

PO'OKELA SCHOLARSHIP

Po'okela - Foremost, best, superior, prime, outstanding, greatest, supreme, utmost, superlative; champion; to excel.

SCHOLARSHIP DETAILS

The Po'okela Scholarship recognizes exceptional achievement in the areas of STEM (science, technology, engineering, math), humanities, languages, art, and community stewardship. It is available to current Parker School students who will be enrolled in grades 6-12 during the 2024-2025 school year. There will be one \$3,000 award given to a Middle School student and one \$3,000 award to an Upper School student. This merit award can be granted in addition to standard need-based financial aid, though financial need is not a requirement. The award will renew annually based upon sustained excellent academic progress and be in good standing (exemplary citizenship) for the duration of the student's Parker School career (as determined by the Scholarship Committee). When applying, students are asked to choose **one** of the categories above as the focus of their application. Recipients can only be awarded and maintain a single Po'okela Scholarship during their tenure at Parker School.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to apply for the Po'okela Scholarship, students must currently be enrolled at Parker School and entering middle or upper school (grades 6-12) in the 2024-2025 school year. Students must be able to demonstrate excellence in the specific category applied to and demonstrate positive citizenship at Parker School. Students who are current recipients of any other Parker School scholarship or current merit award are ineligible to apply for the Po'okela Scholarship.

HOW TO APPLY FOR THE PO'OKELA SCHOLARSHIP

1. Submit an essay with a minimum of 500 words responding to the following question:
 - What is the source of motivation that drives you toward excellence in the scholarship category you selected? **Give examples of your accomplishments in this specific area**
 - Essay must be typed, double-spaced and reflect excellence in form, structure and content.
 - **Please submit your essay to scholarships@parkerschoolhawaii.org by 5:00pm on December 11. Include at the top of your essay: your name, current grade, and your chosen category: STEM, humanities, languages, art, and community stewardship.**
2. Request a letter of support:
 - Applicants should request a letter of support from a teacher or community leader (who is not related to the student).
 - The letter should describe the student's excellence and achievements thus far in the selected scholarship category, as well as the student's potential for future contributions to their learning communities.
 - The letter should be emailed directly to Parker School by the reference: scholarships@parkerschoolhawaii.org.
 - Applicants should give the reference ample time to complete and submit the letter; letters are due to Parker School **by 5:00pm on December 11.**

3. Optional - Submission of additional support materials:
 - At the time of submission of the essay, applicants may also provide samples of work (written, digital, etc.) and/or evidence of their community involvement to support their application
4. Applicants will be notified of the scholarship decision Wednesday, December 13.

Parker School - Po'okela Scholarship Committee

65-1224 Lindsey Road
Kamuela, HI 96743



COMPLETING A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR PO'OKELA SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS

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Applicants must choose any category for their subject area: STEM (science, technology, engineering, math), humanities, languages, art, and community stewardship

ELIGIBILITY

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR TEACHER/LEADER SUBMITTING A LETTER OF SUPPORT

To aid the Po'okela Scholarship Review Committee in understanding the applicant's particular strengths, please provide a letter of recommendation that includes the following information:

- Your name and title
- How long you have known/taught the student
- Subjects in which you have instructed the student
- The student's strengths and/or growth in your class (including class standing, if applicable)
- Any examples that illustrate the student's positive contribution in the classroom environment
- Any further information you would like to share with us as to why you recommend this student for the Po'okela Scholarship

Your letter will be held in strict confidence and will be reviewed only by the Po'okela Scholarship Review Committee. **Please submit your letter to scholarships@parkerschoolhawaii.org by 5:00pm on December 11.**

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