola Ke'ehi is an IRS 501(c)(3) in good standing with the state and federal government.

3. Private Educational Institutions

The applicant shall specify whether the grant will be used to support or benefit a sectarian or non-sectarian private educational institution. Please see [Article X, Section 1, of the State Constitution](#) for the relevance of this question.

4. Future Sustainability Plan

The applicant shall provide a plan for sustaining after fiscal year 2027 the activity funded by the grant if the grant of this application is:

- (a) Received by the applicant for fiscal year 2027, but**
- (b) Not received by the applicant thereafter.**

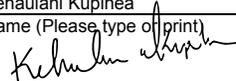
In the event funding is received, Mauiola Ke'ehi will utilize the funds as detailed in this proposal. If funding is not received thereafter, Mauiola Ke'ehi will continue to submit grants and solicit donations until sufficient funds are secured.

BUDGET REQUEST BY SOURCE OF FUNDS

Period: July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027

Applicant: Mauiola Ke'ehi

BUDGET CATEGORIES	Total State Funds Requested (a)	Total Federal Funds Requested (b)	Total County Funds Requested (c)	Total Private/Other Funds Requested (d)
A. PERSONNEL COST				
1. Salaries	22,500			120,000
2. Payroll Taxes & Assessments	4,500			24,000
3. Fringe Benefits	3,000			12,000
TOTAL PERSONNEL COST	30,000			156,000
B. OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES				
1. Airfare, Inter-Island				
2. Insurance	12,000			2,000
3. Lease/Rental of Equipment				
4. Lease/Rental of Space				
5. Staff Training	2,000			
6. Supplies/Equipment	35,000			5,000
7. Telecommunication	6,000			
8. Utilities				6,000
9. Contractors/Consultants	55,000			25,000
10. Vehicle (Utility Cart)	25,000			
11.				
12.				
13.				
14.				
15.				
16.				
17.				
18.				
19.				
20.				
TOTAL OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES	135,000			38,000
C. EQUIPMENT PURCHASES				
D. MOTOR VEHICLE PURCHASES				

E. CAPITAL				
TOTAL (A+B+C+D+E)	165,000			194,000
SOURCES OF FUNDING		Budget Prepared By:		
(a) Total State Funds Requested	165,000	Kēhaulani Kupaiea	808-372-1300	
(b) Total Federal Funds Requested	0	Name (Please type or print)	Phone	
(c) Total County Funds Requested	0		January 22, 2026	
(d) Total Private/Other Funds Requested		Signature of Authorized Official	Date	
TOTAL BUDGET	165,000	Kēhaulani Kupaiea, Executive Director Name and Title (Please type or print)		

Applicant: Mauiola Ke'ehi

DESCRIPTION EQUIPMENT	NO. OF ITEMS	COST PER ITEM	TOTAL COST
Not applicable			\$ -
			\$ -
			\$ -
			\$ -
			\$ -
TOTAL:			

JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:
Not applicable

DESCRIPTION OF MOTOR VEHICLE	NO. OF VEHICLES	COST PER VEHICLE	TOTAL COST
Utility Vehicle-New 2026 Polaris RANGER CREW 1000 Premium Rov	1.00	\$25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
			\$ -
			\$ -
			\$ -
			\$ -
TOTAL:	1		\$ 25,000.00

JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:
The utility vehicle will be used to transport supplies and equipment for workshops for our adopt a park.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND / OR GRANTS IN AID

App

Mauliola Ke'ehi

Contracts Total:

	CONTRACT DESCRIPTION	EFFECTIVE DATES	AGENCY	GOVERNMENT ENTITY (U.S./State/Hawaii/ Honolulu/ Kauai/ Maui County)
1	N/A			
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GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND / OR GRANTS IN AID

App

Mauliola Ke'ehi

Contracts Total:

	CONTRACT DESCRIPTION	EFFECTIVE DATES	AGENCY	GOVERNMENT ENTITY (U.S./State/Hawaii/ Honolulu/ Kauai/ Maui County)
1	N/A			
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**Board of Directors &
Advisory Board**

Executive Director

**Contractors
Lifeguards/Monitoring &
Evaluation (M&E)
Coordinator**

Program Educators

Program Assistant

**Program
Coordinator**

Artistic Director