



ACADEMIA LANGUAGE SCHOOL

Pre-Arrival Packet

ALOHA

Welcome to Hawaii!

*Inside you will find information about
Our school and living in Hawaii.*

ACADEMIA
LANGUAGE SCHOOL

About Hawaii

DISCOVER HAWAII

Hawaii is like no other place on earth. It is home to one of the world's most active volcanoes and the world's tallest sea mountain, and it's the birthplace of modern surfing, the hula and Hawaii Regional Cuisine, former seat of a royal kingdom, and home to the only royal palace on US soil. Hawaii is one of the youngest geological formations in the world, and the youngest state of the union. Hawaii's most unique feature is its aloha spirit, the warmth of Hawaii's people wonderfully compliments the Islands' perfect weather.

There are six major islands to visit in Hawaii: Kauai, Oahu, Molokai, Lanai, Maui, and Hawaii's Big Island. You'll find each island has a distinct personality and offers its own adventures, activities and sights. Mark Twain called Hawaii, "That peaceful land, that beautiful land... the climate, one long delicious summer day, and the good that die experience no change, for they but fall asleep in one heaven and wake up in another." We invite you to explore the Islands of Aloha to find your own heavenly Hawaii experiences.

FACTS ABOUT HAWAII

- The state of Hawaii is made up of hundreds of islands
- The Right "Main Islands" of Hawaii are Ni'ihau, Kaua'i, O'ahu, Moloka'i, Lana'i, Kaho'olawe, Maui, and Hawai'i (Big Island)
- Population: 1,416 mil. as of 2019
- Highest Point: Mauna Kea (located on the Big Island)
- Capital City: Honolulu
- Languages Spoken: English, Hawaiian, Hawaii Creole English (Pidgin)



CLIMATE

January – March: 66°F~82°F (18.9°C~27.8°C)
April – June: 68°F~87°F (20°C~30.6°C)
July – September: 74°F~89°F (23.3°C~31.7°C)
October – December: 73°F~82°F (22.8°C~27.8°C)



BEAUTIFUL LOCATIONS

- Hanauma Bay
- North Shore
- Iolani Palace
- Arizona Memorial & Pearl Harbor
- Diamond Head
- Polynesian Cultural Center
- Byodo-In Temple
- Languages Spoken: English, Hawaiian, Hawaii Creole English (Pidgin)

TRANSPORTATION

Hawaii has several types of transportation available for locals and tourists that make experiencing the island much easier.



TheBus is Hawaii's public bus transit company.

Fares are:

- Adults (Ages 18+): (One-Way): \$2.75
- Youth (Ages 6 – 17): (One-Way): \$1.25
- Children (under 5 years old): Free
- Senior Citizens (Ages 65+): (One-Way): \$1.00
(with TheBus Senior Card)

Starting July 1, 2021, paper Monthly TheBus Passes and the 1-Day Pass will no longer be available for purchase. Riders will instead need to have a HOLO electronic fare card with money or a pass loaded on the card. Passengers will still have the option of paying with cash on TheBus.

Adults can add a monthly bus pass for \$70 on their HOLO card.

For more information, visit

<https://www.holocard.net>

<http://www.thebus.org>

Local Taxi Companies:

❖ The Cab: (808) 422-2222

❖ Charley's Taxi: (808) 233-3333

❖ Honolulu Taxi Service: (808) 699-9999



Any time of year is a good time to visit Hawaii. Summer, between April and November, is warmer and drier (average temperature is 75°F~88°F) while winter, between December and March, is cooler (average temperature is 68°F~80°F). Please visit <http://www.prh.noaa.gov/hnl> to see the weekly weather forecast on Oahu.

CELL PHONES

The U.S. has four primary cell phone provider services:

- ❖ AT&T
- ❖ Verizon
- ❖ T-Mobile
- ❖ Sprint

If you do not want to enter into a 2 year contract with a cell phone service, you could purchase a pre-paid phone through AT&T, Verizon, or T-Mobile.



HEALTH INSURANCE



We **strongly** recommend that you purchase travel insurance (or health insurance) in your home country **prior to studying at Academia.**

If you do not have insurance in the U.S., it could be extremely costly should something happen to you. You may be able to purchase insurance after you arrive in the U.S., but there are many restrictions, and coverage is very limited. It is best if you arrange for health insurance coverage in your home country prior to your travel.

If you wish to consider health insurance options in the U.S., one agency for you to consider is ISO Student Health Insurance. Academia has researched different rates and coverage options, and have found them to be the most competitive. To learn more, visit isoa.org or call 1-800-244-1180.

WHAT TO PACK

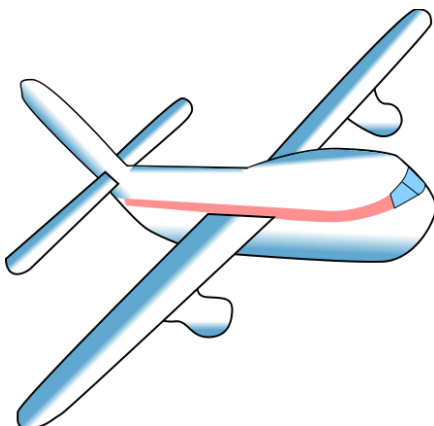


When deciding what to bring to wear in Hawaii, plan on packing clothes that suite your lifestyle and travel plans. Start with clothes that are light, loose and comfortable.

The local attire is very casual, with most people wearing shorts, sandals, dresses, skirts, etc. We recommend that you bring a light jacket or sweater, as most buildings are air conditioned and could get cold at times.

Bring some dress clothes or resort wear if you plan on experiencing Hawaii's nightlife. Don't forget to bring a hat, sunglasses, and swimwear for the beach!

DEPARTURE



YOU MUST ENTER THE U.S. **30 DAYS OR LESS** BEFORE THE "PROGRAM START DATE" SHOWN ON YOUR I-20 FORM!

You will be asked to show your I-20 with your passport at the port of entry. Please keep your I-20 in your purse carry-on luggage so you can show it to the immigration officer.

SCHOOL LOCATION

Academia is located at :
1600 Kapiolani Blvd. Honolulu, HI 96814.

We are on the 12th floor in the Pan American Building.

A map to our school is shown below.

If you are taking the bus from Waikiki:
Take bus #8, 13, on Kuhio Ave. West
Bound and get off at "Kapiolani Bl + Kaheka St"
(announced as "Don Quijote").

If you are taking the bus from Downtown:
Take bus #3, 9, 13 from S Hotel St. East Bound and
get off at "Kapiolani Bl + Mahukona St."

If you are taking a bus from other directions, Google
Map App gives you the bus #, when/where to get
on/off!

TheBus at (808) 848-5555
<http://www.thebus.org>.



ORIENTATION

1. Check in at the office at 8:15 AM on your first day. Please remember to bring a pen, your Passport, I-20 form and Hawaii address.
2. Around 8:30 AM, a 30 minute orientation will be given.
3. Following the orientation, an Academia staff member will show you around the school.
4. After the tour, a written grammar test will be given to students who are studying for 8 weeks or longer.
5. Following the grammar test, you will get to meet the Director of Language Programs or the Assistant Director of Language Programs and have an interview with either of them.
6. After the interview, you will have the option of starting classes right away, or starting classes the following day.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

If you are in Hawaii and have a question or concern, please call the office between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday – Friday, to speak to one of our staff members.

If you have an emergency, call **911** immediately!

We look forward to meeting you!

ACADEMIA LANGUAGE SCHOOL

1600 Kapiolani Blvd. Suite 1215
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

www.academiaschool.edu

808.946.5599 ph
808.947.4655 fax