

First Nations' Futures Program

Kamehameha Fellowship

Frequently Asked Questions:

What is the First Nations' Futures Program?

The First Nations' Futures Program is an international alliance between Kamehameha Schools, Stanford University, and Maori from Aotearoa (New Zealand). The objective of the program is to bridge western academic and corporate philosophies with traditional First Nations philosophies to develop leaders who can successfully balance four strategic areas for our people:

1. values and service-based leadership,
2. economic development and business,
3. environment and resource management, and
4. community and culture.

Who is eligible for the First Nation' Futures Kamehameha Fellowship?

The First Nations' Futures Program is seeking emerging leaders in the early to middle stages of their careers. Candidates should have proven leadership skills, and have work-related or volunteer experience within the Native Hawaiian community. Applicants for the Kamehameha fellowships must also hold a master's degree, OR bachelor's degree with three or more years of experience OR have at least seven years of work experience in one of the following fields (or a closely related field): natural resource management, urban and regional planning, Hawaiian studies, public administration, business administration, communications, law, science, geography, social work, or education.

What kind of time commitment is required?

A one-year commitment is required, which involves up to 12 weeks of actual program contact time. The fellowship includes:

- A two-week leadership development institute at Stanford University
- Four-week research project hosted in Aotearoa
- Four-week research project hosted in Hawai'i
- A one week intensive case study on indigenous leadership and political economy (contingent on external sponsorship)
- A final presentation to the incoming cohort at the 2011 First Nations' Futures Institute.

What will it cost me to participate in the fellowship program?

There is no direct cost to participate in the First Nations' Futures Program. Fellows will have their program tuition, travel and lodging expenses away from home paid for by the program. Any personal income tax obligations that may result from participation are the responsibility of the fellow. It is therefore highly recommended that each fellow seek the advice of a professional tax advisor for proper income tax reporting. Due to their depth and scope, the fellowships should be considered professional development investments. As such, applicants are encouraged to seek financial and other forms of support from their employers or other available sources. Fellows will be permitted to have their families accompany them at their own expense.

How do I apply for the fellowship?

The Kamehameha Fellowship application is available online at www.ksbe.edu/admissions or may be requested by calling the Kamehameha Schools' Admissions Office at 842-8800 (O'ahu) or 1-800-842-IMUA, x8800 (neighbor islands).

When is my application due? Will you accept late materials?

Application forms must be postmarked by May 31, 2010.
LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Who makes up the fellowship selection committee?

Senior Kamehameha Schools staff will form the selection committee and interview panel. The decision of the committee will be final.

If I am unable to fulfill the attendance requirements of the fellowship, will I be subject to a payback fee?

Fellows who do not complete the program will be expected to pay back the cost of their participation. Kamehameha Schools may agree to waive a percentage of the payback fee where exceptional circumstances prevent a fellow from completing the program, e.g. a family loss.

Is there a requirement that I work within the Hawaiian community upon completing the fellowship?

During the fellowship, the cohort will spend up to 4 weeks each on place-based service projects in Hawai'i and Aotearoa. Full and active participation in these projects will satisfy the program's service requirements.

Is there a requirement that I work in an area which improves the well-being of the Native Hawaiian community upon completing the fellowship?

Yes. As part of the final seminar of the program, each fellow will be required to present a self-prescribed career plan which clearly describes how s/he intends to help the Native Hawaiian community. It is the expectation of the program that the benefits derived from participating in and completing the fellowship will foster the development of service leaders in the Native Hawaiian community for the long term.

What should I do if I have questions not answered by this FAQ?

Please call us at (808) 541-5346 or e-mail us at fellowship@ksbe.edu with your questions.