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## **New OHA program provides K-12 financial assistance for Native Hawaiian keiki**

### **The Kāko'o Ho'ona'auao program offers support for K-12 private school families with significant educational costs**

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs has launched a two-year pilot program, which awards up to \$5,000 per year to qualified Native Hawaiian families who have children with significant educational costs in grades K-12.

This new initiative, Kāko'o Ho'ona'auao, will provide Hawaiian families with greater access to educational opportunities for their children. Kāko'o Ho'ona'auao means *"to support enlightenment through education."*

OHA will provide an annual \$500,000 for the next two years to fund the Kāko'o Ho'ona'auao K-12 Family Education Assistance Program, which will be administered this year by Chaminade University.

Applicants must be a parent or caregiver of a child attending a private school in grades K-12 or some other specialized academic program in Hawai'i which incurs significant economic costs for the family. The parent or caregiver must live on or be eligible to live on Hawaiian Homelands, must demonstrate financial need and must register with OHA's Hawaiian Registry Program (for information on registering, call 594-1914). Preference will be given to the most economically disadvantaged families.

Chaminade will accept applications through Dec. 1 and awards will be dispersed in early 2010 for the current 2009-10 school year.

For information, call OHA's Education Hale Support Assistant Johanna Ferge at 594-0242.

To download an application or apply online, visit [www.chaminade.edu/oha](http://www.chaminade.edu/oha) or [www.oha.org/edu](http://www.oha.org/edu). Applications may be mailed to: Financial Aid Office, Chaminade University of Honolulu, 3140 Wai'alaie Ave., Ching Hall, Room 11, Honolulu, HI 96816-1578. For information, call 735-4780 or email [finaid@chaminade.edu](mailto:finaid@chaminade.edu).

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