

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

Rafael Bergstrom, Executive Director

PRINT NAME AND TITLE

1/21/2026

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: Sustainable Coastlines Hawaii

DBA/Trade Name: Sustainable Coastlines Hawaii

Issue Date: 01/14/2026

Status: **Compliant**

Hawaii Tax#: [REDACTED]

New Hawaii Tax#:

FEIN/SSN#: [REDACTED]

UI#: XXXXXX7589

DCCA FILE#:

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

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.

2. Declaration Statement

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

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](#).

YES – Sustainable Coastlines Hawai'i is a 501(c)3 Nonprofit with a mission that is all about supporting the public. The following narrative effectively demonstrates this public purpose.

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;

Sustainable Coastlines Hawai'i's (SCH) is a Hawai'i-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded in 2011 with a mission to inspire communities to care for coastlines. SCH envisions a world of inspired people, clean beaches, and healthy coastlines—where people recognize and act on their kuleana to care for the environment that cares for them. As SCH celebrates its 15th anniversary in 2026, we are leveraging this milestone as a strategic moment to strengthen statewide stewardship, activate long-standing partnerships, and translate years of learning into shared public action. Over the years, SCH has grown from a grassroots cleanup organization into a statewide leader in community action, education, applied science, and circular economy solutions.

SCH's work is grounded in the understanding that environmental stewardship emerges where communities of place and communities of practice intersect. Communities of place are rooted in specific ahupua'a, watersheds, and coastlines, represented by the local community members, educators, and practitioners we work with. Communities of practice are formed through shared skills, repeated action, and common purpose, for example educators teaching place-based curriculum, our volunteers sharing their specific skill sets, artists and storytellers interpreting environmental realities, and partners advancing solutions together.

SCH is uniquely positioned as a connector of communities of place through shared practice. Through its statewide network, SCH brings people together across islands, cultures, and sectors, weaving local stewardship efforts into a more united and diverse community working toward common environmental & social outcomes. This approach is captured in SCH's guiding framework: **Everyone Has a Coastline**. Whether one lives near the ocean or far inland, our daily actions flow through shared infrastructure, watersheds, and communities to the sea.

SCH translates this framework into through two integrated pillars:

Action — Community-powered coastal cleanups, restoration, and applied science in Hawai'i's most polluted ecosystems. This pillar focuses on immediate environmental stewardship while informing long-term solutions through data collection, resource recovery, and systems-level learning. Action is taken through large-scale coastal cleanups, restoration festivals, and connection with environmental practitioners. Additionally, our SustainEvents program partners with events and local businesses to implement zero-waste practices through resource recovery and composting.

Inspiration — Place-based education, storytelling, and creative engagement that connects people to the places they steward and to one another. We have multiple programs including the (re)Learning Program focused on local schools and Island Earth events which are free to the public and showcase local artists, educators, businesses, and other environmental collaborators. These activities equip communities with the knowledge, skills, and motivation needed to sustain environmental action over time.

Together, these pillars enable SCH to support communities of place while cultivating communities of practice; and to connect local stewardship efforts into a cohesive, statewide movement grounded in shared responsibility.

Since our inception in 2011, SCH has mobilized 45,000 volunteers to remove 750,000 pounds of debris from Hawai'i's coastlines and has reached over 55,000 students with programs on plastic pollution, coastal stewardship, and waste reduction. We have significantly expanded our educational impact through team growth, immersive learning experiences, and an interactive curriculum.

2. The goals and objectives related to the request;

This request supports SCH's goal to **sustain and connect communities of place across Hawai'i through shared stewardship practices**. Key objectives include:

Sustaining statewide cleanup, restoration, and stewardship efforts: SCH has been cleaning coastlines for more than a decade by activating large groups (school, local community, and visitors) to collect and remove debris before it further damages our unique ecosystems. Our cleanups result in more resilient coastlines, expose the root problems of overconsumption, and offer the real pathway toward solutions. We will also continue marine debris science surveys to better understand the composition and source of the debris that is washing up on the beaches. We target the most plastic polluted beaches on multiple islands, collaborating with partners and communities including O'ahu, Moloka'i, Hawai'i Island, and Kaua'i.

Maintaining access to place-based education for Title I schools and underserved communities: Our (re)Learning program has piloted a new project over the past couple years, an immersive educational experience facilitating field trips from mauka to makai within key ahupua'a (watersheds). The Ahupua'a project is now ready to expand to new cohorts and sites. Our staff create in-class workshops, immersive field trips, and community projects tailored to each project site connecting students with environmental leaders in their community. In addition to curriculum development and delivery, SCH will provide the costs for transportation, which continues to be an obstacle for most educators. Our goal is to fill gaps for schools that wouldn't otherwise be able to fund these experiences and bring students to the remote learning laboratories right in their backyard.

Activating the Kahuku Solutions Center as a permanent hub for education, stewardship, and resource recovery: The Solutions Center is an operational base for SCH's Resource Recovery Program, which diverts materials from landfill and incineration at community events, surf contests, partner fundraisers, and increasingly within film and production sets. We will host a grand opening in 2026, to officially activate this space as a unique opportunity to demonstrate sustainable solutions like reuse systems, business/event consulting, and composting pathways. The Solutions Center will also be home to diverse educational opportunities where the community can engage with science surrounding plastic pollution, join panel discussions and movie nights connected to our new Island Earth series, and embark on hands-on educational journeys through a native plant ecosystem and marine debris museum.

Delivering large-scale public events that transform awareness into participation: This year, SCH will bring back its large-scale cleanup festivals to mark our 15th anniversary and expand our community engagement. A prime example of these events will be the Waikiki Ahupua'a Cleanup & Restoration Festival (1,500+ people), which will serve as a flagship demonstration of systems thinking in Hawai'i's most visible urban environment. Waikiki is where residents, visitors, schools, and businesses converge, making it a uniquely powerful location to activate the "Everyone Has a Coastline" message and convert awareness into participation and behavior change. Our Island

Earth series will feature more intimate free or low cost evening events. These events highlight local artists and other creatives such as filmmakers, authors, chefs, and actors to bring a new light to sustainability and build community with like-minded participants.

Strengthening organizational capacity, leadership, and data systems that enable statewide coordination and accountability: We recognize that we are currently on an impactful pathway, and our most useful course of action to serve our communities is to expand our capacities and innovate within the amazing programs that we already execute. To achieve this, our most important need is investing in the people who work across our objectives who will accelerate and level up our work. We recently hired additional management roles to lead SCH and mentor junior staff. Together, we are cultivating the skills of the next generation of environmental leaders and providing desirable local career opportunities in management, environment, and business.

3. The public purpose and need to be served;

Plastic pollution has become one of the most significant environmental and human health challenges of our time. Globally, hundreds of millions of tons of plastic are produced each year, with a substantial portion leaking into the environment and millions of tons entering the ocean annually (Pew Charitable Trusts, 2020). Plastics are associated with thousands of chemical substances across their production and lifespan, many of which are recognized as hazardous and capable of accumulating in ecosystems and human bodies (United Nations, 2023). Research indicates that women and children are particularly susceptible to the detrimental health effects linked to plastic exposure.

As plastics degrade in the environment, they fragment into microplastics that persist indefinitely. These particles are ingested by marine life, act as disease vectors on coral reefs (Science, 2017), and release greenhouse gases such as methane when exposed to sunlight (Royer et al., 2018). Despite their geographic remoteness, the Hawaiian Islands are directly impacted by these global systems. Hawai'i lies downstream of the North Pacific Garbage Patch, the world's largest accumulation of ocean plastic, and routinely receives debris generated far beyond the State's borders (The Ocean Cleanup, 2019).

Hawai'i is home to some of the world's most vulnerable endemic species and supports communities and economies deeply connected to healthy coastlines. Residents and visitors alike are exposed daily to plastic pollution on beaches, shorelines, and in nearshore waters. While significant data gaps remain in fully quantifying the volume of debris reaching Hawai'i's shores, SCH has more than a decade of experience locating and removing some of the highest concentrations of plastic pollution in the State. With additional waves of debris projected to reach the islands in coming years, the need for coordinated, large-scale stewardship continues to grow.

Cleanups are a necessity of our time, but they are not sufficient on their own. While public awareness of plastic pollution has increased, plastic production and consumption continue to accelerate (Pew Charitable Trusts, 2020), highlighting the urgency of

addressing upstream drivers. Circular economy approaches—such as composting, reuse, and upcycling—remain under-adopted despite their potential. SCH addresses this gap by coupling cleanup and restoration efforts with resource recovery and systems-level solutions that reduce waste at its source and model alternatives to a disposable society. SCH invites everyone into the work and opportunity by exposing solutions that range from system-level to individual-level.

Through its (re)Learning education program, SCH further addresses the need to strengthen community connection to coastlines and ahupua'a, places rich in ecological and cultural value that are increasingly under threat. In addition to the plastic pollution that started SCH on its current path, invasive species, erosion, flooding risks from blocked waterways, marine debris impacts on endangered species, food insecurity due to reliance on imports and degraded soils, and limited access to stewardship spaces all contribute to environmental and community vulnerability.

At the same time, schools, particularly those serving underserved communities, face growing constraints in providing hands-on learning opportunities due to limited budgets, transportation barriers, and educator capacity. SCH's integrated approach ensures that education, action, and solutions reinforce one another, advancing environmental protection, public health, and community resilience statewide. In early 2025, SCH lost a federal grant supporting its (re)Learning education program, which would have supported Title I schools in Waimānalo, Kahuku, and Wai'anae. This loss reflects broader federal trends, including proposed FY 2026 reductions to federal education funding that disproportionately impact rural, Native Hawaiian, and low-income students. The funding jeopardizes not only our services, but the continuity of practice within communities of place that rely on sustained, place-based education. Without replacement funding, SCH faces the risk of fragmenting educational pathways at a time when continuity is most needed.

4. Describe the target population to be served; and

SCH serves a broad and diverse population across the State, while intentionally prioritizing communities that experience disproportionate environmental, health, and educational impacts. Primary populations served include:

- **Students and educators**, particularly those in Title I schools and underserved communities where access to experiential, place-based education is limited by funding, transportation, and staffing constraints;
- **Community members and volunteers of all walks of life** who want to engage in coastal cleanups, restoration, and stewardship activities, including families, cultural practitioners, and all local residents;
- **Youth and emerging leaders** participating in (re)Learning cohorts, stewardship events, and public engagement opportunities that build long-term environmental literacy and leadership capacity;
- **Artists, storytellers, and creative practitioners** engaged through Island Earth sessions and anniversary events, who help translate environmental issues into accessible and culturally relevant narratives;

- **The broader public and a global population**, including residents and visitors, who benefit from cleaner beaches, healthier ecosystems, and increased public awareness of Hawai'i's environmental systems.

SCH's programs are uniquely designed to reduce barriers to participation in sustainability for example by coordinating transportation for students and schools, providing educator stipends and curriculum-aligned programming, offering free or low-cost opportunities for community participation, partnering directly with local stewards to ensure cultural relevance and community trust, and inspiring businesses and event planners to create a more sustainable framework for their operations. In the coming fiscal year, SCH anticipates directly engaging approximately 7,500 – 12,000 individuals through in-person cleanups, restoration events, education programs, and community gatherings, with significantly broader reach through storytelling, media, and public convenings.

5. Describe the geographic coverage.

Sustainable Coastlines Hawai'i operates at a statewide scale, with programming designed to reflect Hawai'i's interconnected island systems rather than a single jurisdiction. While SCH maintains operational hubs on O'ahu and has consistent effort on this island, its work intentionally extends across multiple sites, including:

O'ahu: ongoing monthly stewardship at James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge and in Waimānalo, as well as large-scale urban watershed engagement through the Waikīkī Ahupua'a Cleanup & Restoration Festival, cohorts of students in Kahuku in Waianae.

Moloka'i: specialized cleanups at sites such as Mō'omomi and Kalaupapa, requiring extensive coordination with local partners and challenging logistics for removal from remote coastlines.

Hawai'i Island: multi-site cleanups addressing large and logistically complex coastlines and sensitive habitats;

Kaua'i: multiple cleanups and community engagement activities planned during this funding period after a multi-year pause.

In addition to place-based stewardship, SCH extends its reach beyond physical cleanup sites through education, storytelling, and digital engagement platforms. Through short- and long-form media, educational content, and public storytelling distributed via social media, web platforms, and video channels, SCH translates local stewardship efforts into narratives that reach millions of viewers worldwide. Our global reach allows SCH to connect Hawai'i's story to audiences beyond the islands who share responsibility for addressing plastic pollution and environmental degradation. This amplification is essential because many of the drivers impacting Hawai'i's coastlines originate from global systems of production, consumption, and waste. While stewardship must occur locally, solutions require participation and behavior change at a global scale.

This statewide-and-global approach distinguishes SCH's work from county-specific efforts. While City & County funding may support place-based implementation on O'ahu, State GIA funding will enable SCH to coordinate multi-island programming, better share tools, data, and stewardship practices, support neighbor island access to education and stewardship resources, and amplify Hawai'i's leadership in environmental stewardship to national and global audiences. By connecting local action to shared global responsibility, SCH ensures that State investment generates benefits that extend beyond individual sites, strengthening Hawai'i's role as both a steward of its own coastlines and a model for coastal communities worldwide.

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;

During the FY27 funding period, SCH will implement a coordinated scope of work designed to connect communities across the state through shared stewardship practices, education, and public engagement. Activities will be delivered across multiple islands and supported by centralized coordination, data collection, and evaluation.

1. Coastal Cleanup, Restoration, and Stewardship

- Plan, coordinate, and implement coastal cleanup and restoration events statewide, including:
 - Waikīkī Ahupua'a Cleanup & Restoration Festival (September 2026)
 - Hawai'i Island cleanups (December 2026)
 - Kaua'i cleanup (early 2027)
 - Earth Week Cleanups & Restoration (April 2027)
 - Moloka'i cleanups at Mō'omomi (March 2027) and Kalaupapa (Summer 2027)
 - West O'ahu (Summer 2027)
 - Monthly stewardship activities at James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge and in Waimānalo
- Coordinate logistics, including site access, permits, safety planning, equipment, and volunteer management
- Partner with local community stewards, cultural practitioners, and land managers to ensure place-based and culturally appropriate stewardship
- Collect and categorize debris data to inform analysis and reporting

Outcomes

- Reduced marine debris in priority coastal and watershed areas
- Increased community participation in environmental stewardship
- Improved understanding of debris sources and impacts across islands

2. Education & (Re)Learning Programs

- Deliver ongoing (re)Learning cohorts serving Title I schools and underserved communities in Waimānalo, Kahuku, and Waianae.
- Conduct classroom presentations, service-learning field trips, and (re)Learning Tours connected to major cleanup and community events (associated with the major events and locations listed above)
- Coordinate transportation, scheduling, and educator stipends to reduce participation barriers
- Facilitate professional development and collaboration with teachers and community partners
- Develop and refine place-based curriculum materials aligned with academic standards

Outcomes

- Increased student understanding of ahupua'a systems and environmental stewardship in three key school districts
- Improved access to experiential learning for schools facing transportation and budget constraints
- Strengthened pathways for youth leadership and long-term stewardship

3. Kahuku Solutions Center Activation

- Operate the Kahuku Solutions Center as a year-round hub for education, stewardship, and resource recovery
- Host student field trips, community gatherings, and stewardship activities
- Demonstrate composting, reuse, and zero-waste solutions
- Coordinate staff presence, maintenance, and programming

Outcomes

- Increased access to hands-on sustainability education
- Strengthened North Shore and statewide environmental sustainability infrastructure
- Reduced reliance on temporary or ad hoc facilities for programming

4. Sustainable Events & Resource Recovery

- Provide zero-waste planning, implementation, and resource recovery services at major events, including Pipe Masters surfing competition (Winter 2026/27), film and television productions throughout the year, and add additional business clients in the wedding, music, and events industries
- Coordinate waste diversion systems, including composting, reuse, and recycling
- Train staff, volunteers, and event partners in sustainable event practices
- Track diversion rates and materials recovered, including GHG reductions

Outcomes

- Reduced waste generation at large-scale events
- Increased adoption of circular economy practices
- Demonstrated models for waste reduction applicable across Hawai'i and beyond

5. Public Engagement, Storytelling, and Island Earth Series

- Host quarterly Island Earth sessions engaging audiences through art, film, storytelling, and dialogue
- Document stewardship and education activities through photo, video, and written storytelling
- Distribute content through digital platforms to reach statewide and global audiences
- Engage artists, cultural practitioners, and community leaders in public programming

Outcomes

- Increased public awareness of Hawai'i's environmental challenges and solutions
- Expanded community of practice connected to stewardship efforts
- Amplified impact of local action through statewide and global engagement

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

Activities will occur throughout the July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027 funding period, with major events scheduled seasonally and ongoing stewardship, education, and Sustainable Events delivered year-round. Please see the previous section for date ranges for each of the project areas.

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

SCH employs a multi-layered quality assurance and evaluation approach to ensure that programs supported through this request are delivered effectively, equitably, and in alignment with intended outcomes. Program activities are overseen by SCH's senior leadership and program managers, who are responsible for planning, implementation, and supervision across stewardship, education, resource recovery, and public engagement. Staff also utilize standardized planning tools, internal checklists, and event protocols to ensure consistency, safety, and quality across all activities, including multi-island programs. Our partnerships with local community stewards, educators, and land managers provide site-specific guidance and feedback to ensure programs remain culturally appropriate and responsive to local needs.

SCH collects quantitative data for all major activities, including volunteer participation, debris volume and composition, students served, schools engaged, miles of coastline cleaned, and materials diverted through Sustainable Events. Education programs

incorporate participant tracking, attendance logs, and curriculum documentation to ensure alignment with program objectives. Digital tools and databases are used to store, analyze, and report data consistently across programs and islands.

SCH monitoring and data collecting are always improving and we review program data on a regular basis to assess progress toward stated outcomes and identify trends, gaps, or areas for improvement. Qualitative feedback is gathered from educators, students, volunteers, community partners, and staff through surveys, reflections, and debrief sessions. Findings from both quantitative and qualitative evaluation are used to refine program design, adjust scheduling or resource allocation, and improve participant experience. Lessons learned are shared internally across program areas to strengthen coordination and effectiveness statewide. This approach ensures that SCH not only meets reporting requirements, but continuously improves program quality and impact over time.

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.

The following measures of effectiveness will be reported to the expending agency and provide clear, objective indicators of program achievement during the funding period. Measures will be scaled proportionally if the level of appropriation differs from the amount requested.

Stewardship and Cleanups

- Pounds of debris removed and categorized
- Miles of coastline and waterways cleaned or restored
- Number of cleanup and restoration events conducted

Volunteer and Community Engagement

- Number of volunteers and community members engaged statewide
- Number of repeat volunteers participating in multiple activities

Education and (Re)Learning Programs

- Number of students served through classroom presentations, field trips, and (re)Learning cohorts
- Number of educators and schools participating, including Title I schools
- Number of education sessions and field-based learning experiences delivered

Sustainable Events and Resource Recovery

- Number of Sustainable Events supported
- Quantity of materials diverted from landfill or incineration through composting, reuse, and recycling

Public Engagement and Storytelling

- Number of Island Earth sessions and public engagement events hosted
- Aggregate reach of educational and storytelling content distributed through digital platforms

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
\$114,606	\$49,117	\$65,489	\$98,223	\$327,445

3. The applicant shall provide a listing of all other sources of funding that they are seeking for fiscal year 2027.
 - 11th Hour Racing: \$198,000
 - Helmsley Charitable Trust: \$270,000
 - Kosasa Foundation: \$75,000
 - Healy Foundation: \$25,000
 - Parley Foundation \$50,000
 - City and County Grants in Aid: \$150,000
 - Crocker Catalyst Foundation: \$120,000
 - State of Hawai'i Green Fee: \$500,000
 - Atherton Foundation: \$50,000
 - Clarence Ching Foundation: \$50,000
 - Ocean Conservancy Foundation: \$36,000
 - Frost Family Foundation: \$75,000
 - Johnson Ohana Foundation: \$20,000

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.

- 2025 State of Hawai'i Grants in Aid: \$170,000
- 2024 CESU National Park Service Agreement (Kalaupapa): \$29,735
- 2025 CESU National Park Service Agreement (Kalaupapa): \$34,921
- 2023 NOAA Planet Stewards: \$5000
- 2024 NOAA Planet Stewards: \$5000
- 2023/2024: County of Kauai Composting Grant (Fiscal Sponsor for Compost Kauai): \$48,470
- 2023: City & County of Honolulu, O'ahu Compost Project: \$25,000

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

\$815,000

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.

SCH is moving into our 15th year of cleaning Hawai'i's coastlines. Through experience, we have grown into the leader in plastic pollution solutions and community engagement; we have removed 750,000 lbs of debris and proven we can create immersive experiences that have lasting impressions on our volunteers. Doing cleanups at the scale that we do requires an intricate set of logistics that are executed through an incredible network of partners. As we approach a decade and a half of operations, we have built a community that includes fellow nonprofits, government partners across local to federal jurisdictions and departments, local businesses, a global volunteer and follower network, and trade industry partners who are critical to executing our on the ground work.

Over the years, our (re)Learning team has made connections with over 50,000 participants, raising awareness of plastic pollution through immersive and fun hands-on experiences. Year after year, as we take a moment to reflect on every journey that a piece of plastic has taken, it becomes clearer to our team that plastic pollution is only a symptom of a much deeper disconnect between our communities and our environment. We see how this disconnect from the natural environment in Hawai'i, in particular, has deep roots in colonial practices and land dispossession that have disrupted the intergenerational knowledge and implementation of sustainable and socio-ecologically integrated indigenous practices. In building out our program we have specially trained our educators to teach lessons to our keiki that will last, serving our communities beyond their time with SCH.

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.

SCH operates out of an office on O'ahu in Kaimuki and is developing an operational and educational headquarters in Kahuku. While we hope to expand our facilities in future years, at present we are able to complete our mission using these spaces. We also use the classrooms and facilities of our partners and public spaces.

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.

Rafael Bergstrom, Executive Director: Rafael is completing his seventh year of leading SCH as its Executive Director. In just over half a decade, he has grown the organization from having a single full-time employee to building a full team of full-time staff, expanded management capacity, and three to five part-time staff and paid interns. The organization has also grown its fundraising and operating budgets by 4x over the course of his tenure. During this time, SCH has continued to grow its impact by expanding programs beyond cleanups and emphasizing the necessity for upstream solutions. Rafael takes an innovative approach to solving problems highlighted by bringing Hawai'i's first permitted composting machine to the islands as a way to inspire a more waste-free circular model. Before SCH, he served as the O'ahu Chapter Coordinator for the Surfrider Foundation – building and leading one of the most impactful and influential chapters of the organization. In that role he honed his knowledge of plastic pollution, stormwater runoff pollution, and helped train hundreds of

advocates in civic engagement. Rafael has a Bachelor's degree from the University of California San Diego in Communications and an MS in Natural Resources & Environmental Management from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. Having played various levels of professional baseball across the world, Rafael has always been trained in team building and leadership roles that are translatable to running a nonprofit.

Paul Lecomte, Director of Operations: Paul joined Sustainable Coastlines Hawai'i in 2021 as a part of the education and outreach team and has risen to be one of the organization's most important leaders. During his years managing the education and outreach teams, he oversaw the revitalization of curriculum, mentored younger staff members, and transformed the program's offerings to be more dynamic and solutions-focused. Since that time, he has taken over as the Director of Operations because of his keen sense of program functionality and vision. Paul has a distinct skillset to be able to see bigger-picture impacts, while being able to understand the necessity for detail and clarity with his team. He has been responsible for the development of many of SCH's interns and junior staff. Additionally, Paul has successfully navigated federal grant writing and foundation grants to bring financial support to SCH's programs. Paul has a Masters in Culture and Communication from Avignon University and Bachelors in Arts, Sciences, Culture, and Multimedia from Montreal University. Some of his most relevant work experience was being the lead project manager for the Vortex Swim – a sailing expedition across the Pacific from Japan to Hawai'i to San Francisco that highlighted the issue of plastic pollution.

Dr. Anne Chung, Development and Partnerships Manager: Anne joined SCH in 2025 in this new role and comes with 15 years of experience working in environmental conservation and nonprofit business development in Hawai'i. Anne has added leadership and capacity to SCH's ability to raise and manage funds, evaluate impact, and sustain and expand programs. She previously worked at The Nature Conservancy, Hawai'i and Palmyra Marine Program where she successfully developed the largest-ever public grant for the chapter and managed a portfolio of private foundation grants and partnerships. She has a PhD in Marine Biology from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa focused on conservation in the nearshore environment.

Kristin Remington, Inspiration Manager: Kristin also joined SCH in 2025 and brings additional leadership capacity to the (re)Learning and Storytelling programs. With a background in art and museum curation, Kristin has led campaigns at some of Hawai'i's most high-profile institutions including the Bishop Museum and the Doris Duke Foundation's Shangri La. Kristin has deep experience working with Hawai'i's communities and crafting compelling and impactful stories to inspire action. Kristin has a MA in Art History from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and her experience will be key to managing staff and streamlining communications during this project.

Shaina Duran, Junior Operations Manager: Shaina plays a critical role in organizing and leading projects in our Action pillar including large scale coastal cleanups on multiple islands and public education events. Her logistical and planning skills ensure that our priority projects will be a success both internally and externally. She also plays

an important mentoring role to junior staff and is growing in her management capabilities and knowledge. Shaina was born and raised on the West Side of O'ahu, in Mākaha. She attended Northern Arizona University where she got her B.S. in Environmental Science with an Emphasis in Management.

Jocelyn Grandinetti, (re)Learning Strategic Coordinator: Jocelyn is a rising leader in SCH's team. She has grown from a graduate school intern to leading one of our most important place-based learning programs that connects cohorts of students with hands-on and culturally based restoration days. Jocelyn completed her BA and MA in Geography and Environment at the University of Hawai'i Mānoa with honors. She has presented her research at conferences locally and adds a distinct understanding of the scientific process to the SCH team. Jocelyn has already assisted on major grants, added GIS projects to our data visualization, and organized engaging public outreach events. Jocelyn has also applied her scientific translation skills as a human-dimensions researcher for the US Forest Service and as an environmental fieldwork member for KUPU's Hawaiian Youth Conservation Corps.

SCH Board of Directors: SCH has a diverse set of board members with skillsets ranging from senior-level management at a large global environmental non-profit, a fractional CFO for multi- sector businesses, a professional sailor, an environmental attorney, and a program director for a Native-Hawaiian-based investment nonprofit. Each member brings unique oversight from financial planning support to program development to staff and team mentorship.

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.

Executive Team (Oversees Managers and Coordinators)

- Executive Director
- Development and Partnerships Manager
- Director of Operations
- Board of Directors

Program Leadership Team (Oversees Coordinators and Specialists)

- Inspiration Manager
- Junior Operations Manager
- (re)Learning Strategic Coordinator
- SustainEvents Coordinator

Program Staff (Day to day activities, works with interns and volunteers)

- (Re)Learning Coordinator
- Action Specialist (two positions)
- Inspiration Specialist (two positions)

- Interns
- SustainEvents Resource Recovery Agents (On-Call Staff)
- Educators (On-Call Staff)
- Core Volunteers
- General Volunteers

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.

- Executive Director: \$94,000-\$125,000
- Director of Development: \$85,000-\$120,000
- Director of Operations: \$75,000-\$110,000

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.

NOT APPLICABLE

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.

NOT APPLICABLE

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.

NO

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.

We have sustained and grown our programs over the last 14 years through a combination of public and private funding as well as corporate partnerships and everything in between. Entering our 15th year of operations in 2026, we look forward to prioritizing our fundraising and diversifying our strategies to include additional fee-for-service programs. In 2025, SCH also expanded its leadership team, including a Development and Partnerships Manager who will continue to build the fundamental capacity needed for impactful and sustainable growth. SCH has a nearly 15-year history of working with a diverse set of funders to ensure the ongoing and long-term success of its mission and programs. We also are putting junior staff development on the forefront, identifying opportunities for personal and professional growth as we expand our programs, ensuring our long-term success.

**DECLARATION STATEMENT OF
APPLICANTS FOR GRANTS PURSUANT TO
CHAPTER 42F, HAWAI'I REVISED 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.

Sustainable Coastlines Hawaii
(Typed Name of Individual or Organization)


(Signature) 1/23/2026
(Date)

Rafael Bergstrom Executive Director
(Typed Name) (Title)

BUDGET REQUEST BY SOURCE OF FUNDS

Period: July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027

App

Sustainable Coastlines Hawaii

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	200,350		92,328	592,072
2. Payroll Taxes & Assessments				100,650
3. Fringe Benefits	54,095		23,416	137,354
TOTAL PERSONNEL COST	254,445		115,744	830,076
B. OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES				
1. Airfare, Inter-Island	8,000		5,000	21,000
2. Insurance				10,000
3. Lease/Rental of Equipment				
4. Lease/Rental of Space	20,000		10,000	35,000
5. Staff Training	10,000			10,000
6. Supplies	15,000		12,000	25,000
7. Telecommunication (Online Programs)				10,000
8. Utilities				10,000
9. Storage and Maintenance	20,000			
10. Mileage and Parking			2,000	
11. Indirect Costs			5,000	
12. Events (Cleanups & Restoration)				120,000
13.				
14.				
15.				
16.				
17.				
18.				
19.				
20.				
TOTAL OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES	73,000		34,000	241,000
C. EQUIPMENT PURCHASES				
D. MOTOR VEHICLE PURCHASES				
E. CAPITAL				
TOTAL (A+B+C+D+E)	327,445		149,744	1,071,076
SOURCES OF FUNDING		Budget Prepared By:		
(a) Total State Funds Requested	327,445	Rafael Bergstrom 808-445-2085		
(b) Total Federal Funds Requested		Name (Please type or print) Phone		
(c) Total County Funds Requested	149,744			
(d) Total Private/Other Funds Requested	1,071,076	Signature of Authorized Official Date 1/23/2026		
TOTAL BUDGET	1,548,265	Rafael Bergstrom, Executive Director Name and Title (Please type or print)		



BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - PERSONNEL SALARIES AND WAGES

Period: July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027

Applicant: ___Sustainable Coastlines Hawaii_____

POSITION TITLE	FULL TIME EQUIVALENT	ANNUAL SALARY A	% OF TIME ALLOCATED TO GRANT REQUEST B	TOTAL STATE FUNDS REQUESTED (A x B)
Executive Director	1	\$121,000.00	30.00%	\$ 36,300.00
Development and Partnerships Manager	1	\$105,000.00	10.00%	\$ 10,500.00
Director of Operations	1	\$95,000.00	40.00%	\$ 38,000.00
Inspiration Manager	1	\$79,000.00	20.00%	\$ 15,800.00
Storytelling Coordinator	1	\$57,000.00	10.00%	\$ 5,700.00
Junior Operations Manager	1	\$69,000.00	30.00%	\$ 20,700.00
SustainEvents Coordinator	1	\$60,000.00	20.00%	\$ 12,000.00
(re)Learning Education Strategic Coordinator	1	\$67,000.00	30.00%	\$ 20,100.00
(re)Learning Education Coordinator	1	\$57,000.00	5.00%	\$ 2,850.00
Inspiration Specialist	1	\$52,000.00	25.00%	\$ 13,000.00
Action Specialist	1	\$52,000.00	20.00%	\$ 10,400.00
Action Specialist 2	0.75	\$45,000.00	0.00%	\$ -
Inspiration Specialist	0.6	\$30,000.00	0.00%	\$ -
Interns	1	\$30,000.00	50.00%	\$ 15,000.00
TOTAL:				200,350.00
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS: This general operating grant is spread across support for our programs and thus engages the time of most program leaders and coordinators. We are working on a diversified funding plan for the year ahead so we are allocating only percentages of salaries to each of the positions. Additionally, these are projected salaries for the new fiscal year that include new hires and potential promotions or performance raises.				

NOT APPLICABLE

Applicant: _____

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:

NOT APPLICABLE

Applicant: _____

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:						
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:						

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND / OR GRANTS IN AID

Applicant: Sustainable Coastlines Hawaii

Contracts Total: 318,126

	CONTRACT DESCRIPTION	EFFECTIVE DATES	AGENCY	GOVERNMENT ENTITY (U.S./State/Hawaii/ Honolulu/ Kauai/ Maui County)	CONTRACT VALUE
1	State of Hawaii Grants in Aid	7/1/25 - 6/30/26	DLNR	State	170,000
2	CESU Agreement (Kalaupapa)	2025	National Park Service	U.S.	29,735
3	CESU Agreement (Kalaupapa)	2024	National Park Service	U.S.	34,921
4	Planet Stewards	2023	NOAA	U.S.	5,000
5	Planet Stewards	2024	NOAA	U.S.	5,000
6	Composting Grant (Fiscal Sponsor for Compost Kauai)	2023 - 2024	County of Kauai	Kauai County	48,470
7	Subcontract in larger USDA grant with CC Honolulu, SCH also provided \$50,000 of in-kind services	9/29/21 - 9/30/23	Office of Climate Change, Sustainability, and Resiliency	U.S.	25,000
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