KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS HAWAIʻI

The 312-acre Kamehameha Schools Hawaiʻi campus is located in Keaʻau, eight miles south of Hilo in a remote, heavily forested and beautiful area. Founded in 1996 to serve more Native Hawaiians on the Big Island of Hawaiʻi, the campus enrolls more than 1,150 students in grades K-12 and employs about 235 teachers, support staff, and administrators.

Kamehameha’s Hawaiʻi Elementary (K-5), Middle School (6-8) and High School (9-12) programs are accredited by the Hawaiʻi Association of Independent Schools and the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

The program is directed towards preparing students for success in post-high school endeavors and a rewarding and productive life. Christian values and Hawaiian culture are absolutely integral to a Kamehameha education.

“I desire my trustees to provide first and chiefly a good education in the common English branches, and also instruction in morals and in such useful knowledge as may tend to make good and industrious men and women.”

This directive of Ke Aliʻi Bernice Pauahi Bishop, Kamehameha’s benefactor, coupled with her intent that Protestant Christianity would be taught and practiced in her schools, is the basis for a long-standing Christian tradition at Kamehameha Schools. Christian education, devotions, chapel services and character education are significant components of the Kamehameha experience.

Students are encouraged to embrace the values Pauahi embodied, such as mālama (caring), kuleana (responsibility), naʻau pono (deep sense of justice) and kahiau (generosity from the heart). In order to develop empathy, social responsibility and servant leader qualities, Kamehameha students perform meaningful and significant community service each year.

ʻIke Hawaiʻi means knowing, experiencing, feeling and understanding things Hawaiian. To strengthen ʻike Hawaiʻi at Kamehameha and within each student, the school integrates Hawaiian cultural knowledge, language, traditions, practices and skills into the curriculum and daily classroom activities at all grade levels.

Like Pauahi, students graduating from Kamehameha are expected to be competent and comfortable in both the Hawaiian and Western cultures, and capable of practicing and passing on their cultural heritage to future generations. Students are required as a condition of graduation to successfully complete courses in Hawaiian history, culture and language.
**Kula Haʻahaʻa**  
(the elementary school)

The elementary school’s program (grades K-5) focuses on developing the whole child – academically, physically, socially, emotionally and culturally. In addition to grade level teachers, our faculty includes specialists who teach science, art, music, P.E./health, technology, library skills, Christian education and Hawaiian language and culture. Cultural learning includes providing students with experiences beyond the campus in order to learn about our island’s special places like Puna, Kaʻū and Hilo. Other field based opportunities include huakaʻi with a stewardship focus and service learning.

**Kula Waena**  
(the middle school)

Kula waena students (grades 6-8) occupy two classroom buildings, a gymnasium, and a specialty building that includes an art studio and gallery, vocational/technology work area, a computer lab, and Hawaiian language classrooms. In addition, elementary and middle school units share a library/learning center, band facility and cafeteria.

During the middle school years, students flourish in a school environment that offers a balanced curriculum with clear academic and behavioral expectations and prepares students to transition to high school. A block schedule allows students greater opportunities for in-depth study and to demonstrate learning through various projects. A solid core curriculum comprising of English language arts, math, science and social studies is enhanced by Hawaiian culture/language instruction and P.E./health. Electives are offered in art, band, Hawaiian ensemble, drama, technology and media communications. Co-curricular options include many leadership opportunities, student activities, service projects, and a strong afterschool sports program.

Additionally, the middle school experience is enriched through grade level ‘ike Hawaiʻi activities strengthening each student’s appreciation and understanding of their cultural background. Students also engage in multiple opportunities for social growth. Each student is assigned to an advisory group (13 - 14 students) for the school year where students participate in team building activities, study digital citizenship, and focus on Hawaiian values. Christian Education supports developing Christian values through scripture while Guidance emphasizes making positive choices, study skills, and career readiness.
Kula Kiʻekiʻe (the high school)

Kamehameha Schools Hawaiʻi High School (grades 9-12) graduated its first senior class in 2006. High school facilities include six classroom buildings designed for two 9th-10th grade interdisciplinary teams and six 11th-12th grade Career Pathways in Arts and Communication, Business and Leadership, Engineering and Design, Health Services, Human Services, and Science and Natural Resources. In addition, a library/learning center, dining hall and administration building and are complemented by a sports complex, including a gymnasium, soccer/football field, an Olympic-size swimming pool, and softball and baseball fields. The campus also features the William Charles Lunalilo Center, an integrated performing arts center, chapel and cultural center.

High school students are challenged by a curriculum that inspires them to become critical thinkers and reflective problem solvers. Instruction revolves around:

- Smaller learning communities that create relationships;
- College preparatory, career-related curriculum that is rigorous;
- Partnerships with employers, communities, and higher education that are relevant.

In addition, academics incorporate differentiated instruction, project-based learning, career education work-based learning, service learning and interdisciplinary planning and collaboration. Student supports include a block schedule, student advisories, structured study help, student-led conferences, character and Christian education, and career and college counseling. Parents play an integral part in the education of their children through grade-level educational sessions, Parent School Partnerships Conferences and parents as work-based partners.

With close proximity to Hilo, the school draws upon the unique resources of the island including the University of Hawaiʻi, its ‘Imiloa Astronomy Center and Hawaiʻi Community College.

For more information about Kamehameha Schools Hawaiʻi, visit our website at www.ksbe.edu or contact Kāhealani Naeʻole-Wong, Poʻo Kula (Head of School) at monaeole@ksbe.edu or (808) 982-0007.
KAMEHAMEHA’S EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

Kamehameha Schools was founded in 1887 by the will of Bernice Pauahi Bishop, great-granddaughter and last royal descendant of Kamehameha the Great. Her husband Charles Reed Bishop said, “Her heart was heavy when she saw the rapid diminution of the Hawaiian people going on decade after decade.” She hoped, he said, “through enlightenment, the adoption of regular habits and Christian ways of living, the natives would… increase again like the people of other races.”

Today, the schools’ mission is “to fulfill Pauahi’s desire to create educational opportunities in perpetuity to improve the capability and well-being of people of Hawaiian ancestry.”

In addition to the Hawai‘i campus, Kamehameha encompasses the 600-acre Kapälama campus on O‘ahu with 3,200 K-12 students (450 of them boarders); a 180-acre Maui campus enrolling nearly 1,100 K-12 students; and 30 preschool sites serving over 1,500 children. An extension education program including Hawaiian studies, literacy enhancement and enrichment programs also serves thousands of people in Hawaiian communities statewide. Every year, about $18 million in college financial aid is awarded to high school graduates who demonstrate financial need.

The combined preschool through grade 12 student enrollment of nearly 7,000 makes Kamehameha the largest independent school in the United States. Preference is given to applicants of Hawaiian ancestry to the extent permitted by law.

Kamehameha Schools is also the largest private landowner in the state of Hawai‘i. Income generated from its residential, commercial and resort leases, as well as diverse investments, fund the schools’ maintenance and educational services. It subsidizes a substantial portion of the cost to educate every student. Families of students pay a modest tuition to cover the remaining cost. Special financial aid is available to students who demonstrate additional need.

Since its founding in 1887, Kamehameha Schools has graduated more than 25,000 good and industrious young men and women – a worthy legacy of a visionary princess.
APPLYING FOR
KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS

Admission Entry Points, Process, Selection Criteria, Tuition Costs

Admission for all grade levels at all three Kamehameha Schools campuses – Kapalama, Hawai‘i and Maui – is competitive, as each year more applicants apply than can be enrolled.

Admission to Kamehameha Schools Hawai‘i

- Elementary School: The primary admission point is kindergarten.
- Middle School: The primary admission point is grade 6.
- High School: The primary admission point is grade 9. Applications to grades 10-12 are accepted, but space availability at these grade levels is not guaranteed, as they are considered “replacement” grades.

The Admission Process

- Preference for admission is given to applicants of Hawaiian ancestry to the extent permitted by law. Student admission to the Kamehameha Schools system is centralized. The main Admissions Office is located at the Kapalama campus on O‘ahu, however, branch offices are located at the Maui and Hawai‘i campuses.

Selection Criteria

- Academic criteria, island/district and orphan/indigent quotas, and state residency are considered. Both the Maui and Hawai‘i campuses serve students islandwide.
- The Kapalama campus serves O‘ahu and the following neighbor island districts: West Hawai‘i, Hāna/Ke‘anae, Moloka‘i, Lāna‘i, Kaua‘i and Ni‘ihau.

Tuition Costs

- Because Kamehameha Schools subsidizes a significant portion of the cost of educating its students, parents pay a nominal charge. Families must provide financial and tax information to qualify for financial assistance, which is awarded based on demonstrated financial need. Students who demonstrate eligibility may receive partial or full awards that may cover tuition, fees, meals, etc. Families are notified of awards prior to the start of school.

High school students are challenged by a curriculum that inspires them to become critical thinkers and reflective problem solvers.
To apply for Kamehameha Schools Hawai‘i or for more information about the admissions process, please call (808) 982-0100 or visit our website at:
www.ksbe.edu/admissions

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