

This school year, selected public charter schools in Hawai'i will be offering public prekindergarten programs to eligible four-year-old children.

In 2014, the Hawaii State Public Charter School Commission applied for the U.S. Department of Education Preschool Development Grant. Hawai'i was one of 18 states awarded this opportunity. This grant allows Hawai'i to continue to build on statewide efforts to support Hawaii's early childhood system. Each participating school will be able to potentially serve 20 eligible pre-kindergarten students in each class.

Applications are now being accepted at the following schools:

Hawai'i Island	Moloka'i	O 'ahu	Kaua'i
1. Na Wai Ola, Mt. View	1. Kualapu'u School, Kualapu'u	1. Kamaile Academy, Waianae	1. Ke Kula Niihau O Kekaha Learning Center, Kekaha
2. Laupahoehoe, Laupahoehoe		2. Waialae, Honolulu	2. Kula Aupuni Niihau A Kahelelani Aloha (KANAKA), Kekaha
3. Ka 'Umeke Kā'eo, Hilo		3. Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau, Kaneohe	
4. Ke Kula 'o Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u, Kea'au		4. Kamalani, Wahiawa	
5. Kua o ka Lā, Pahoa			
6. Volcano School of Arts & Sciences, Volcano			

Through this Preschool Development Grant, children may have the opportunity to have the best start in his or her education, because children who are well-prepared for school can focus on learning and experience greater achievement in school and throughout life.

Through a strong family engagement component, families will build on their skills to be their child's first teacher and play a vital supporting role in their child's education. The goal of this charter school prekindergarten program is to build on children's existing skills and strengthen families' ability to support their child's learning.

The enrollment selection for a child to participate in this program is based upon:

1. Completion of the student's application packet in full (school will provide);
2. Age eligibility – for school year 2017-2018, the child must have been born on or between August 1, 2012 and July 31, 2013; and
3. Income eligibility – the child's family's income must fall at or below 200% of Hawai'i's current [Federal Poverty Guidelines](#) based on family size.

Apply now – seats are limited!

First selections will take place on Friday, April 7, 2017, 3:30 p.m. If there are any vacancies after that, a second selection round will take place on Friday, May 5, 2017, 3:30 p.m.

Note: A lottery system will be used if the number of complete applications exceeds the number of slots available. After May 5, 2017 selection will be made on a first come first served basis.

For more information, please contact the charter school, or call the Commission's office at (808) 586-5227. Thank you for your interest, and we look forward to an exciting year filled with learning for all!