

**Kipona Scholarship
School Collaborator Information Session
Tuesday, April 13, 2021 @ 1:00 pm
Frequently Asked Questions**

Q1: Will we be able to get a copy of this session?

Yes, you can view the recording on Microsoft Teams using the link [here](#).

Q2: What is HCPS? Is it different than Accreditation?

HCPS stands for the Hawaii Council of Private Schools (HCPS). All private schools in Hawaii are required to be licensed by the HCPS or accredited by a recognized accrediting body, according to Act 227. An organization that carries an HCPS license means that it has met basic health, safety, and education program criteria to operate as a school. A Hawaii private school that is 'compliant' means that it has been accredited by a recognized accrediting agency as required by Act 227 and is recognized as a school. These schools have not been vetted by HCPS and thus have not been issued HCPS licenses. An organization that is not licensed or compliant with Act 227 is not recognized as a school, and students who attend such an organization will be considered truant under the law.

Please send a copy of your school's License and/or Accreditation (if applicable) if the one previously sent in is now expired. If you are unsure whether the copies we have on file is up-to-date, please email copies to Cherish (celum@ksbe.edu).

Q3: Is there a reason some of the keiki's awards were less for the 2021-2022 school year compared to the 2020-2021 school year?

There are numerous parameters that get factored into calculating award amounts. We also switched vendors from TADS to FACTS which created a change in formula calculation as FACTS takes into consideration different income and asset values than TADS.

Q4: Our school ends prior to Grade 6 – for our Kipona recipients that have been receiving the scholarship since kindergarten will we need to show compliance of HCPS for the upcoming years?

Yes, as long as you have keiki receiving the Kipona Scholarship you will need to be HCPS licensed or compliant.

Q5: Is it possible for schools to receive a list of awardees when they are released to families?

Unfortunately, KS requires time to collect and process parent responses before award list can be released to schools. Schools will be notified by email when the School Collaborator Portal opens for student enrollment updates in mid-to-late May 2021.

Q6: What are scholarship entry grade levels?

Grade 6 & 9 are the Kipona entry points. Kindergarten is no longer an entry grade level.

Q7: Do current Kipona School Collaborators need to reapply to be a participating school?

No, returning schools do not need to reapply for Kipona participation. We want to reiterate that all schools (including returning schools) need to be HCPS licensed or compliant.

Q8: Will a "returning" family be notified regardless if they weren't awarded for the 2021-2022 school year?

Yes and No. If a returning family applied for a scholarship KS will notify family of their scholarship decision. If a returning family did not apply KS will not send a notification to family.