Home



Exchange Information for University of Hawaii at Hilo Fall 2023-Spring 2024

UNIVERSITY AND AREA				
Name of University	University of Hawaii at Hilo			
Location	Hilo on the Island of Hawai`i (Big Island) Hilo is located on the southernmost island of the Hawaiian Island chain. Hilo is a city of about 40,000 people and located on Hilo Bay under the picturesque background of the snow-covered Maunakea – the largest mountain in the Pacific. Hilo is surrounded by a tropical rainforest on the warm, wet side of the Big Island. The temperature is consistent year-round staying between 17- 29 degrees Celsius. Hilo can be reached by a 45 minute airplane flight from Honolulu. For more information about Hilo and the Big Island			
Total number of students	About 3,250. About 7 percent are international students from 40 countries.			
Websites	University Website			
	Center for Global Education and Exchange			
	English Language Institute			
	International Student Services			
ACADEMIC CALENDAR				
Academic Year	Fall 2023 Semester: Orientation: August 15 - August 19 (tentative dates) Classes: August 21 – December 15 Spring 2024 Semester: Orientation: January 3 - 6 (tentative dates) Classes: January 8 – May 10			

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Application Deadlines	Fall 2023 Semester: April 1, 2023 Spring 2024 Semester: October 1, 2023			
Academic Requirements	 B average and one year of college completed. Students with a 61 iBT TOEFL, an IELTS score of 5.5, Duolingo 90, or Eiken 2A score will not be required to take ESL classes. Students with lower scores or no scores will be admitted into the English Language Institute and required to take the ESL classes that they place into. All ESL classes receive academic credit and appear on the academic transcript. 			
Application Procedures	Applications should be emailed to the Center for Global Education and Exchange to shumway@hawaii.edu . Originals do not need to be mailed unless by request.			
	Letter of Nomination (link on Global Exchange webpage)			
	2. Application DO NOT SEND APPLICATION ON-LINE (link on Global Exchange webpage)			
	3. Supplementary Information Form for International Students (link on Global Exchange webpage)			
	4. Bank Statement Students need to provide a bank statement indicating that a sponsor has funds to cover the cost of living expenses and books while the students are in the United States. Two Semesters: \$ 18,000 One Semester: \$ 9,000			
	5. Passport copy			
	6. Academic transcript in English			
	7. English Language Test Score (Students with lower scores on no English test scores may be accepted into the English Language Institute) 1) TOEFL score (iBT or paper) 2) IELTS score 3) Duolingo score 4) Eiken score			
	These are the documents that we need to receive have a completed application package: 1) Letter of Nomination 2) A copy of the student application 3) Supplementary Information Form for International Students 4) Bank statement 5) Copy of passport 6) Copy of transcript 7) English test score			
Mailing address for Applications	University of Hawaii at Hilo Center for Global Education and Exchange 200 W. Kawili St. Hilo, HI 96720 USA			
Fax number for Application	1-808-932-7487			
Course Catalogue	General Catalog Online Course Listing			
Full-time Academic Load	Minimum: 12 credits per semester Maximum: 18 credits per semester			

One transcript for each student will be sent to the home university. If students or universities want additional transcripts, they can be ordered from the UH Hilo Transcript Webpage.

ACCOMMODATION				
Accommodation Options	Exchange students can apply for on-campus dormitory housing or arrange off-campus accommodations. The University of Hawaii at Hilo cannot guarantee housing. However, we will assist students in securing on-campus housing or off-campus housing near campus. Students can apply online for on-campus housing through the University of Hawai'i at Hilo Housing Office website. The application must be completed AFTER students have received their acceptance and a UH student ID number.			
Housing Office Website	Housing Office			
Housing E-mail	uhhhouse@hawaii.edu			
Application	Must apply on-line after receiving acceptance letter and UH ID number Housing Application Form (\$10 application fee)			
Housing Application	Fall 2023 Semester: March 1, 2023			
Priority Deadlines	Spring 2024 Semester: October 1, 2023			
	(Housing will continue to accept applications until the start of classes)			
COSTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION				
Tuition	Students on direct exchange pay tuition at their home university.			
Required Student Fees	Activity Fee: \$247 per semester (Student Life Center, Student Medical Center, student publications and activities)			
	Orientation: \$50 (includes gift bag, informational sessions and special activities - not required but recommended)			
Medical Insurance	All international exchange students are required to purchase the University of Hawai'i at Hilo medical insurance plan while they are studying at UH Hilo. Visit the International Student Service website to see the requirements. The University of Hawai'i at Hilo insurance plan costs \$707.50 per semester based on 2022-23 rates. Costs for 2023-24 could vary. Information about the plan can be viewed at the Relation Insurance website. A copy of your health insurance needs to be filed with the International Student Services upon arrival. a copy of your health insurance needs to be filed with the International Student Services upon arrival.			
Living Costs	On campus (Estimated based on 2022-23 rates)			
	Housing: \$1,772 - \$3,150 per semester. (depending on type of room)			
	Food service: \$2470 - \$2863 per semester. (depending on meal plan)			
	Off campus (Estimated)			
	Housing: \$550 to \$800 per month. Personal expenses (food, supplies, transport): \$3,125 per semester			
Other Expenses	Transportation: The city bus is free for everyone at this time Some students choose to			
Outer Expenses	buy bicycles which range from \$150 to \$1,000 but you can also rent bicycles from school. Occasionally students buy used cars which can cost from \$3,500 and up. Students with cars are legally required to have automobile insurance and a valid Hawaii state driver's license or a current international driver's license.			

Visa Information	All exchange students must have a valid passport and an F-1 student visa. The university will provide an I-20 to be used to get the visa from a U.S. Embassy or Consulate. Students must bring the I-20 and passport when entering the United States.			
Pre-Arrival Information	Accepted students will be contacted directly by the Center for Global Education and Exchange as well as the Director of International Student Services with information about arrival and orientation. Students should be sure to read all emails very carefully. Airport pickup is available on designated days prior to orientation. Those dates will be announced by email after students have been accepted. Students who arrive outside of the designated pickup dates can take a taxi or a ride share service (Uber or Lyft) to the campus from the airport. The campus is about 10 minutes from the airport and the taxi ride costs \$15-\$20. Please visit the International Student Services website for more information.			
Useful Websites	New Student Information			
	Online Orientation			
	Frequently Asked Questions			
VIDEO				
	See videos about UH Hilo at:			
	International Student Video Inspired by You Video Study at UH Hilo!			
	YouTube Channel			
CONTACT INFORM	ATION			
Student Exchange Coordinator	Center for Global Education and Exchange E-mail Address: uhhglobe@hawaii.edu Website: https://hilo.hawaii.edu/exchange/international/	Todd Shumway Director of Global Exchange Center for Global Education and Exchange 200 W. Kawili St. Hilo, HI 96720 USA 1-808-932-7489 shumway@hawaii.edu		