



**THE QUEEN'S
HEALTH SYSTEMS**



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**THE QUEEN'S HEALTH SYSTEMS EXPANDS ITS SUPPORT OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT MANOA JOHN A. BURNS SCHOOL OF
MEDICINE'S 'IMI HO'ŌLA POST BACCALAUREATE PROGRAM**

HONOLULU – Recognizing the growing need to support students with a dream of looking to enroll in the University of Hawai'i's John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM), no matter their background, The Queen's Health Systems has pledged to provide full four-year scholarships for five (5) incoming full-time medical students who have successfully completed the 'Imi Ho'ōla Post-Baccalaureate program. These scholarships signify Queen's expanded support of the program, increasing the amount of scholarships available from three last year to five this year.

Currently a third-year medical student, Kamuela Andrade believes the program proved valuable and taught him how to study and manage his time. In 2019, Andrade was awarded a full four-year scholarship from Queen's. "When I told my wife about the scholarship, she started to cry. And when she cried, I started to cry and my kids were wondering, 'Why are you crying?' And it was just jubilation after that." Upon graduating, Andrade hopes to pursue family medicine and return to Kaua'i, where he previously worked as a firefighter, to provide rural community health care.

In addition, for the last 10 years, Queen's has supported students who are enrolled in the 'Imi Ho'ōla program by providing them monthly stipends, allowing them to commit their full attention to their studies.

'Imi Ho'ōla ("those who seek to heal"), a 12-month program in the Department of Native Hawaiian Health, gives them an opportunity to attend medical school. The program prepares students with an emphasis on the integration of concepts and principles in the areas of science and humanities. Upon completion of the program, students are enrolled in medical school.

"Too often we see physicians leaving the state due to the high cost of living and practicing medicine, which is reflected by the severe physician shortage, the worst shortage being on my home island of Hawai'i Island," said Tiffany Kurozawa, a graduate of Kealakehe High School and incoming first year medical student. "With utmost appreciation to Queen's, this scholarship



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eases the burden of paying off loans and nurtures my ability to provide focused medical care when I return to Kailua-Kona.”

In addition, Queen’s is also financially supporting ongoing efforts of building community health needs assessments within the Native Hawaiian population with the goal of creating a healthy and vibrant community. Furthermore, Queen’s is also helping to fund several teaching and research positions at JABSOM which focus on health disparities.

“We recognize the financial burden students and their families face when it comes to paying for medical school,” said Jill Hoggard Green, PhD, RN, President and Chief Executive Officer of The Queen’s Health Systems. “The ‘Imi Ho‘ōla program and the Department of Native Hawaiian Health are extremely important to us because they provide opportunities for students to realize their dreams no matter what their background is. At the same time, we are helping to play a role in identifying the health needs in our most vulnerable communities and working towards providing resources for them. It is critical that we support the work of these students who may eventually be physicians caring for our community. We are proud to support their endeavors.”

"We are grateful to The Queen’s Health Systems for their longstanding support of the ‘Imi Ho‘ōla Post-Baccalaureate Program. The Queen’s Health Systems has provided essential financial support to deserving students in the program for more than 15 years,” said Winona Lee, MD, Director of the ‘Imi Ho‘ōla Post-Baccalaureate Program. “Despite the ongoing challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, The Queen’s Health Systems continues to demonstrate their commitment to improving the health of our people by supporting the future of the physician workforce. These scholarships will allow ‘Imi Ho‘ōla students to achieve their dreams of becoming physicians and undoubtedly alleviate the financial strain and burden placed on themselves and their families."

As part of the criteria for accepting a scholarship, students must sign an agreement with the John A. Burns School of Medicine to commit to practicing medicine in Hawai‘i.

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The Queen’s Health Systems (QHS) is a nonprofit corporation established in 1985 to provide expanded health care capabilities to the people of Hawaii and the Pacific Basin. It is Hawaii’s preeminent family of health care-related companies, and has more than 8,000 employees and more than 1,500 affiliated physicians and providers in its statewide network. QHS consists of The Queen’s Medical Center (Hawaii’s oldest hospital founded in 1859), The Queen’s Medical Center – West O‘ahu, Molokai General Hospital, Queen’s North Hawaii Community Hospital, The Queen’s Health Care Centers, Queen’s Island Urgent Care, Queen Emma Land Company, Queen’s Development Corporation, Queen’s Insurance Exchange, Queen’s Clinically Integrated Physician Network, and Queen’s ‘Akoakoa, and has ownership interests in CareResource Hawaii, Hamamatsu/Queen’s PET Imaging Center, Diagnostic Laboratory Services, and EmPower Health.

The John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) at the University of Hawaii at Manoa honors its unique research environment to excel in science-based efforts to eliminate diseases that disproportionately affect people in Hawaii and the Pacific region. Annually at JABSOM, more than 500 future physicians are learning medicine, JABSOM researchers secure up to \$60 million in grants, and overall economic stimulus to



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Hawaii from the school tops \$456 million annually. JABSOM also confers degrees in Clinical Translational Research, Communication Sciences and Disorders, Tropical Medicine, Cell and Molecular Biology, Medical Technology and Developmental and Reproductive Biology.