



UNIVERSITY
of HAWAII[®]

Ke Kulanui o Hawai'i

Wendy F. Hensel
President

DEPT. COMM. NO. 105

December 12, 2025

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi,
President and Members of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura, Speaker
and Members of the House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Nakamura, and Members of the Legislature:

For your information and consideration, the University of Hawai'i is transmitting one copy of the Annual Report on the University of Hawai'i's Student Scholarship and Assistance Special Fund, FY 2025 (Section 304A-2159, Hawai'i Revised Statutes) as requested by the Legislature.

In accordance with Section 93-16, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, this report may be viewed electronically at: https://www.hawaii.edu/govrel/docs/reports/2026/hrs304a-2159_2026_scholarship-assistance_annual-report_508.pdf.

Should you have any questions about this report, please do not hesitate to contact Stephanie Kim at (808) 956-4250, or via e-mail at scskim@hawaii.edu.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Wendy F. Hensel'.

Wendy F. Hensel
President

Enclosure

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM ANNUAL REPORT



REPORT TO THE 2026 LEGISLATURE

Annual Report on the University of Hawai'i's Student
Scholarship and Assistance Special Fund, FY 2025

HRS 304A-2159

December 2025

**Annual Report to the 2026 Hawai'i Legislature on
The University of Hawai'i's Student Scholarship and Assistance
Special Fund, FY 2025 HRS 304A-2159**

Academic Year Expenditures

Pursuant to Act 161 (1995), Act 237 (1996), and HRS Sections 304A-501 and 304A-502, which authorizes the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i (University) to grant, modify and suspend previous legislatively mandated tuition waivers, as well as to establish new ones, this report summarizes these expenditures for the 2024-2025 academic year.

Scholarships

As part of its commitment to returning tuition revenue collected for financial assistance to students, the University awarded system-wide scholarships totaling \$70,207,383 to 21,270 students in 2024-2025. More specifically, these Board-approved tuition revenue scholarships were awarded to students with financial need (11,922 students), as well as for merit purposes, including high academic scholarship (8,259 students), Regents and Presidential Scholars (95 students), highly qualified international students (301 students), athletes (546 students), and qualified students from certain Pacific Island jurisdictions (147 students).

Waivers/Non-Resident Tuition Differentials

In 2024-2025, an additional \$108,888,492 in Board-approved non-resident tuition differentials were waived for 9,277 non-resident students. A total of \$40,125,421 was waived for 4,172 non-resident students who were assessed tuition equivalent to the resident rate in the following categories, which include but are not limited to: veterans and individuals eligible to use GI Bill or Montgomery GI Bill Active Duty educational benefits (1,833 students); United States military personnel stationed in Hawai'i on active duty, and their authorized dependents during the period that the personnel are stationed in Hawai'i (851 students); Compact of Free Association (268); special talent individuals (237 students); and student exchange (328 students). In addition, a total of \$67,391,558 was waived for 5,023 non-resident students who were assessed at 150% of the resident rate in the following categories, which include but are not limited to: Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) (4,229 students); Western Regional Graduate Program (WRGP) (351 students); and student exchange (363 students). A total of \$1,371,513 was waived for 82 special talent individuals who were assessed tuition equivalent to the non-resident rate. Tuition revenue from all of the non-resident students above was \$97,571,350.

Also, in 2024-2025, Board-approved tuition exemptions for 2,956 students totaling \$29,058,954 were awarded. These students received full or partial exemption of tuition charges in the following categories: graduate assistants (1,683 students); Native Hawaiian students (577 headcount that represents 250 full-time equivalent); and

University employees (582 students) and their spouses/domestic partners (114 students). Note that some non-resident employees and/or their spouses may receive financial aid in both the non-resident tuition differential and the tuition exemption categories.

HRS Section 304A-2159 mentions including in the report the number of stipends granted under Section 304A-503 through the Hawai'i opportunity program in education. Presently, The University does not administer a program by that name. In addition, the University does not grant stipends from the Scholarship and Assistance Fund. The University does not have recommendations to the legislature on all tuition waivers at this time.