

1. How much does it cost to enroll my child in Kamalani Academy?

Kamalani is a PUBLIC school, funded by the taxpayers. There is no tuition.

2. I have more than one child. Can I enroll them all?

When the first child is offered a seat, additional children in the family receive a “sibling” preference and will be offered a seat or moved up on the waitlist.

3. What is the difference between a “charter” school and a regular “DOE” school?

Regular DOE schools are administered by the State Department of Education. A Charter school is authorized by the Hawaii State Public Charter School Commission and reports to the Commission. Charter schools are public schools governed by a local Governing Board of volunteer members of the community and a contract between the school and the Commission. Charter schools must meet all the same academic requirements and many of the same regulations as DOE schools. Charter schools are generally given more leeway to innovate than DOE schools.

4. What makes Kamalani Academy such a better option for my kids?

Kamalani is a small school (311 students,) conceived, started, and governed by a group of passionate educators, businesspeople, and others from our community. We offer an innovative arts integration, Hawaiian-focused curriculum based on highly successful models here and on the mainland. Kamalani is a Leader in Me School. [*Leader in Me*](#) is an evidence-based, comprehensive-school improvement model—developed in partnership with educators—that empowers students with the leadership and life skills they need to thrive in the 21st century.” Kamalani is already deeply involved in the Wahiawa/Central Oahu community and the community is invited to be a part of Kamalani.

5. Is it run like any other school?

Kamalani will be familiar in that it has a Principal, teachers, office staff, etc. It will be different in that there will not be the typical DOE bureaucracy. It is governed by a responsive, local Governing Board. Our arts integration, Hawaiian focused educational program does not look like any other school with which you are familiar. It is energetic, exciting, and compelling for students, families, and Kamalani staff.

6. How large is Kamalani? Students? Faculty?

Will my child really receive more time with a teacher? What are the class sizes?

There are 220 K-8 students, with 14 teachers, a Principal, and other support staff. Classroom size ranges from 22 in Kindergarten to 28 in the Middle School grades. Our staff of outstanding teachers is committed to providing each student with the attention they require and deserve.

7. Are there after school enrichment classes?

We have many such programs. These include JCPO, AV production with Olelo, the school garden, Student Council, and more.

8. How many grade levels does Kamalani Academy have? I don't want to have to move my child from school to school because they grow out of Kamalani.

Kamalani serves grades K-8.

9. Why has Kamalani Academy located in Wahiawa?

Our research has shown that there is a great desire amongst families in Central Oahu for educational alternatives. There are no other Charter Schools in the Central Oahu area.

10. With whom is Kamalani Academy affiliated? Or is it a stand-alone school?

Kamalani is not part of any network of schools. It is one of a kind.

11. What is an "Arts Integration" program? Does this mean my child will not learn how to use a computer? Does this mean there is a lower emphasis on math and reading, etc.?

Arts Integration is an approach to education in which the arts are used to teach such core academic subjects as math, social studies, and reading. Children love to be active and the arts can engage them deeply and completely in their studies. Kamalani students will be required to study the Common Core curriculum and to take all the same standardized tests as other Hawaii schoolchildren. There is much research that shows that students educated through arts integration do as well as or better than students taught by traditional methods. And, they have fun doing it! Success in the arts also requires that students learn such "soft" skills as collaboration, creativity, flexibility, empathy, and more. These sorts of skills are essential for success in high school, college, and at work.

12. Does Kamalani Academy serve breakfast and lunch like the other schools? Will my child still be able to qualify for assistance like they do at their school now?

We serve lunch and there is no plan to serve breakfast.

Kamalani participates in the National School Lunch Program, providing free and reduced price meals for students who qualify.

13. Are there before/after school care programs? What is the cost?

Drop off time is 7:30 a.m. and children will be supervised after that time. They will be marked late if they are not seated by 8:00 am.

Kama'aina Kids provides A+ care for Kamalani Academy. Before School Enrichment is from 6 am -7:30 and is \$65 month/child. After school Enrichment is from 2:05 -5:30 and is \$120 month/child. Before and After School Enrichment is provided by Kamalani Academy Faculty and Staff. Before and After School Enrichment is provided by Kamalani Academy Faculty and Staff. You can find out more about our program and apply at Parent/Student on our web site.

14. Will we have to buy our own school supplies?

Kamalani provides typical educational materials such as books and computers for use at school. Families will still provide the usual school supplies such as notebooks, pencils, etc.

15. Is there is a supply list?

Supply lists can be found at the Kamalani web site.

16. Is there a required school uniform at Kamalani Academy? How does it cost?

Kamalani Academy adopted a full school uniform in the 19-20 school year.

Every Student is to wear a Kamalani Academy Embroidered Polo that they can purchase at the school for \$15. Bottoms must be tan, navy blue, or black. All students must wear closed toe shoes. Earing may be worn but must be no larger than a quarter. For safety reason's student nails must be no longer than 1/4 " beyond the nail bed and may not be pointed.

17. If my child and I determine that Kamalani Academy isn't for us, what can we do? Can

we return to our previous school? Is there a cost to do so?

You can always withdraw from Kamalani to go to a DOE or private school or home schooling. There is no cost to transfer.

18. We don't live in Wahiawa but would like for our child to attend Kamalani Academy.

How do we enroll them?

There is no geographical requirement to attend a charter school. Charter schools must take all applicants, as long as there is room.

Select Apply 2019/2020 at the Kamalani web site or call (808) 203-2992.

19. My child has a disability. Will Kamalani Academy be able to meet his/her needs?

Children with special needs will be assessed according to state and federal regulations. Like any other public school in Hawaii, Kamalani, in conjunction with DOE, will provide a free education comparable to that received by a student without a disability.

20. I am very excited about Kamalani Academy coming to our Community.
What can I do and where can I go to volunteer to help it succeed?

Select the Volunteer button on the school web site at www.kamalaniacademy.org.