



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
**KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO**  
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COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT BRANCH

May 31, 2024

Dear After-School Plus (A+) Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the After-School Plus (A+) Summer Newsletter! We have a few important announcements to share with you about Summer A+ and School Year A+ Program for 2024-2025.

**Summer A+ Program**

We have been busy preparing for our first Summer A+ Program and we are pleased to share that we have 25 Summer A+ Programs for this summer. We have the following announcements to share:

- **Summer A+ Online Registration:** The State A+ website offered online registration for Summer A+ Programs on April 15, 2024. Registration is currently open for families at participating schools. If you have registered for a Summer A+ program, you will receive notification from your provider on the status of your registration before or during the first week of June 2024. Mahalo for your patience as we confirm staffing for our programs.
- **Summer A+ Program Establishment:** Since this is our first year providing Summer A+ Programs, we are opening programs with a minimum enrollment of 9-10 students. Traditionally, our programs need 20 students to open to ensure our programs are self-sufficient. However, this year, we have lowered the number due to special funding assistance to allow us to serve more schools and families. Our goal is to serve as many schools and families as we can this summer! A full list of Summer A+ programs can be found on the State A+ website ([Hawaii.communityengagement.com/after-school-plus](http://Hawaii.communityengagement.com/after-school-plus)).
- **Summer A+ Tuition Assistance:** We are pleased to announce that we have funding to provide a Tuition Offset for full paying families for the monthly fee for July. Also, limited funding is available for families for the month of June! Additional information will be shared with families at participating schools.
- **Summer A+ DHS Subsidy:** We are pleased to offer DHS subsidy for the monthly fees for Summer A+ programs. Families may apply using the application in their Parent Handbook or via the State A+ website. Families continuing from this school year (2023-2024) will be grandfathered into Summer A+ programs and will not have to reapply. Their income eligibility will be honored for the Summer A+ programs.

- **Summer A+ Activities:** All Summer A+ Programs will receive additional funding to provide fun, engaging enrichment activities and snacks for participating students. Check with your school to learn more.

### **School Year A+ Programs**

We are also busy preparing for the new school year and have important information to share. Please note that the A+ Programs are voluntary programs. There are a limited number of children that can be served; therefore, children are accepted on a first come/first served basis and the availability of staff. All programs are contingent upon minimum enrollment at a site.

- **School Year A+ Online Registration:** The State A+ website offered online registration for Summer A+ Programs beginning on May 6, 2024. Registration is currently open for families at participating schools. If you have registered for a School Year A+ program, you will receive notification from your provider on the status of your registration. Many providers shared an update with families who registered before the end of the school year. For families registering during the summer, please note that you will be notified in July of your status. Mahalo for your patience as we confirm staffing for our programs.

All A+ programs hold a small number of spaces for registrations of kindergarten students and families who are new to the A+ Program and who missed the May enrollment date.

- **School Year A+ Enrollment Process:** To help families understand the enrollment process, we wanted to share a short summary of our policies and procedures for registration and enrollment in A+ programs.
  - All A+ Programs enrollment is based on a first come-first serve basis governed by available staffing at each A+ site.
  - Upon receipt of registrations, all registrations are stamped with the date and time received. The date and time stamps are used to create a priority list for first come first serve status.
  - Next, all Providers review all student registrations received online and hard copies for completeness including reviewing the A+ Registration form and required employment or training documentation. Registrations are not complete without employment documentation (e.g., paystubs, weekly work schedule, letter from employer, etc.).
  - Families will be contacted by the provider if their application is incomplete and provided 5 business days to complete the registration to maintain their position on the priority list at each site.
  - All providers complete the A+ Admission Status Notification Form for each registration to communicate enrollment status.
- **School Year A+ Program Communication with Families:** All families who register for the School Year A+ Programs will receive a hardcopy or electronic A+ Admission Status

Notification Form. This form will share information on your registration to include the following information:

- o Accepted for enrollment
- o Waitlisted due to full enrollment
- o Determined ineligible (based on latchkey definition)
- o Program not available (insufficient enrollment)

A+ Providers will communicate with families on waitlists weekly during the first month of the school year, and move to monthly communications as enrollment or staffing changes. For more information, please contact your individual school for more information.

- **School Year A+ Program Establishment:** The Hawaii Administrative Rules require A+ Programs to be self-sufficient. Therefore, School Year A+ programs must have a minimum of 20 students to open an A+ program. For more information, please follow up with your school's A+ program.
- **School Year A+ Tuition Assistance:** For School Year 2024-2025, due to limited funding the A+ Program will be reducing the tuition offset from \$80 to \$40. Families who pay full tuition will increase their payment from \$120/month to \$160 per month.

The A+ Monthly Fee has increased monthly tuition from 9 months to 10 months to account for after care provided during early release days and school conference days. Payment for the months of December and January will NOT be combined as in past years. Parents will need to pay \$160 for December and \$160 for January.

- **School Year A+ DHS Subsidy:** We are pleased to offer DHS subsidy for the monthly fees for School Year A+ programs. Families may apply using the application in their Parent Handbook or via the State A+ website. Returning families are required to reapply each school year to update their income eligibility. Please visit the State A+ website for more information on the new Income Eligibility Table for School Year 2024-2025.

Mahalo for your interest in the Summer A+ and School Year A+ Programs. If you have additional questions or need more information, please visit the State A+ Website at [Hawaiicommunityengagement.com/after-school-plus](https://hawaiicommunityengagement.com/after-school-plus) or email the State A+ Office at [aplus@k12.hi.us](mailto:aplus@k12.hi.us).

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Higashi  
Community Engagement Branch Director

EH:mk  
c: Office of Strategy, Innovation, and Performance