



HAROLD K.L. CASTLE
FOUNDATION

Own Your Own Future Grant Request For Proposals



Background

Parents and caregivers play a key role in promoting upward mobility and motivating their children to think about future employment. When families are involved and engaged in their child's education, students are [more likely](#) to improve their attendance, earn higher grades, graduate, and go to college.

With the rapidly changing economy and the often-challenging college enrollment process, it is essential we develop systems that better equip parents and caregivers with resources and knowledge to engage in this important process. Targeted family engagement has the potential to make a difference in students' future decisions and post-secondary plans.

To develop a more engaged, inclusive process, the Harold K.L. Castle Foundation and Stupski Foundation are seeking partners who can broker this important information, creating trusted and open relationships with parents.

We recognize that these brokers may show up in different forms; grassroots community organizations, high schools, extra-curricular programs, and more. In particular, we think high schools can realize record turnout when presenting parents with concrete opportunities to make college more affordable by earning early college credits or strengthen student resumes through industry certificates or internships.

In addition to supporting smart strategies that increase family participation, we particularly want to support work that equips families with the information required to meaningfully discuss college and jobs together.

Opportunity

Nonprofit community partners, work-based learning intermediaries, secondary public schools, DOE complex areas and postsecondary institutions may request up to \$50,000 in support of specific activities over a 24-month project period that engages families in supporting pathways to college and career success. Activities should not duplicate efforts that are already in place but can supplement such efforts.

Project proposals must help families better understand one or more of the following topics:

- Hawai'i's labor market and associated academic pathways;
- How to access early college opportunities and related financial aid to reduce the cost of college;
- Earn an industry valued certification or [promising credential](#); and,
- Find supports that increase student chances of completing a college degree with real value in the job market.

Please note that core content on each of these topics will be provided by Hawaii P20 via a tabulated slide deck and associated training session.

Priority will be given to efforts that:

- Encourage smart partnerships – for example, high schools that partner with trusted community organizations or postsecondary institutions;
- Target middle and/or high school families; and,
- Target families with students who are underrepresented in higher education and/or that come from rural and remote regions of the state.

The overall intent of this initiative is to:

- Identify innovative and effective family engagement practices, specifically tied to helping young people navigate future choices in college and/or the workplace
- Raise awareness of the range of good jobs in Hawai'i and the pathways to those jobs

As a result of this work, families will feel better equipped to support their children in college/career pathways navigating this journey.

Application Details

Applications should include:

- **Project Narrative - Limit your narrative to no more than 1,000 words.**
 - What is the need in your community? Be specific - what challenges/barriers currently exist for parent engagement regarding post-secondary planning?
 - Describe your proposed approach and activities to meet this need.
 - What is of greatest interest to the families that you hope to serve? And why is your proposed approach likely to succeed?
- **Project Learning Outcomes – provide 3-5 bulleted outcomes of no more than 250 words.**
 - What do you hope to learn and accomplish as a result of this grant? What does success look like?
 - Selected applicants will then be asked to collect evidence regarding whether these outcomes have been met.
- **Budget**
- **Timeline of Activities**
- **Organization Name and Address**
- **Point of Contact Name, Email and Phone Number**
- **For school-based projects, include a letter of support from the school principal**

Applications will be submitted via our online grants management portal, called Fluxx.

For those new to Fluxx, please create a new account at:

<https://hklcf.fluxx.io/apply/ownyourownfuture>

For current Fluxx users, please login to your account at:

<https://hklcf.fluxx.io>

Once you are logged in, please apply for an Own Your Own Future RFP under APPLICATIONS.

Applicants may save your work and return to the application at any time. Interested applicants are encouraged to contact Maria Glidden at mglidden@castlefoundation.org with any questions regarding the process.

Timeline

December 5, 2022: RFP Announced

December 8, 2022, 3 pm & January 4, 2023, 10 am: Bidders call via Zoom:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85816371044?pwd=bkVtVDh4ZnFwT1pPNTJsQjlZYnFqdz09>

Meeting ID: 858 1637 1044

Passcode: Mjvp5W

January 27, 2023: Priority Deadline for Applications

- We expect to fund 10-15 total projects, and recommend that organizations submit their application by the priority deadline
- We may accept applications on a rolling basis after January 27st if funds remain

February 28, 2023: Initial notification and grant award

April 28, 2023: Grantee Learning Convening 1

December 2023: Grantee Learning Convening 2

August 15, 2024/2025: Final Reports Due (depending on end date of projects)