Who We Are

The Native Hawaiian Career and Technical Education Program (NHCTEP) provides an overarching framework from the Native Hawaiian perspective to advocate, sponsor and guide the shape, types and initiatives of community-based career and technical education projects.

We Support Projects That:

- Expand, improve, enhance and promote specific activities and that are grounded in best practices to make career and technical education at the high schools, community colleges and adult training programs more effective for Native Hawaiian students
- Integrate the theory of academic instruction and the practice of work experience in a structured setting
- Are research oriented and innovative in connecting education with employability and the individual with the community
- Assist Native Hawaiians in overcoming employment barriers and developing entry-level skills and work experience and/or provide support for Native Hawaiian students to transition to postsecondary vocational education

Our Funding


ALU LIKE, Inc. has administered the NHCTEP for over 30 years, since the initial availability of the Perkins Act funds in 1986.

Who We Serve

NHCTEP does not provide direct services to individuals. Instead, NHCTEP works with accredited educational organizations, selected through a competitive process, to reach eligible participants.

Eligible educational organizations include:
- HI State DOE high schools
- UH community colleges
- Private education/training providers

Eligible participants include Native Hawaiian:
- Students in grades 10 – 12
- Post-high school/GED young adults
- Non-traditional adult students

Native Hawaiian Career and Technical Education Program (NHCTEP)

NHCTEP develops and funds career and technical education/training projects to prepare Native Hawaiians to be a competitive force in the workplace

E alu like mai kākou, e nā`ōiwi o Hawai‘i
Let us work together natives of Hawai‘i
Native Hawaiian Career and Technical Education Program Projects

James B. Castle High School’s
E ‘Ola Pono Project

Offers an integrated program of study designed for students in grades 10-12 interested in pursuing healthcare-related careers. The Health Careers Academy infuses classes with rigorous academic content, offers students hands-on activities, internship options, HOSA competition support, ongoing mentoring, and academic guidance.

Lynn Yoshizaki, Project Coordinator
(808) 305-0874 yoshizakil@knights.k12.hi.us

Kaua‘i Community College’s
Ka ‘Ika‘i A‘o Project

Bridging the gap for students from high school to college, and from college to career, through coordinated mentorship and supplemental support geared towards advancing student success. Internship stipends and expanded learning opportunities available, along with mentorship to support academic and professional success.

Gordon Talbo, Project Coordinator
(808) 245-8262 gtalbo@hawaii.edu

Honolulu Community College’s
Po‘i Nā Nalu Project

Focuses on improving success through support services for students in the CTE and Trades degree pathways. The project offers cultural engagement and community service activities, college and career planning, financial literacy, as well as internship stipend support and a lending library of relevant technology and literary items. It also provides transfer support for students in pursuit of 4-year degrees.

Greg Kashigi, Project Coordinator
(808) 844-2322 gkashigi@hawaii.edu

Marimed Foundation’s
Maritime Careers Exploration and Placement Project

An introductory program into the vast array of education and career pathways in the Maritime Industry. The program covers four primary areas: deck, engineering, steward (galley), and shore operations. Unique program activities blend culturally appropriate classroom lectures, professional guest speakers, excursions to operation sites, and hands-on practical applications. Students test their skills on a culminating, five-day voyage around the Hawaiian Islands.

Melissa Hebert, Project Coordinator
(808) 306-5810 melissa.hebert@marimed.org

Kapi‘olani Community College’s
Kūlia ma Kapi‘olani Project

Ensures students are on a pathway to success through guidance and support to secure program admission, learn theoretical and technical information, attain relevant work experience, earn certificates and degrees, the transition to the workforce or additional training, and further their understanding of their Hawaiian culture. Significant emphasis is placed on internship opportunities within all Career and Technical Education and STEM programs.

Shirell Bell, Educational Specialist
(808) 734-9654 shirell@hawaii.edu

Windward Community College’s
‘Ao Kahi Project

Expanding opportunities for students to obtain recognized credentials and hands-on learning in Computing Science, specifically in Cybersecurity. Major activities include yearly boot camp opportunities, improved course offerings, student internships, and the creation of an efficient pathway from the associate’s degree to a bachelor of applied science in computer science.

Jodie Yim, Project Coordinator
(808) 235-7353 jodieyim@hawaii.edu