

## Application Submittal Checklist

*The following items are required for submittal of the grant application. Please verify and check off that the items have been included in the application packet.*

- 1) Hawaii Compliance Express Certificate (If the Applicant is an Organization)
- 2) Declaration Statement
- 3) Verify that grant shall be used for a public purpose
- 4) Background and Summary
- 5) Service Summary and Outcomes
- 6) Budget
  - a) Budget request by source of funds ([Link](#))
  - b) Personnel salaries and wages ([Link](#))
  - c) Equipment and motor vehicles ([Link](#))
  - d) Capital project details ([Link](#))
  - e) Government contracts, grants, and grants in aid ([Link](#))
- 7) Experience and Capability
- 8) Personnel: Project Organization and Staffing



AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

Nam Vu, COO

PRINT NAME AND TITLE

1/19/2024

DATE

**THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
APPLICATION FOR GRANTS  
CHAPTER 42F, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES**

Type of Grant Request:

Operating                       Capital

Legal Name of Requesting Organization or Individual:    Db:                      Hub Coworking Hawaii  
Impact Hub Honolulu LLC

Amount of State Funds Requested: \$ 167,150

Brief Description of Request (Please attach word document to back of page if extra space is needed):

Honolulu Men's Shed respectfully requests FY 2025 State Grant in Aid funding totaling \$120,000 to support educational and support programming support Hawaii's Seniors. The funding will support our mission of providing an environment for Kupuna to socialize and improve their health and well-being in a community workshop. Many Kupuna would like to use their skills to help the community, but they need a place and the equipment to do so. At the same time, Kupuna can socialize and realize their ongoing relevance—making for a happier and healthier chapter of life. +

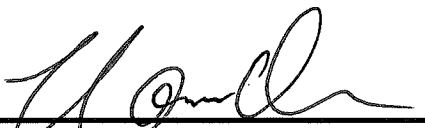
Amount of Other Funds Available:	Total amount of State Grants Received in the Past 5 Fiscal Years:
State:                      \$ _____	\$ <u>37,750</u>
Federal:                      \$ _____	
County:                      \$ _____	Unrestricted Assets:
Private/Other: \$ _____	\$ <u>53,800</u>

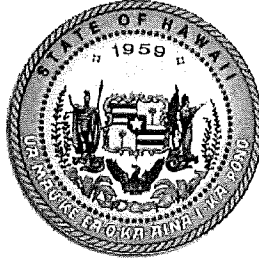
New Service (Presently Does Not Exist):     Existing Service (Presently in Operation):

Type of Business Entity:	Mailing Address:
<input type="checkbox"/> 501(C)(3) Non Profit Corporation	1050 Queen St. #100
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Non Profit	City:                                      State:                                      Zip:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	Honolulu                                      HI                                      96814

Contact Person for Matters Involving this Application	
Name: Nam Vu	Title: COO
Email: nam@hubcoworkinghi.com	Phone: 808-277-2555

Federal Tax ID#: <div style="background-color: black; width: 100px; height: 15px;"></div>	State Tax ID# <div style="background-color: black; width: 100px; height: 15px;"></div>
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 _____ Authorized Signature	Nam Vu, COO _____ Name and Title	1/19/2024 _____ Date Signed
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STATE OF HAWAII  
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

**CERTIFICATE OF VENDOR COMPLIANCE**

This document presents the compliance status of the vendor identified below on the issue date with respect to certificates required from the Hawaii Department of Taxation (DOTAX), the Internal Revenue Service, the Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR), and the Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA).

**Vendor Name:** IMPACT HUB HONOLULU LLC

**DBA/Trade Name:** Hub Coworking Hawai'i

**Issue Date:** 01/08/2024

**Status:** Compliant

Hawaii Tax#: [REDACTED]  
New Hawaii Tax#: [REDACTED]  
FEIN/SSN#: XX-XXX1830  
UI#: No record  
DCCA FILE#: 129503

Status of Compliance for this Vendor on issue date:

Form	Department(s)	Status
A-6	Hawaii Department of Taxation	Compliant
8821	Internal Revenue Service	Compliant
COGS	Hawaii Department of Commerce & Consumer Affairs	Compliant
LIR27	Hawaii Department of Labor & Industrial Relations	Compliant

**Status Legend:**

Status	Description
Exempt	The entity is exempt from this requirement
Compliant	The entity is compliant with this requirement or the entity is in agreement with agency and actively working towards compliance
Pending	A status determination has not yet been made
Submitted	The entity has applied for the certificate but it is awaiting approval
Not Compliant	The entity is not in compliance with the requirement and should contact the issuing agency for more information

**DECLARATION STATEMENT OF  
APPLICANTS FOR GRANTS PURSUANT TO  
CHAPTER 42F, HAWAII REVISIED STATUTES**

The undersigned authorized representative of the applicant certifies the following:

- 1) The applicant meets and will comply with all of the following standards for the award of grants pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes:
  - a) Is licensed or accredited, in accordance with federal, state, or county statutes, rules, or ordinances, to conduct the activities or provide the services for which a grant is awarded;
  - b) Complies with all applicable federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, creed, sex, age, sexual orientation, or disability;
  - c) Agrees not to use state funds for entertainment or lobbying activities; and
  - d) Allows the state agency to which funds for the grant were appropriated for expenditure, legislative committees and their staff, and the auditor full access to their records, reports, files, and other related documents and information for purposes of monitoring, measuring the effectiveness, and ensuring the proper expenditure of the grant.
- 2) If the applicant is an organization, the applicant meets the following requirements pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes:
  - a) Is incorporated under the laws of the State; and
  - b) Has bylaws or policies that describe the manner in which the activities or services for which a grant is awarded shall be conducted or provided; and
- 3) If the applicant is a non-profit organization, it meets the following requirements pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes:
  - a) Is determined and designated to be a non-profit organization by the Internal Revenue Service; and
  - b) Has a governing board whose members have no material conflict of interest and serve without compensation.
- 4) The use of grant-in-aid funding complies with all provisions of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii (for example, pursuant to Article X, section 1, of the Constitution, the State cannot provide "... public funds ... for the support or benefit of any sectarian or nonsectarian private educational institution...").

Pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for grants used for the acquisition of land, when the organization discontinues the activities or services on the land acquired for which the grant was awarded and disposes of the land in fee simple or by lease, the organization shall negotiate with the expending agency for a lump sum or installment repayment to the State of the amount of the grant used for the acquisition of the land.

Further, the undersigned authorized representative certifies that this statement is true and correct to the best of the applicant's knowledge.

Impact Hub Honolulu LLC

(Typed Name of Individual or Organization)



(Signature)

1/19/2024

(Date)

Nam Vu

COO

(Typed Name)

(Title)

# Public Purpose

## 42F-102: Application for Grants.

Requests for grants shall be submitted to the appropriate standing committee of the legislature at the start of each regular session of the legislature. Each request shall state:

**(1) The name of the requesting organization or individual;**

Impact Hub Honolulu LLC

**(2) The public purpose of the grant;**

The establishment of the Hawaii AI Hub by Impact Hub Honolulu LLC will serve the public purpose and address the needs and public goals as listed in the following table, which aligns with the 2023 Hawaii State Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) as published by the Hawaii Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

<b>CEDS Item Addressed</b>	<b>How Hawai'i AI Hub Addresses This CEDS Item</b>
Goal Eight Science and Technology (Objective 1): Grow the science and technology sector	Supporting growth in science and technology with innovation, research, and development in AI.
Goal Three Education and Knowledge Creation (Objective 1): Increase P-20 education degree attainment	Enhancing workforce development through educational programs in AI and related technologies.
Goal Eight Science and Technology (Objective 2): Support STEM educational programs	Providing educational programs and funding opportunities in STEM, particularly in AI and technology.
Goal Eight Science and Technology (Objective 3): Build workforce development and career pathways	Building workforce development and career pathways in the science and technology sectors.
Goal Eight Science and Technology (Objective 4): Encourage outreach and collaboration	Enhancing outreach and collaboration, addressing challenges and enhancing scientific understanding through AI.

Goal Two Creative Industries (Objective 1): Create a resilient and vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem	Fostering AI-driven innovation and entrepreneurship, contributing to economic diversification and resilience.
Goal Two Creative Industries (Objective 2): Expand critical infrastructure for innovation	Contributing to the development of technological infrastructure and supporting innovation through Hawaii AI Hub's programs and collaborations.
Goal Two Creative Industries (Objective 3): Increase climate resilience funding	Hawaii AI Hub's focus on sustainability and AI-driven solutions can contribute to climate adaptation and resilience projects.
[Cross-Cutting Strategies]: Promote cross-sector collaboration	Encouraging collaboration among businesses, academic institutions, government agencies, and community groups in AI.
Goal Three Education and Knowledge Creation (Objective 1): Enable Hawai'i to participate in the global digital economy	Enhancing Hawaii's digital economy presence through technological advancement and education in AI and related fields.
Goal Three Education and Knowledge Creation (Objective 2): Promote the export of goods and services by Hawai'i's businesses	Hawaii AI Hub's role in fostering technology innovation and entrepreneurship can aid in the development and export of technology products and services.
Goal One Agriculture, Aquaculture, and Food Systems (Objective 1): Build a Hawai'i where housing is affordable and attainable	While not directly impacted, Hawaii AI Hub indirectly supports economic growth and job creation, contributing to overall economic stability and potentially impacting housing affordability.

**(3) The services to be supported by the grant;**

Impact Hub Honolulu LLC aims to establish a comprehensive and dynamic Hawaii Artificial Intelligence Hub that serves as a nexus for Artificial Intelligence (AI) education, outreach, advocacy, and innovation in Hawaii.

Hawaii's unique geographical and cultural landscape presents both challenges and opportunities for technology adoption and innovation. Today and for the foreseeable future, no technology is more central to these challenges and opportunities than Artificial Intelligence. While we acknowledge that there are worldwide concerns about AI's impact on the future of the world's economies, society, and even democracies, we feel passionately that the only way that Hawai'i can successfully mitigate these concerns for its residents will be through tackling these issues

head-on; with education, universal access, and a commitment to harnessing the power of AI technologies for the good of Hawaii's diverse communities.

An AI Hub in Hawaii would serve as a central point for bringing together local talent, resources, and ideas, enabling the state to harness the power of AI for economic growth, environmental sustainability, and cultural preservation. By cultivating a local AI ecosystem, Hawaii can reduce its reliance on external expertise and create more opportunities for local talent.

In particular, there is a growing need for AI education and workforce development in Hawaii. An AI Hub would provide accessible educational resources, training programs, and workshops, preparing the local workforce for the demands of the AI-driven economy. This would not only benefit individuals seeking to advance their careers but also help businesses and organizations adopt AI technologies more effectively. We know from our unique position within the business community that businesses far afield from technology industries—from tourism, to healthcare, to even construction—are anxious to learn more about how they can apply AI to improve their bottom lines and stay globally competitive.

Finally, an AI Hub would foster collaboration among various stakeholders, including academia, industry, government, and the community. This collaborative environment would encourage innovation, facilitate the exchange of ideas, and help translate research into practical applications. The Hub has long served as a downtown-Honolulu center for “drop-in collaboration” and our AI Hub should serve as an extremely powerful extension of that approach with AI and its myriad new technologies, products and services, and applications.

Our primary goals and objectives for this grant request are as follows:

**Event Space and Office Allocation:** Secure funding to allocate event space and establish a small permanent office footprint. This will enable us to host approximately 12 monthly and 2 semi-annual events, creating a consistent platform for AI-focused discussions and networking.

**Community Cohesion and Educational Programs and Workshops:** Develop and host a series of educational programs and workshops that provide comprehensive learning opportunities in AI and related technologies. These will cater to various skill levels and include topics like AI ethics, machine learning, and data science.

**Academic Collaborations:** Foster collaborations with academic institutions, including Hawai‘i K-12 (public and private) education; University of Hawaii, affiliated institutions, and other Hawaii post-secondary institutions; facilitating joint programs, internships, and research in AI.

**Startup and Entrepreneur Support:** Establish a support system for AI startups and entrepreneurs, providing mentorship, networking opportunities, and access to resources and expertise.

**Public Awareness and Community Engagement:** Increase public awareness and understanding of AI through open days, public talks, and community engagement activities. These initiatives aim to demystify AI and encourage community participation.

**Access to Technology and Resources:** Provide members and participants with access to AI tools, software, and resources to support their projects and ideas.

**Inter-Island Outreach to Maui and Beyond:** Collaboration online and with partner organizations on Maui and other Hawai‘i communities can start immediately, with the eventual goal of establishing physical presence and regular events as needed throughout the islands. (For more information, please see our special statement on Maui, below.)

**Diversity and Inclusion:** Implement programs that promote diversity and inclusion in the AI field, ensuring opportunities for underrepresented and historically disadvantaged groups throughout Hawai‘i.

**Sustainability and Environmental Impact:** Develop initiatives exploring AI's role in addressing environmental and sustainability challenges, reflecting Hawaii's unique ecological context.

**Policy and Regulation Dialogue:** Engage in policy discussions to advocate for AI regulations that encourage innovation while addressing ethical and privacy concerns.

**Global AI Trends and Best Practices:** Keep abreast of global AI trends and innovations, ensuring Hawaii's AI initiatives align with international standards and best practices.

**Outreach and Inter-Organizational Coordination:** Allocate funding for outreach, including coordination with various organizations and stakeholders in the AI ecosystem.

These goals and objectives reflect our commitment to establishing a robust Hawai‘i AI Hub that not only caters to the immediate needs of the AI community in Hawaii but also contributes to the long-term development and ethical application of AI technologies.

#### **(4) The target group; and**

The following table describes the target population to be served:

<b>Population Segment</b>	<b>Mechanism(s) of Service</b>
Local Businesses	Exposure to AI applications for various industries, access to advanced training consultants and community.
Technology Professionals	Advanced workshops, seminars, and collaborative projects. Access to potential job opportunities.
Students and Educators	Educational programs, workshops, and collaborative research projects.



Entrepreneurs and Startups	Networking events, mentorship programs, access to AI resources, potential exposure to capital sources.
Government Agencies	Partnerships for policy development and public sector applications.
Underrepresented Groups including Native Hawaiians	Inclusivity programs and targeted outreach.
Academic Institutions	Joint programs, internships, and resource sharing.
Environmental and Cultural Groups	Projects focusing on sustainability and cultural preservation
General Public	Public talks, open days, and awareness campaigns about AI.

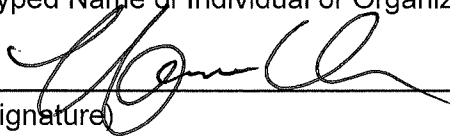
**( 5) The cost of the grant and the budget.**

Impact Hub Honolulu requests \$167,150 for FY 2025 State Grant in Aid.

The undersigned authorized representative of the applicant certifies the following: The applicant will utilize a State Grant in Aid granted for FY2025 for a public purpose pursuant to Section 42F-102, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Impact Hub Honolulu LLC

\_\_\_\_\_  
 (Typed Name of Individual or Organization)

  
 (Signature)

1/19/2024  
 (Date)

Nam Vu  
 (Typed Name)

COO  
 (Title)

## Application for Grants

*If any item is not applicable to the request, the applicant should enter "not applicable".*

### **I. Certification – Please attach immediately after cover page**

#### **1. Hawaii Compliance Express Certificate (If the Applicant is an Organization)**

If the applicant is an organization, the applicant shall submit one (1) copy of a Hawaii Compliance Express Certificate from the Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and General Services that is dated no earlier than December 1, 2023.

#### **2. Declaration Statement**

The applicant shall submit a declaration statement affirming its compliance with Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

#### **3. Public Purpose**

The applicant shall specify whether the grant will be used for a public purpose pursuant to Section 42F-102, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

### **II. Background and Summary**

**This section shall clearly and concisely summarize and highlight the contents of the request in such a way as to provide the State Legislature with a broad understanding of the request. Please include the following:**

#### **1. A brief description of the applicant's background;**

Impact Hub Honolulu LLC, operating under the well-known brand Hub Coworking Hawai'i, has established itself as a pivotal community and coworking space in Hawaii since its inception. This organization, renowned for its dedication to fostering a collaborative and innovative environment, serves as a beacon for entrepreneurs, businesses, students, and technology enthusiasts across O'ahu and greater Hawai'i.

The organization's journey, as chronicled on its website and reflected in its 2021 Impact Report, demonstrates a commitment to creating sustainable impact through collaboration and community empowerment. Hub Coworking Hawai'i has evolved from just a coworking space to a central hub for a myriad of community events, incubation programs, and business partnerships. Its membership comprises a diverse group of over 370 individuals and organizations, including remote workers, entrepreneurs, and innovators from 31 different industries, generating over \$107M in revenue.

A key milestone in Hub Coworking's journey was its selection in May, 2023 by the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation (HTDC) to manage the state-owned Entrepreneurs Sandbox, further solidifying its role as a leader in the entrepreneurial ecosystem in Hawaii.

As the global pandemic waned over the past few years, Hub Coworking Hawai'i adapted to the reopening of in-person events, emerging as a vital space for technology meetups and AI-focused gatherings. It has hosted events for AI Hawai'i and similar groups, attracting hundreds of attendees and fostering a growing interest and community of practitioners in artificial intelligence. Additionally, the organization's strong relationship with HTDC has been a key piece of the puzzle of bridging the gap between businesses, entrepreneurs, and investors.

Hub Coworking Hawai'i's unique position in the community, combined with its extensive network and experience in hosting technology and innovation-focused events, makes it an ideal candidate to host the Hawaii Artificial Intelligence Hub. The organization's commitment to driving innovation and fostering a culture of collaboration aligns perfectly with the goals of promoting AI education, outreach, and advocacy in the State of Hawaii.

## **2. The goals and objectives related to the request;**

Impact Hub Honolulu LLC aims to establish a comprehensive and dynamic Hawaii Artificial Intelligence Hub that serves as a nexus for Artificial Intelligence (AI) education, outreach, advocacy, and innovation in Hawaii.

Hawaii's unique geographical and cultural landscape presents both challenges and opportunities for technology adoption and innovation. Today and for the foreseeable future, no technology is more central to these challenges and opportunities than Artificial Intelligence. While we acknowledge that there are worldwide concerns about AI's impact on the future of the world's economies, society, and even democracies, we feel passionately that the only way that Hawai'i can successfully mitigate these concerns for its residents will be through tackling these issues head-on; with education, universal access, and a commitment to harnessing the power of AI technologies for the good of Hawaii's diverse communities.

An AI Hub in Hawaii would serve as a central point for bringing together local talent, resources, and ideas, enabling the state to harness the power of AI for economic growth, environmental sustainability, and cultural preservation. By cultivating a local AI ecosystem, Hawaii can reduce its reliance on external expertise and create more opportunities for local talent.

In particular, there is a growing need for AI education and workforce development in Hawaii. An AI Hub would provide accessible educational resources, training programs, and workshops, preparing the local workforce for the demands of the AI-driven economy. This would not only benefit individuals seeking to advance their careers but also help businesses and organizations adopt AI technologies more effectively. We know from our unique position within the business community that businesses far afield from technology industries—from tourism, to healthcare, to even construction—are anxious to learn more about how they can apply AI to improve their bottom lines and stay globally competitive.

Finally, an AI Hub would foster collaboration among various stakeholders, including academia, industry, government, and the community. This collaborative environment would encourage innovation, facilitate the exchange of ideas, and help translate research into practical applications. The Hub has long served as a downtown-Honolulu center for “drop-in collaboration” and our AI Hub should serve as an extremely powerful extension of that approach with AI and its myriad new technologies, products and services, and applications.

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**Policy and Regulation Dialogue:** Engage in policy discussions to advocate for AI regulations that encourage innovation while addressing ethical and privacy concerns.

**Global AI Trends and Best Practices:** Keep abreast of global AI trends and innovations, ensuring Hawaii's AI initiatives align with international standards and best practices.

**Outreach and Inter-Organizational Coordination:** Allocate funding for outreach, including coordination with various organizations and stakeholders in the AI ecosystem.

These goals and objectives reflect our commitment to establishing a robust Hawai'i AI Hub that not only caters to the immediate needs of the AI community in Hawaii but also contributes to the long-term development and ethical application of AI technologies.

**3. The public purpose and need to be served;**

**The establishment of the Hawaii AI Hub by Impact Hub Honolulu LLC will serve the public purpose and address the needs and public goals as listed in the following table, which aligns with the 2023 Hawaii State Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) as published by the Hawaii Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.**

CEDS Item Addressed	How Hawai'i AI Hub Addresses This CEDS Item
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Goal Two Creative Industries (Objective 1): Create a resilient and vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem	Fostering AI-driven innovation and entrepreneurship, contributing to economic diversification and resilience.
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[Cross-Cutting Strategies]: Promote cross-sector collaboration	Encouraging collaboration among businesses, academic institutions, government agencies, and community groups in AI.
Goal Three Education and Knowledge Creation (Objective 1): Enable Hawai'i to participate in the global digital economy	Enhancing Hawaii's digital economy presence through technological advancement and education in AI and related fields.
Goal Three Education and Knowledge Creation (Objective 2): Promote the export of goods and services by Hawai'i's businesses	Hawaii AI Hub's role in fostering technology innovation and entrepreneurship can aid in the development and export of technology products and services.
Goal One Agriculture, Aquaculture, and Food Systems (Objective 1): Build a Hawai'i where housing is affordable and attainable	While not directly impacted, Hawaii AI Hub indirectly supports economic growth and job creation, contributing to overall economic stability and potentially impacting housing affordability.

**4. Describe the target population to be served; and**

The following table describes the target population to be served:

<b>Population Segment</b>	<b>Mechanism(s) of Service</b>
Local Businesses	Exposure to AI applications for various industries, access to advanced training consultants and community.
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Academic Institutions	Joint programs, internships, and resource sharing.
Environmental and Cultural Groups	Projects focusing on sustainability and cultural preservation
General Public	Public talks, open days, and awareness campaigns about AI.

**5. Describe the geographic coverage.**

While certain aspects of the AI Hub, like in-person events and drop-in visits, will be concentrated in Honolulu on O‘ahu, many aspects of the AI Hub will be applicable to all locations in Hawai‘i, particularly our outreach coordination and advocacy efforts. In the future, we envision the possibility of setting up physical AI Hub outposts in other communities, depending upon the level of local uptake and demand in those communities.

**SPECIAL STATEMENT ON PROJECT COMMITMENT TO SUPPORTING MAUI RECOVERY**

In response to the wildfires and subsequent human toll in Maui, as well as the State of Hawaii's prioritization of investments in Maui's recovery, Hawaii AI Hub is committed to actively supporting the island's revitalization efforts. We recognize the significant impact these fires have had on Maui's communities, economy, and people.

Hawaii AI Hub's project will incorporate specific actions and initiatives aimed at aiding Maui's recovery, leveraging the potential of AI technology to enhance and support the tourism industry, which is a vital component of Maui's recovery, as recently noted for instance, by S&P Global Ratings<sup>1</sup>. A recent McKinsey report<sup>2</sup> highlights the transformative impact of AI on the travel industry, emphasizing AI's role in personalizing customer experiences and streamlining

<sup>1</sup> “State of Hawai‘i issues \$750M in General Obligation Bonds”, Maui Now, December 20, 2023. Accessed online Jan 19 2024 at [mauinow.com/2023/12/20/state-of-hawai%CA%BBi-issues-750m-in-general-obligation-bonds/](http://mauinow.com/2023/12/20/state-of-hawai%CA%BBi-issues-750m-in-general-obligation-bonds/)

<sup>2</sup> “What AI means for travel—now and in the future”, McKinsey and Company. Accessed online Jan 19 2024 at [mckinsey.com/industries/travel-logistics-and-infrastructure](http://mckinsey.com/industries/travel-logistics-and-infrastructure)

operational processes. Since we can see a strong connection between the technology and the industry, we expect to base our Maui-specific efforts in the next year on this nexus.

Our commitment includes:

- **Bi-Monthly Meetings/Small Events on Maui:** Hawaii AI Hub will develop and launch up to six bi-monthly meetings and/or small events on Maui, with a particular focus on supporting the leisure and tourism industries. These events will facilitate dialogue, share knowledge, and promote the use of AI in enhancing tourism experiences and operations, contributing to the economic recovery of the region.
- **Teleconferencing/Telepresence Technology Investment:** To ensure inclusivity and broad participation, Hawaii AI Hub will invest in state-of-the-art teleconferencing and telepresence technology. This will allow meetings and events held on Oahu to be broadcast with high fidelity to locations in Maui. We plan to explore partnering options to establish viewing rooms in Maui, ensuring the island's stakeholders have direct access to Hawaii AI Hub's resources and discussions.
- **Major In-Person Gathering in Maui:** Hawaii AI Hub will plan at least one major in-person gathering in Maui, with details and timing to be determined as the recovery progresses. This event will serve as a significant opportunity to bring together local and external stakeholders, fostering collaboration and showcasing Maui's resilience and potential in the post-recovery era.

Through these initiatives, Hawaii AI Hub aims to contribute meaningfully to Maui's recovery efforts, supporting the rejuvenation of its economy and communities. We are committed to working closely with local authorities, businesses, and community members to ensure our actions align with Maui's needs and priorities, and to make a positive and lasting impact.

### **III. Service Summary and Outcomes**

**The Service Summary shall include a detailed discussion of the applicant's approach to the request. The applicant shall clearly and concisely specify the results, outcomes, and measures of effectiveness from this request. The applicant shall:**

**1. Describe the scope of work, tasks and responsibilities;**

Impact Hub anticipates an eighteen (18) month project to fully develop Hawaii AI Hub through three phases:

1. Pre-Launch (4 months)
2. Launch (2 months)
3. Full Operations (12 months)

**Pre-Launch Phase (Months 1-4):**



During this phase the team, physical and online assets, and initial operating plans will be fully assembled.

- Project Planning and Team Assembly: Formulate a detailed project plan, assemble a project team, and identify key personnel (project manager, event coordinator, communications specialist, etc.).
- Stakeholder Engagement: Begin engagement with stakeholders including academic institutions, businesses, government agencies, and community groups.
- AI Lab Buildout: Design and construct a dedicated AI lab within the designated office space, including procurement of necessary equipment and technology.
- Communications and Marketing: Develop a communications plan, create marketing materials, and establish an online presence for the AI Hub.
- Program Development: Start designing educational programs and workshops, outlining curriculum and identifying instructors or partners.
- Maui planning: Travel to Maui to meet with potential partners and stakeholders to begin to plan for both events there and for partner connections.

#### **Launch Phase (Months 5-6):**

During this phase, efforts will center on a coordinated launch in Hawaii AI Hub's physical and virtual spaces.

- Launch Event Planning: Plan and organize a major launch event in Oahu, including logistics, programming, and guest invitations.
- Publicity Campaign: Implement a publicity campaign to promote the launch event and the AI Hub, utilizing various media channels.
- Staff Engagement: Finalize hiring of permanent, volunteer, and contract staff required for the Launch and subsequent operations.
- Website and Online Presence: Launch or update the website and online platforms to reflect the new AI Hub offerings and events.

#### **Full Operations Phase (Months 7-18):**

During this phase, the fully-assembled Hawaii AI Hub team will hold regular events, open office hours, meetings and other public engagement, and all the other functions of a community AI nexus. Additionally, the Hawaii AI Hub team will work to cement operational partnerships and begin regular public engagement and advocacy work.

- Maui implementation: Begin holding planned events for Maui. Depending on conditions and planning on the ground there, plan and execute the Annual Event (as an Annual Launch.)
- Event Management: Host monthly events, workshops, and seminars as outlined in the project plan.
- Educational Program Delivery: Begin delivering educational programs and workshops, adjusting based on feedback and participation.

- Ongoing Stakeholder Engagement: Continue to build and maintain relationships with stakeholders, including collaboration on specific projects or initiatives.
- Community Outreach and Advocacy: Implement ongoing outreach and advocacy efforts, including public talks, community engagement activities, and policy discussions.
- AI Lab Management: Manage the AI lab, ensuring it is a resource for members, participants, and partners.
- Performance Monitoring and Evaluation: Continuously monitor the performance of the AI Hub's activities and evaluate their effectiveness, making adjustments as necessary.

**2. Provide a projected annual timeline for accomplishing the results or outcomes of the service;**

While we are proposing an 18 month project to go from concept to full implementation, we anticipate program results and outcomes that will last years beyond the timeline of the formal initiative.

**Year One:**

*Pre-Launch Phase:*

- Community Awareness Initiative Launched: Launch of a public awareness campaign, including community events and information sessions about Hawaii AI Hub and its future offerings.
- Public Engagement in Program Development Delivered: Inviting community input and feedback on the proposed educational programs and workshops, fostering a sense of ownership and anticipation by various stakeholders.

*Launch Phase:*

- Community-Centric Launch Event Delivered: A public launch event that engages the community, highlighting the AI Hub's role and potential in Hawaii, with media coverage and community participation.
- AI Lab Inauguration Event Delivered: A public ribbon-cutting ceremony for the AI Lab (in coordination with or in addition to the Community Launch), inviting community members to explore the facility and its resources.
- Public Access to Online Resources: Official launch of the Hawaii AI Hub website and online platforms—including social media platforms—providing open access to resources, event information, and educational content.
- Maui Meeting Schedule launched and operational.

**Year Two:**

*Continued Operations:*

- Maui Annual Event (Possibly a statewide AI-Tourism focus): Successful planning, promotion, and execution of the event.
- Regular Community Events: Successful establishment and hosting of regular community events, including AI workshops, seminars, and discussions, with consistently high attendance and engagement.
- Educational Program Expansion: Expansion of educational programs to include more advanced topics and diverse formats, attracting a wider range of participants and demonstrating measurable increases in AI literacy.
- Collaborative Project Showcases: Showcasing results from collaborative projects involving community members, local businesses, and academic partners, highlighting practical AI applications in various sectors in Hawaii.
- Public Advocacy and Policy Engagement: Active participation in public advocacy, including hosting forums and discussions on AI policy and ethics, influencing local policy development.
- Growing Online Community Engagement: Significant growth in online engagement, with increased usage of Hawaii AI Hub's digital resources, participation in virtual events, and growth in social media followership.

### **Years Three through Five:**

#### *Continued Operations:*

- Community Impact Assessment: Conduct comprehensive assessments of Hawaii AI Hub's impact on the community, including its contribution to economic development, job creation, and technology literacy. These assessments will feed forward into programming adjustments and mission updates.
- Statewide Educational and Outreach Expansion: Expand the reach of Hawaii AI Hub's programs and events beyond Oahu, potentially through satellite events or partnerships, to serve a broader statewide audience.
- AI Innovation and Entrepreneurship Support: Establish Hawaii AI Hub as a key supporter of AI innovation and entrepreneurship in Hawaii, including hosting incubation programs and providing support to AI startups.
- Sustainable Development Contributions: Demonstrate contributions to sustainable development and environmental initiatives through AI-driven projects and collaborations.
- National and Global Recognition: Gain national and global recognition for Hawaii AI Hub as a model for community-based AI hubs, attracting international partnerships and opportunities.

### **3. Describe its quality assurance and evaluation plans for the request. Specify how the applicant plans to monitor, evaluate, and improve their results; and**

Impact Hub Honolulu LLC is committed to ensuring the highest quality of service and impactful outcomes for Hawaii AI Hub. We note here that careful measurement is a central aspect of

Impact Hub’s growth over the years in Hawai‘i: we are here today in large part due to our constant measuring of community satisfaction and continuous efforts to improve upon those measures in order to maximize our organization’s effectiveness. Impact Hub will necessarily impart this core aspect of its organizational DNA to Hawaii AI Hub.

Our quality assurance and evaluation plan includes the following components:

- **Regular Monitoring:** Continuous monitoring of all activities and programs through participant feedback, attendance tracking, and engagement metrics. This will help identify areas for improvement in real-time.
- **Feedback Mechanisms:** Implementing systematic feedback mechanisms, such as surveys and focus groups, to gather input from participants, partners, and community members. This feedback will inform program adjustments and enhancements.
- **Performance Metrics:** Utilizing key performance indicators (KPIs) to measure the success of events, educational programs, and outreach initiatives. KPIs will include participation rates, satisfaction scores, and learning outcomes. Their development will be a critical foundational goal during our Pre-Launch Phase.
- **Quarterly Reviews:** Conducting quarterly reviews to assess the progress of Hawaii AI Hub against the project plan and objectives. These reviews will involve the project team and key stakeholders.
- **Continuous Improvement:** Utilizing the insights gained from monitoring, feedback, and evaluations to make data-driven decisions for continuous improvement of Hawaii AI Hub's programs and activities.

**4. List the measure(s) of effectiveness that will be reported to the State agency through which grant funds are appropriated (the expending agency). The measure(s) will provide a standard and objective way for the State to assess the program's achievement or accomplishment. Please note that if the level of appropriation differs from the amount included in this application that the measure(s) of effectiveness will need to be updated and transmitted to the expending agency.**

The following table lists our proposed measures of effectiveness to be reported to the State agency. Please note that where possible, Hawaii AI Hub will also seek to transparently inform the public and fellow stakeholders with summaries of our effectiveness findings. Each description below contains numerical targets as of the writing of this grant application; we will update all stakeholders with adjustments to quantitative measures resulting from more detailed planning.

Measure of Effectiveness	Description
Participation and Engagement Metrics	Number of events hosted (10), attendance figures (120), and participant engagement levels (50 surveys).

Educational Program Outcome Assessments	Number of educational programs conducted (4), participant numbers (32), and assessment of knowledge gained.
Stakeholder Collaboration Metrics	Number and quality of collaborations with academic institutions, businesses, government agencies, and community groups. (10 or more total collaboration records)
Community Feedback and Satisfaction Scores	Feedback scores from participants and community members, measuring satisfaction and perceived value of Hawaii AI Hub's offerings. (50 surveys)
Online Engagement Metrics	Growth and engagement statistics for Hawaii AI Hub's website and social media platforms. (100 monthly views)
Policy Impact	Annual subjective self-reflection on Hawaii AI Hub's contributions to local (regional, national, etc.) policy fora; to include details of any positions or statements generated on behalf of the entity. (Subjective report)
Innovation and Entrepreneurship Support Metrics	Number of startups and entrepreneurs supported (10), including mentorship, resource allocation, and success stories.

Again, we would like to emphasize that careful self-observation and continuous improvement are core values for our team. We expect that our planning and launch activities will generate new Measures of Effectiveness. Our organization pledges to comply with State requirements and the requirements of the expending agency with respect to our relevant reporting obligations.

#### **IV. Financial**

##### **Budget**

1. **The applicant shall submit a budget utilizing the enclosed budget forms as applicable, to detail the cost of the request.**
  - a. Budget request by source of funds ([Link](#))
  - b. Personnel salaries and wages ([Link](#))
  - c. Equipment and motor vehicles ([Link](#))
  - d. Capital project details ([Link](#))
  - e. Government contracts, grants, and grants in aid ([Link](#))
2. **The applicant shall provide its anticipated quarterly funding requests for the fiscal year 2025.**

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Total Grant
\$80,000	\$40,000	\$20,000	\$27,150	\$167,150

3. The applicant shall provide a listing of all other sources of funding that they are seeking for fiscal year 2025.

N/A

4. The applicant shall provide a listing of all state and federal tax credits it has been granted within the prior three years. Additionally, the applicant shall provide a listing of all state and federal tax credits they have applied for or anticipate applying for pertaining to any capital project, if applicable.

N/A

5. The applicant shall provide a listing of all federal, state, and county government contracts, grants, and grants in aid it has been granted within the prior three years and will be receiving for fiscal year 2025 for program funding.

CONTRACT DESCRIPTION	EFFECTIVE DATES	AGENCY	GOVERNMENT ENTITY (U.S./State/Hawaii/ Honolulu/ Kauai/ Maui County)	CONTRACT VALUE
BED 143; High Tech Development Corporation	5/30/2017-5/29/2018	HTDC	State	350,000
RFP-21-002-HTDC	6/7/2021-12/7/2021	HTDC	State	21,250
RFP-23-003-HTDC	4/25/2023-4/24/2024	HTDC	State	16,500
RFP-23-004-HTDC	5/1/2023-4/30/2024	HTDC	State	-

6. The applicant shall provide the balance of its unrestricted current assets as of December 31, 2023.

\$53,800

## **V. Experience and Capability**

### **1. Necessary Skills and Experience**

**The applicant shall demonstrate that it has the necessary skills, abilities, knowledge of, and experience relating to the request. State your experience and appropriateness for providing the service proposed in this application. The applicant shall also provide a listing of verifiable experience of related projects or contracts for the most recent three years that are pertinent to the request.**

Impact Hub Honolulu (dba Hub Coworking Hawaii) has extensive experience building community, organizing and facilitating community events, and building educational program that benefit the small business and startup community. Surrounded by technology experts, entrepreneurs, the Hub has a vast network of technology professionals to collaborate with.

#### **Advisors:**

##### **Ryley Higa**

Ryley Higa is a machine learning engineer working for Sumo Logic, an app and web security, monitoring, and troubleshooting platform company based in Redwood City, CA. Graduating in computer engineering from University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Ryley specializes in using machine learning to detect anomalies and vulnerabilities in software systems. Ryley holds a patent and published research paper and currently runs an AI enthusiast meetup in Honolulu, HI called AI Hawaii. AI Hawaii currently has monthly meetings at Hub Coworking Hawaii.

##### **Peter Dresslar**

Peter Dresslar is an accomplished leader in broadband and digital equity with a proven track record in securing significant federal funding and advancing impactful projects in the Pacific region. As the Founder and Executive Director of Pacific Broadband and Digital Equity, he has played a key role in securing over \$125 million in additive federal broadband funding and influencing federal policy. His previous roles include Commonwealth Broadband Lead for the Government of CNMI and Territorial Broadband Coordinator for American Samoa's Department of Commerce, where he secured a \$3 million federal NTIA grant for the American Samoa Community College, where he continues today managing the A'oa'oga Aso Nei Initiative. Peter's technical achievements range from his 2007 work in text mining, published in Nucleic Acids Research, to his recent contributions to the Vercel AI project on GitHub. With a BA in Economics from the University of Michigan and skills with JavaScript, Python, and various data storage and platforming technologies, he is well-equipped to contribute to the advancement of AI and technology initiatives at the Hawaii AI Hub.

## **Duncan Hsia**

Duncan Hsia stands out as a leader in the convergence of financial services and artificial intelligence (AI), making him an exemplary figure in sectors that prioritize innovative integration of technology. His educational background from the Wharton Business School, coupled with a degree in systems engineering from the University of Pennsylvania, equips him with a rare combination of financial insight and technical skill, crucial for innovation in today's business environment.

As the founder of Infinite Financial, Duncan has been instrumental in offering unique real estate financing services. His approach is characterized by a synergistic blend of sophisticated financial strategies and advanced technological solutions, particularly in the realm of AI. Duncan's enthusiasm for AI is deep-rooted and extends beyond his professional endeavors. He established the Honolulu ChatGPT Meetup group which meets at Hub Coworking Hawaii, creating a community space for AI enthusiasts to collaborate, share knowledge, and explore new applications of AI technology. He also has taught 8 different groups in the real estate industry about AI.

In his professional capacity at Infinite Financial, Duncan applies AI tools to optimize business processes, improve customer service, and offer innovative financial solutions. His application of AI in real-world business scenarios highlights the transformative impact of AI in the financial industry, demonstrating its potential to revolutionize traditional business models.

## **Nam Vu**

Nam has been in technology for 38 years starting with his first computer: a Commodore VIC-20 with an audio cassette data drive. Nam is the founder of ShakaNet, a guest Internet service provider for most of the major airports and many hotels in Hawaii. While traveling the world with his family for 15 months, he utilized many coworking spaces and recognized the need for such spaces, with amazing Internet, in Hawaii. He returned looking for a coworking space to get involved with and became the Hub's first angel investor. An entrepreneur at heart, Nam is passionate about helping other impact makers succeed and enabling community to gather for a purpose.

## **2. Facilities**

**The applicant shall provide a description of its facilities and demonstrate its adequacy in relation to the request. If facilities are not presently available, describe plans to secure facilities.**

Hawaii AI Hub will operate out of the Hub Coworking spaces which includes locations at Queen Street, Waikiki and Entrepreneurs Sandbox.



## **VI. Personnel: Project Organization and Staffing**

### **1. Proposed Staffing, Staff Qualifications, Supervision and Training**

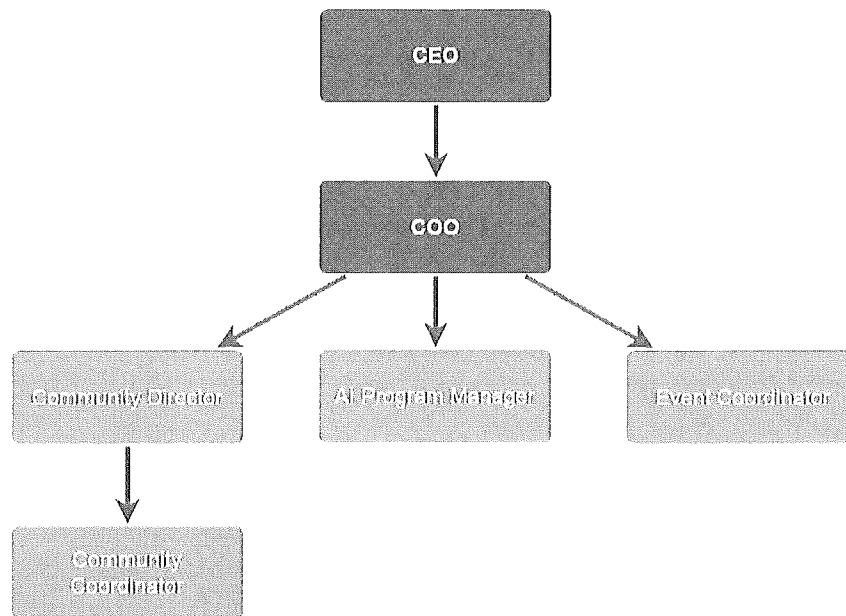
**The applicant shall describe the proposed staffing pattern and proposed service capacity appropriate for the viability of the request. The applicant shall provide the qualifications and experience of personnel for the request and shall describe its ability to supervise, train and provide administrative direction relative to the request.**

The Program Manager will be hired specifically to administer the Hawaii AI Hub program. The full-time position will require someone that has technical knowledge as well as the ability to organize and build community. Other tasks are:

- Building programs
- Organizing meetups
- Organizing Events
- Building relationships and partnerships
- Collaborating with subject matter experts for workshops and training sessions

### **2. Organization Chart**

**The applicant shall illustrate the position of each staff and line of responsibility/supervision. If the request is part of a large, multi-purpose organization, include an organization chart that illustrates the placement of this request.**



### 3. Compensation

The applicant shall provide an annual salary range paid by the applicant to the three highest paid officers, directors, or employees of the organization by position title, not employee name.

CEO - \$130,000 - \$170,000  
COO - \$60,000 - \$80,000  
Community Director - \$55,000 - \$75,000

## **VII. Other**

### 1. Litigation

The applicant shall disclose any pending litigation to which they are a party, including the disclosure of any outstanding judgement. If applicable, please explain.

N/A

**2. Licensure or Accreditation**

**The applicant shall specify any special qualifications, including but not limited to licensure or accreditation that the applicant possesses relevant to this request.**

N/A

**3. Private Educational Institutions**

**The applicant shall specify whether the grant will be used to support or benefit a sectarian or non-sectarian private educational institution. Please see Article X, Section 1, of the State Constitution for the relevance of this question.**

N/A

**4. Future Sustainability Plan**

**The applicant shall provide a plan for sustaining after fiscal year 2024-25 the activity funded by the grant if the grant of this application is:**

- (a) Received by the applicant for fiscal year 2024-25, but**
- (b) Not received by the applicant thereafter.**

We intend on Hawaii AI Hub contributing to the AI economy in Hawaii for many years to come. As we gain traction and build a community around the program and prove it's value to the community we will look to fund the operations through a variety of sources:

Sponsorships from tech companies that have an interest in AI:

- AWS
- Cisco
- Google
- Microsoft

Federal Grants

- EDA
- USDA
- BEAD

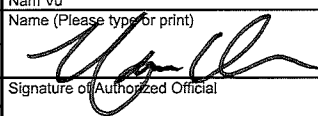
Products and services

- AI Consulting
- AI development
- Community Membership fees

## BUDGET REQUEST BY SOURCE OF FUNDS

Period: July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

Applicant: Impact Hub Honolulu LLC

BUDGET CATEGORIES	Total State Funds Requested (a)	Total Federal Funds Requested (b)	Total County Funds Requested (c)	Total Private/Other Funds Requested (d)
<b>A. PERSONNEL COST</b>				
1. Salaries	80,000			
2. Payroll Taxes & Assessments	32,000			
3. Fringe Benefits	12,000			
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL COST</b>	<b>124,000</b>			
<b>B. OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES</b>				
1. Airfare, Inter-Island	1,750			
2. Insurance				
3. Lease/Rental of Equipment	5,000			
4. Lease/Rental of Space	22,000			
5. Staff Training	10,000			
6. Supplies	2,000			
7. Telecommunication	2,400			
8. Utilities				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
<b>TOTAL OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES</b>	<b>43,150</b>			
<b>C. EQUIPMENT PURCHASES</b>				
<b>D. MOTOR VEHICLE PURCHASES</b>				
<b>E. CAPITAL</b>				
<b>TOTAL (A+B+C+D+E)</b>	<b>167,150</b>			
<b>SOURCES OF FUNDING</b>		Budget Prepared By:		
(a) Total State Funds Requested	167,150	Nam Vu <span style="float: right;">808-277-2555</span>		
(b) Total Federal Funds Requested		Name (Please type or print) <span style="float: right;">Phone</span>		
(c) Total County Funds Requested				
(d) Total Private/Other Funds Requested		Signature of Authorized Official <span style="float: right;">1/19/2024</span> Date		
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>167,150</b>	Nam Vu, COO Name and Title (Please type or print)		



BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - EQUIPMENT AND MOTOR VEHICLES

Period: July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

Applicant: Impact Hub Honolulu LLC

DESCRIPTION EQUIPMENT	NO. OF ITEMS	COST PER ITEM	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
N/A			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
<b>TOTAL:</b>				
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:				

DESCRIPTION OF MOTOR VEHICLE	NO. OF VEHICLES	COST PER VEHICLE	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
N/A			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
<b>TOTAL:</b>				
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:				

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - CAPITAL PROJECT DETAILS Period: July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

Applicant: Impact Hub Honolulu LLC

FUNDING AMOUNT REQUESTED						
TOTAL PROJECT COST	ALL SOURCES OF FUNDS RECEIVED IN PRIOR YEARS		STATE FUNDS REQUESTED	OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDS REQUESTED	FUNDING REQUIRED IN SUCCEEDING YEARS	
	FY: 2022-2023	FY: 2023-2024	FY:2024-2025	FY:2024-2025	FY:2025-2026	FY:2026-2027
PLANS	N/A					
LAND ACQUISITION	N/A					
DESIGN	N/A					
CONSTRUCTION	N/A					
EQUIPMENT	N/A					
TOTAL:	N/A					
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:						

**GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND / OR GRANTS IN AID**

Applicant: Impact Hub Honolulu LLC

Contracts Total: 387,750

	<b>CONTRACT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATES</b>	<b>AGENCY</b>	<b>GOVERNMENT ENTITY (U.S./State/Hawaiï/ Honolulu/ Kauai/ Maui County)</b>	<b>CONTRACT VALUE</b>
1	BED 143; High Tech Development Corporation	5/30/2017-5/29/2018	HTDC	State	350,000
2	RFP-21-002-HTDC	6/7/2021-12/7/2021	HTDC	State	21,250
3	RFP-23-003-HTDC	4/25/2023-4/24/2024	HTDC	State	16,500
4	RFP-23-004-HTDC	5/1/2023-4/30/2024	HTDC	State	-
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