

Dan Inouye

U.S. SENATOR FROM HAWAII



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COLLEGES TO RECEIVE GRANTS TOTALING MORE THAN \$6.4 MILLION FOR NATIVE HAWAIIAN-SERVING INSTITUTION PROGRAMS

Wednesday, July 15, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON — The University of Hawaii at Hilo, the University of Hawaii - Kapiolani Community College and Chaminade University of Honolulu will receive more than \$6.4 million to improve the educational prospects of Native Hawaiian students under the Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions program, Senate Appropriations Chairman Daniel K. Inouye announced today.

The funding comes through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

The purpose of the Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions program is to help schools enhance the quality of academic programs while improving institutional management and maintaining sound fiscal practices.

The University of Hawaii at Hilo will receive more than \$1.7 million to expand the Native Hawaiian Student Center. Through this funding, the university will develop and improve academic Native Hawaiian curriculum and establish a multi-cultural development program for faculty and staff.

The funds will also be used to help expand the Native Hawaiian Student Center, an important gathering place for students and faculty.

Native Hawaiian students make up more than 21 percent of the student body at the University of Hawaii at Hilo, more than 12 percent at Kapiolani Community College, and 13 percent at Chaminade University.

The University of Hawaii-Kapiolani Community College will receive nearly \$2 million to renovate facilities, including the Malama Hawaii Center, in order to bolster programs initiated by the faculty of the Hawaiian Language and Hawaiian Studies programs.

In addition, the community college will receive \$692,432 to strengthen support services and diversify curriculum to ensure that more students continue on to baccalaureate institutions.

Chaminade University of Honolulu will receive \$2 million for improvements for the Communications program, including infrastructure and information technology improvements. Of the 63 students majoring in communications at Chaminade University, 21% are of Native Hawaiian descent.

“The funding will benefit Native Hawaiian students as they continue their education at the collegiate level,” said Chairman Inouye. “Also, by supporting Native Hawaiian education initiatives and programs, we help all students explore and learn more about the Native Hawaiian culture.”