



Kahiau Rural Business Development Microloan Program

Background

The Kahiau Rural Business Development Microloan Program provides low-interest loans and technical assistance to eligible businesses. The Kahiau Foundation created the loan fund in order to support businesses that contribute to strengthening Hawaiian culture, building community, and enhancing the health of the natural environment. These values govern every aspect of the Program, from the eligibility requirements to the technical assistance provided to borrowers, before and after the loan is made.

Eligible Businesses

To be eligible, a business must meet all of the following three criteria: (1) a new or existing business on Hawai'i Island or Moloka'i, (2) the owner/operator of the business is Native Hawaiian or *kama'āina* (individuals born and raised in Hawai'i), and (3) the business in some way reflects at least one of the Program's three overarching values—strengthening Hawaiian culture, building community, and enhancing the health of the natural environment.

Loan Details

Applicants may apply for loans between \$2,000 and \$15,000. The interest rate is fixed at 2%. Loan proceeds may be used to pay for supplies, equipment, labor costs, construction costs, and other expenses that will contribute to business viability and growth.

Technical Assistance

Technical assistance and education are key elements of the Program. Pre-loan technical assistance may include assistance with the loan application process, financial recordkeeping, credit issues, and business planning. Ongoing technical assistance is available to borrowers on a monthly basis throughout the term of the loan, including help with preparing quarterly financial statements. The Program incorporates community building into the technical assistance component by helping businesses develop a business team and a network of peers, mentors, and advisors. And the Program itself is a community—of past, present, and future borrowers who maintain the loan fund for each other's mutual benefit.

Application Process

To initiate the application process, please contact us at info@kohalacenter.org or (808) 887-6411, or visit koha.la/kahiau.

kohalacenter.org/business

Questions?

Please contact:

The Kohala Center

P.O. Box 437462, Kamuela, Hawai'i 96743

Tel. 808-887-6411 | Fax. 808-885-6707

info@kohalacenter.org

Kahiau Rural Business Development Microloan Program Intake Form

Instructions:

Please complete this Intake Form and submit your form via email, fax, or mail to the contact information above.

1. Business Information

Business Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Website (if applicable): _____

Contact Person: _____ Title: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Business history: ☐ Start-up ☐ Existing business

Type of Entity: ☐ Sole Proprietorship ☐ Partnership ☐ LLC ☐ Corporation ☐ Co-op

Type of Business (check all that apply):

☐ Farm ☐ Producer/Manufacturer ☐ Merchandiser ☐ Service Provider

☐ Retailer

☐ Other (please describe): _____

Describe your business:

Describe how your business helps to strengthen Hawaiian culture, build community, and/or enhance the health of the natural environment on Hawai'i Island or Moloka'i:

2. Loan Request

Loan Amount Requested: \$ _____

Proposed term: _____

Proposed payment schedule: _____

Describe how the loan will be used and explain how the proposed project will impact the success of your business:

Total Project Costs: \$ _____

3. Owner Information

Briefly describe your work/business experience:

Briefly describe your educational background (degrees, trainings, certifications, licenses):

Briefly describe the areas of your business for which you would like technical assistance and education (e.g., business planning, financial recordkeeping and accounting, marketing, etc.):