

## Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

### CERTIFICATE OF GOOD STANDING

I, the undersigned Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs of the State of Hawaii, do hereby certify that

KO'OLAU FOUNDATION

was incorporated under the laws of Hawaii on 05/04/2005 ;  
that it is an existing nonprofit corporation; and that,  
as far as the records of this Department reveal, has complied  
with all of the provisions of the Hawaii Nonprofit Corporations  
Act, regulating domestic nonprofit corporations.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set  
my hand and affixed the seal of the  
Department of Commerce and Consumer  
Affairs, at Honolulu, Hawaii.

Dated: December 30, 2023

Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

**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.

Koolau Foundation

(Typed Name of Individual or Organization)

x 

(Signature)

11/19/24

(Date)

Aaron D. Mahi

(Typed Name)

President

(Title)

## **Koolau Foundation\_71000\_OP**

TO: Finance Committee, House of Representatives  
Ways & Means Committee, Senate

FROM: Mahealani Cypher  
Ko'olau Foundation

RE: **GRANT-IN-AID APPLICATION –  
HAIKU VALLEY CULTURAL PRESERVE**

The Koolau Foundation requests an operating fund grant-in-aid of \$71,000 and a capital improvements fund grant-in-aid of \$100,000 for the fiscal year 2024-2025, to support the development of a cultural preserve in Haiku valley, Koolaupoko, Oahu.

### **I. Certification**

Hawaii Compliance Express Certificate is attached, dated 12/30/23

Signed Declaration statement is attached, dated 1/19/24

Public purpose: the Koolau Foundation is requesting funding to support establishment of a cultural preserve on public lands, owned by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, in Haiku Valley. This cultural preserve will be for the benefit of Native Hawaiians and the general public, and will feature cultural, environmental and educational programs, including restoration of a native forest.

#### **Verification that grant shall be used for a public purpose**

If approved, grant will be used to restore native forest, restore cultural and historic sites and enhance the community value of Haiku valley, a property of the Department of Hawaiian Homelands.

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

#### *Background of Koolau Foundation*

The Koolau Foundation is a federally-recognized tax-exempt organization dedicated to the preservation of historic sites and cultural properties, and to raising public awareness of the value of the history and heritage of the Hawaiian people. It was formally registered with the State of Hawaii DCCA in 2005. Its membership is comprised primarily of Native Hawaiians, but it is not limited to only kanaka maoli participation. Among its major initiatives, for many years, has been its desire to establish a cultural preserve in Haiku valley.

#### *Goals and Objectives*

Besides advocating for historic sites and historic preservation initiatives, Koolau Foundation has worked for many years to engage support by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to allow establishment of a cultural preserve in Haiku valley on Windward Oahu. The valuable cultural

complex within this valley was not widely recognized until the 1990s, when elders who once lived in the valley brought it to light. Construction of H3 freeway spurred the organization to pursue nonprofit status and seek better recognition for the cultural heritage of the area. Among its board members are descendants of families who once lived in and practiced their culture in this valley. Creation of a cultural preserve and restoration of a native forest are two primary purposes of this project and a major initiative of Koolau Foundation.

There are three phases for the cultural preserve project, which are expected to take up to 20 years to complete. Phase I – planning for the area mauka of the valley’s loop road between BWS gate and Kamakau Charter School, and design work for cultural retreat (mauka maintenance building) and security building; Phase II – construction of both buildings and several outdoor learning shelters (halau-style), repair of loop road, design work for conversion of transmitter building into a cultural museum, clearing of sections for hula gardens and iwi kupuna burial grounds, and master landscaping plan for area within loop road; and Phase III – conversion of transmitter building into cultural museum. This application requests supplemental funding support for Phase I, which has already received initial funding from private sources.

#### *Public Purposes and Need to be Served*

The public purpose of this project and funding request is to support planning and establishment of the cultural preserve to meet cultural, environmental, education and even recreational needs of the community. Once the U.S. Coast Guard’s OMEGA station was decommissioned, the valley has lain fallow and been exposed to a number of problems with vandals, trespassers, and others who have created unwholesome environments for residents of neighboring Haiku Village. Establishment of this cultural preserve will enhance the value of the DHHL property but also ensure that the community nearby as well as the broader public will be able to enjoy the serenity and natural beauty of this cultural treasure. At least three heiau are believed to be located within this valley, as well as a habitat for native medicinal plants.

### **III . SERVICE SUMMARY AND OUTCOME**

#### *Scope of Work, Tasks and Responsibilities*

The overall scope of work for the project is to plan and carry out the establishment of the Haiku Valley Cultural Preserve. Funding in this application would support the first of three phases for the HVCP project: supplemental funding for the master and landscaping plans, and funding for the business plan. Other than CIP funding, we have also requested support for certain key operating needs including supplemental funding for office rent (50%) as well as acquisition of two key pieces of equipment – a riding mower and a transport vehicle. Although we have received initial funding to begin work on a master plan for the preserve, additional funding is needed to complete it. The same consideration goes toward the need for a large-scale landscaping plan to convert much of the acreage into native forest again by removal of invasive vegetation

and planting of native plants and trees. We have contracted with a consultant to begin master planning in January 2024 and seek completion by December 2024. A schedule for the landscaping plan for Phase I has not yet been finalized. Once that is done, we hope to complete landscaping work on Phase I (above the valley's loop road) within 12 month from start. Key Board members working on this portion of the project will be our president, planning chair and project coordinator.

*Project Annual Timeline*

Master plan completion – anticipated completion date is 12 months from start of work with consultant (January 2025)

Landscaping plan for Phase I completion – anticipated completion date is 12 months from start of work (tbd)

Business plan – anticipated completion date is six months from start of work (tbd)

*Quality Assurance and Evaluation Plans*

Because the Board's planning committee chair is a retired planner, he has been tasked to closely review and keep track of work being done by planning consultants, assisting the project coordinator. Koolau Foundation's first meeting with the planning consultant is scheduled for late January, during which a schedule will be agreed to which will ensure that quarterly benchmarks are set and regular reporting provided to Koolau Foundation. In addition, community meetings will be scheduled to ensure public input is invited to ensure harmony for the project. Surveys will be developed and disseminated among the public to seek feedback and suggestions for improvements. Responses will also be invited via social media on a new and updated website for Koolau Foundation, including this survey. Results of the outreach effort will be compiled and included in an annual report to the funders of this project as well as landowner DHHL.

*Measures of Effectiveness*

Semi-annual reports on progress of each of the three major initial tasks – master plan, landscaping plan and business plan – will be prepared, in collaboration with all three consultants, and presented to both funders and landowners as well as elected officials and the neighborhood board for the area. The measure of effectiveness will be to show that the plan is following a timeline and schedule and working toward desired goals for implementation of the project in Phase II.

#### **IV. Financial**

##### *Budget*

Our Budget request form is attached, and includes request for operating funds, equipment and motor vehicle funding, and capital improvement support. We have no other government funds at this time, but will be pursuing various public and private grant funds in the coming months.

##### *Anticipated Quarterly Operating Funding Requests for FY2025*

Quarter 1 – \$51,000

Quarter 2 – \$10,000

Quarter 3 – \$5,000

Quarter 4 – \$5,000

##### *Other Funding Sources being sought*

We are pursuing grants and other funding for FY24-25 from:

Department of Interior

Department of Defense

Hawaii Community Foundation

Office of Hawaiian Affairs

Clarence T.C. Ching Foundation

##### *Tax Credits*

Koolau Foundation has no tax credits, nor do we plan to apply for tax credits at this time.

##### *Federal, State & County Government Contracts, Grants and Grants-in-Aid*

Koolau Foundation has provided consultation on cultural matters to the Heeia-NERR, which is a part of the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, for the past three years and anticipates continuing this contractual arrangement for FY2025.

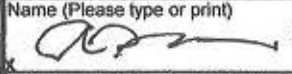
Our organization has received no federal or county funding during the prior three years, and anticipates no county funding in the coming fiscal year. It is our hope that this application will be approved and will constitute our anticipated state funding support. We also will be seeking federal grants in the months to come.

The unrestricted balance of current assets belonging to Koolau Foundation, other than equipment, is \$9,992.31.

## BUDGET REQUEST BY SOURCE OF FUNDS

Period: July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Koolau Foundation

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				
2. Payroll Taxes & Assessments				
3. Fringe Benefits				
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL COST</b>	<b>0</b>			
<b>B. OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES</b>				
1. Airfare, Inter-Island	2,400			
2. Insurance				
3. Lease/Rental of Equipment				
4. Lease/Rental of Space	19,000			19,000
5. Staff Training				
6. Supplies	1,500			1,500
7. Telecommunication	600			600
8. Utilities				
9 Volunteer Support	1,500			1,500
10 Printing	1,000			1,000
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
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19				
20				
<b>TOTAL OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES</b>	<b>26,000</b>			<b>23,600</b>
<b>C. EQUIPMENT PURCHASES</b>	<b>5,000</b>			<b>10,000</b>
<b>D. MOTOR VEHICLE PURCHASES</b>	<b>40,000</b>			<b>0</b>
<b>E. CAPITAL</b>	<b>100,000</b>			<b>250,000</b>
<b>TOTAL (A+B+C+D+E)</b>	<b>171,000</b>			<b>283,600</b>
<b>SOURCES OF FUNDING</b>		Budget Prepared By:		
(a) Total State Funds Requested	171,000	Mahealani Cypher (808) 226-4195		
(b) Total Federal Funds Requested	0	Name (Please type or print) Phone		
(c) Total County Funds Requested	0	 (808) 722-2703		
(d) Total Private/Other Funds Requested	283,600	Signature of Authorized Official Date		
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>454,600</b>	Aaron Mahi, President Name and Title (Please type or print)		



## BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - EQUIPMENT AND MOTOR VEHICLES

Period: July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

Applicant:           Koolau Foundation          

DESCRIPTION EQUIPMENT	NO. OF ITEMS	COST PER ITEM	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
Riding mower	1.00	\$5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	5000
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
<b>TOTAL:</b>	1		\$ 5,000.00	5,000
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS Maintain large landscaped areas cleared of invasive vegetation.				

DESCRIPTION OF MOTOR VEHICLE	NO. OF VEHICLES	COST PER VEHICLE	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
12-passenger/equipment transport van	1.00	\$40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00	40000
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
<b>TOTAL:</b>	1		\$ 40,000.00	40,000
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS transport tools, equipment and volunteers to work sites (former vehicle was taken to Hilo.				

## **EXPERIENCE AND CAPABILITY**

### *Necessary Skills and Experience*

The Ko'olau Foundation's board is comprised of several individuals with extensive experience in managing large projects and personnel during their careers. This includes a former director of planning and permitting for the City & County of Honolulu; a current provost of a community college; a former bandmaster for the Royal Hawaiian Band; a former Honolulu City Clerk; active and former members of neighborhood boards; a business manager; and others with skills needed to oversee this project. Variable experience on related or similar projects include:

- Group70 administrator/HIMB construction of education building – George Atta
- Ahupua`a boundary marker project – Mahealani Cypher & Leialoha Kaluhiwa
- Windward Community College – Ardis Eschenberg
- Land Use Commissioners – Aaron Mahi and George Atta
- O`ahu Historic Preservation Commission – Mahealani Cypher

### *Facilities*

Koolau Foundation currently shares office space with the Ko'olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club at 46-005 Kawa Street, Suite 104, Kaneohe, HI 96744.

## **PERSONNEL: PROJECT ORGANIZATION AND STAFFING**

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

Besides significant support provided by members of the Koolau Foundation's board, it is anticipated that an executive director will be hired to manage the project's activity, funding accountability and completion of tasks. Partial funding for contract hire services has already been secured. Additional funding for staffing is being pursued through alternative sources. No personnel funding is being requested through this application.

Staffing reports will be made regularly to the President, Aaron Mahi, to the planning committee chair George Atta, and to the project coordinator Mahealani Cypher. Updates will be made to the full board of directors, and as needed to both public and private funders of the project.

### *Organization Chart*

For the purpose of this application and this project, there are some shared responsibilities at least until a new executive director is appointed. Currently, project management is as follows:

Project coordinator (in absence of executive director)

- Oversees all work activities for the project in consultation with planning committee chair and board president
- Coordinates project meetings with contractors and consultants
- Works with consultants on community outreach, as needed
- Works with DHHL as needed
- Assisted by contract hire employees as needed

Planning committee chair (assistant to Project Coordinator)

- Reviews all plans developed and/or submitted
- Lead for KF in all planning meetings w/ consultants
- Advises/guides board and staff in planning decision-making
- Provides support, as needed, to project coordinator

Executive director (see Project coordinator, above)

- Manages day-to-day operations of Koolau Foundation
- Manages staff assignments
- Prepares regular updates and reports to President and board members
- Works with business manager to assure grant funding accountability

*Compensation*

Because this project is in the process of capacity building to engage an executive director and build other organizational strength, current management of this project is being performed primarily by volunteer board members Aaron Mahi, Mahealani Cypher and George Atta. With future acquisition of funding for and hiring of an executive director, compensation initially will be \$50,000 for a .5 FTE position.

**Other:**

*Litigation*

Koolau Foundation does not have any pending litigation or judgments against it.

*Licensure or Accreditation*

Koolau Foundation is a 501(c)(3) federally-recognized tax-exempt nonprofit organization. It is also registered with the Department of Interior as a Native Hawaiian Organization under federal definition.

*Private Educational Institutions*

Funding requested by Koolau Foundation for the Haiku Valley Cultural Preserve will not be used to support or benefit a sectarian or non-sectarian private educational institution.

*Future Sustainability Plan*

Koolau Foundation's plan for sustaining its work on the Haiku Valley Cultural Preserve, should this application be approved for only FY2024-25, is to continue its efforts to acquire funding from other public and private resources. It has entered into a three-year ROE agreement with the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands for the use of approximately 65 acres in Haiku valley, during which Koolau Foundation must complete a master plan and business plan, among other stipulations, for long-term use of the valley as a cultural preserve. Subsequent to completion of

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those requirements, Koolau Foundation may be considered for an extended license for preservation use of the acreage in question.

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

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Koolau Foundation

Contracts Total: 205,000

	<b>CONTRACT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATES</b>	<b>AGENCY</b>	<b>GOVERNMENT ENTITY (U.S./State/Hawaii/ Honolulu/ Kauai/ Maui County)</b>	<b>CONTRACT VALUE</b>
1	Harold Castle Foundation	10/23-10/25	Private		175,000
2	Atherton Family Foundation	12/8/23-12/7/24	Private		25,000
3	Heeia-NERR	7/1/23-6/30/24	UH-HIMB	Hawaii	5,000
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## 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

MAHEALANI CYPHER, PROJECT  
COORDINATOR

1/19/24

PRINT NAME AND TITLE

DATE