

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



AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

Gregg Ichimura, Director

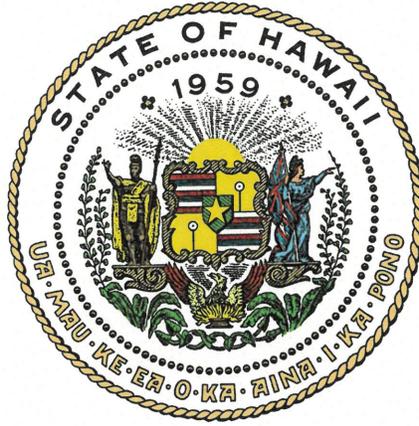
PRINT NAME AND TITLE

January 23, 2026

DATE

I. CERTIFICATION:

1. Certificate of Good Standing



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

PA'ANI CHALLENGE

was incorporated under the laws of Hawaii on 08/25/2025 ; 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 21, 2026

Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs



I. CERTIFICATION:

2. Declaration Statement

**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, Hawai'i 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, Hawai'i 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, Hawai'i 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, Hawai'i 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.

Pa'ani Challenge

(Typed Name of Individual or Organization)

01/23/2026

(Signature)

(Date)

Gregg Ichimura

Director

(Typed Name)

(Title)

I. CERTIFICATION:

3. Public Purpose

I. - CERTIFICATION:

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.

(1) The name of the requesting organization or individual;

Pa'ani Challenge

(2) The public purpose for the grant;

The Pa'ani Challenge believes that the character traits athletes learn by participating in wrestling -- traits like goal setting, developing a strong work ethic and building grit & perseverance -- are skills that can also help them be successful in life.

Also, many of the participants come from schools that don't have the resources to help the athlete understand their options after high school. The Pa'ani Challenge seeks to bridge this gap, to help the athletes understand there are a range of life options available to them and because of what they've already learned through wrestling, they're more equipped than they may realize to succeed in the next phase of life.

(3) The services to be supported by the grant;

The Pa'ani Challenge provides services such as scholarship and donations to highschool wrestling programs, college and career fair, motivational speakers, wrestling clinic run by a former Olympic Wrestling and current Division 1 Women's Wrestling Coach, and wrestling tournament.

(4) The target group;

The Pa'ani Challenge serves female high school wrestlers from across the state. From schools as small and remote as Ka'u and Hana, to large "city" schools like Campbell, we seek to provide all the athletes with the same opportunities to compete and learn.

(5) The cost of the grant and the budget.

Grant Request= \$250,000.00

II. BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY:

II.1 Background:

The Pa'ani Challenge was first organized in 2110 with a vision to expand the athletic, college & career opportunities of the female high school wrestlers in the State of Hawaii.

II.2 Goals Relative to the Request:

The Pa'ani Challenge seeks to provide Hawaii's female high school wrestlers with the opportunity to both compete in their sport and to learn about opportunities after they leave high school. In addition to the actual competition, athletes participate in a clinic run by a former Assistant Coach of the US Women's Olympic team, who is now a Division 1 Head Coach, and coaches are provided a workshop to help them develop their skills.

In addition to the athletic opportunity, the Pa'ani Challenge provides an opportunity for athletes to learn about opportunities after they graduate from high school. There is a college/career fair, typically featuring a dozen or more universities that are represented by students currently attending those institutions. Other non-academic organizations also participate, including the US military, the Honolulu Police Department and the Honolulu Fire Department, to provide the athletes the broadest view of their options.

In order to maximize participation, the tournament pays for all travel for any HHSAA athlete from the neighbor islands. This number typically approaches 300 athletes. Currently half of all funds are raised through private donations.

The tournament also recognizes an athlete for Fighting Spirit. In addition to the recognition, the athlete's school receives a \$1000 donation to their wrestling program.

If awarded, we would use the grant to expand the learning opportunities for the athletes by expanding the college/career fair and establishing a scholarship to assist with academic/apprenticeship costs.

II.3 Public Purpose:

The Pa'ani Challenge believes that the character traits athletes learn by participating in wrestling -- traits like goal setting, developing a strong work ethic and building grit & perseverance -- are skills that can also help them be successful in life. Also, many of the participants come from schools that don't have the resources to help the athlete understand their options after high school. The Pa'ani Challenge seeks to bridge this gap, to help the athletes understand there are a range of life options available to them and because of what they've already learned through wrestling, they're more equipped than they may realize to succeed in the next phase of life.

II.4 Target Population:

The Pa'ani Challenge serves female high school wrestlers from across the state. From schools as small and remote as Ka'u and Hana, to large "city" schools like Campbell, we seek to provide all the athletes with the same opportunities to compete and learn.

II.5 Geographic Coverage:

We serve the entire state of Hawaii. We also invite mainland schools to participate. Out of state participation is typically 5 - 10 athletes out of ~300 total participants and having mainland athletes involved helps enhance the overall competitive experience for the Hawaii wrestlers.

III. SERVICE SUMMARY AND OUTCOMES:

III.1 Scope of Work, Tasks, Responsibilities:

Each year, the Pa'ani Challenge puts on a wrestling tournament for all female high school wrestlers in Hawaii. This is a two-day event and typically serves approximately 300 athletes.

Prior to the tournament, the tournament committee raises, through private donations, enough funds to pay for airfare and hotel accommodations for any neighbor island HHSAA athlete. We also pay travel costs for 1 to 2 coaches, depending upon team size.

The tournament has traditionally been hosted by Punahou School but currently held at Kamehameha Schools Kapalama campus, at no cost to the tournament organizers. The two-day schedule is as follows:

Day 1

- Weigh ins
- Wrestling Clinic by Olympic Coach (and Roosevelt alum) Clarissa Chun
- Hosted dinner for the athletes (typically sandwiches)
- Keynote presentation - either inspirational speaker or panel discussion
- College/Career Fair
- First round of wrestling competition

Day 2

- Weigh ins
- Wrestling Competition
- Awards and closing

All work is typically handled by the tournament committee, with considerable help from volunteers from the wrestling community. As the current host, Kamehameha Schools provides the facilities, trainers, and most equipment (mats, etc.) at no cost to the tournament organizers. Other schools usually provide 1 to 2 extra wrestling mats, also at no cost to the organizers.

III.2 Timeline:

Planning for the tournament typically begins in the spring, securing the venue and getting the word out within the wrestling community over the summer. In the fall, we begin recruiting participants for the college/career fair and finalize logistical planning. Athlete registration usually takes throughout November and early December, and the tournament typically takes place at the end of December.

III.3 Quality Assurance & Measurement:

Key success metrics for the Pa'ani Challenge are the number of athletes participating and the number of opportunities they're exposed to. If awarded, we intend to use the grant to increase the number of organizations participating in our college/career fair, increase the number of neighbor island participants, and assisting school programs and individual athletes via awards and scholarships.

III.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 basic measures to be transmitted will be total count of high school wrestling participants and total count of organizations and institutions participating in the college and career fair.

IV. Financial

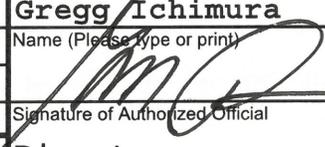
Budget

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](#))

BUDGET REQUEST BY SOURCE OF FUNDS

Period: July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027

Applicant: Pa'ani Challenge

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				
2. Payroll Taxes & Assessments				
3. Fringe Benefits				
TOTAL PERSONNEL COST				
B. OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES				
1. Airfare, Inter-Island				
2. Insurance				
3. Lease/Rental of Equipment				
4. Lease/Rental of Space				
5. Staff Training				
6. Supplies				
7. Telecommunication				
8. Utilities				
9. Travel Subsidy	60,000			50,564
10. Clinic	5,000			1,840
11. Educational Expenses	10,000			6,415
12. Tournament	20,000			15,371
13. Awards	10,000			3,357
14. G&A	5,000			1,436
15. UH Women's Wrestling Club	140,000			
16.				
17.				
18.				
19.				
20.				
TOTAL OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES	250,000			78,983
C. EQUIPMENT PURCHASES				
D. MOTOR VEHICLE PURCHASES				
E. CAPITAL				
TOTAL (A+B+C+D+E)	250,000			78,983
SOURCES OF FUNDING		Budget Prepared By:		
(a) Total State Funds Requested	250,000	Gregg Ichimura (808) 371-5249 <small>Name (Please type or print) Phone</small>		
(b) Total Federal Funds Requested		 <small>Signature of Authorized Official</small> 01/23/2026 <small>Date</small>		
(c) Total County Funds Requested				
(d) Total Private/Other Funds Requested	45,000			
TOTAL BUDGET	295,000	Director <small>Name and Title (Please type or print)</small>		

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - EQUIPMENT AND MOTOR VEHICLES

Period: July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027

Applicant: Pa'ani Challenge

DESCRIPTION EQUIPMENT	NO. OF ITEMS	COST PER ITEM	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
TOTAL:				

JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:

DESCRIPTION OF MOTOR VEHICLE	NO. OF VEHICLES	COST PER VEHICLE	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
TOTAL:				

JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - CAPITAL PROJECT DETAILS

Period: July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027

Applicant: Pa'ani Challenge

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						
EQUIPMENT						
TOTAL:	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:						

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND / OR GRANTS IN AID

Applicant: Pa'ani Challenge

Contracts Total:

100,000

	CONTRACT DESCRIPTION	EFFECTIVE DATES	AGENCY	GOVERNMENT ENTITY (U.S./State/Hawaii/ Honolulu/ Kauai/ Maui County)	CONTRACT VALUE
1					
2	State of Hawaii: Grant-in-Aid	12/01/25	Department of Education	State	100,000
3					
4					
5					
6					
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29					
30					

IV. Financial (con't)

Budget (con't)

2. The applicant shall provide its anticipated quarterly funding requests for the fiscal year 2026.

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Total Grant
\$50,000	\$50,000	\$150,000		\$250,000

3. The applicant shall provide a listing of all other sources of funding that they are seeking for fiscal year 2026.

- a) Private Donations

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.

- a) None

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 2026 for program funding.

- a) FY 2025-26: State of Hawaii Grant-In-Aid (\$100,000)

6. The applicant shall provide the balance of its unrestricted current assets as of December 31, 2024.

- a) \$45,000

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.

- a) The Pa'ani Challenge is in its 16th year of operation.
- b) No related projects or contracts to submit at this time

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.

- a) Kamehameha Schools Kapalama provides the facilities at no cost.
- b) If current facilities are not available, gym or arena space would be secured.

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.

- a) see Organizational Chart section

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.

The Pa'ani Challenge Board of Directors:

- a) Yoshi Honda – Co-Chair
- b) Natalie Taniguchi – Co-Chair & Founding Member
- c) Jimmy Takatsuka – Vice-Chair
- d) Matthew Sasaki – Vice-Chair
- e) Aaron Sekulich – Vice-Chair
- f) Craig Hirasaki – Vice-Chair
- g) Gregg Ichimura – Vice-Chair
- h) Byron Ige – Vice-Chair
- i) Al Chee
- j) Daniel Chow
- k) Rob Hesia
- l) John Robinson
- m) Ku'u Robinson

Advisors:

- 1) Layne Yamada
- 2) Rick Williams
- 3)

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.

- a) No Director or Officer receives a salary.

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.

- a) None

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.

- a) Sanctioned by Hawaii High School Athletic Association (HHSAA)

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.

- a) No support or benefit to any institution, but support and benefit to students.

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 2025-26, but
- (b) Not received by the applicant thereafter.

The Pa'ani Challenge will continue as it has for the past 16 years, but the expansion of services provided by the grant will be curtailed if additional private donations are not secured.