





OFFICE OF ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION

### Where is Micronesia











# The People of Micronesia

- Federated States of Micronesia: More than 100,000 residents.
- Chuuk: 46,000 residents.
- Kosrae: 6,600 residents.
- Pohnpei: 36,196 residents.
- Yap: 11,377 residents.
- Republic of the Marshall Islands: 42,500 residents.
- Republic of Palau: 18,024 residents.
- Citizens of these nations are legally referred to as citizens of the Freely Associated States (FAS), not COFA





### **Compact Provisions**

#### U.S. right to:

- Block other nations military activities.
- Allow U.S. exclusive access to the lands, waterways, and airspace of the FAS.
- Indefinite U.S. authority for defense and security.
- Serve in the U.S. armed forces.

# In return: FAS citizens are provided with certain immigration privileges

- Receive economic support in each country.
- To live, work, and study in the United States indefinitely.
- Without a visa (with reciprocal benefit for U.S. citizens entering both FSM and RMI).



#### FAS Citizens in Hawai'i

- Legal and citizenship status:
  - I-94 documentation.
  - Nonimmigrants without visas.
- Status limits their access to many public benefits.
- For those eligible for programs, it is only through U.S. born children.
- Unable to vote but can serve in the U.S. armed services.
- Hawai'i population: 18,504 (2013-2017), or 1.3% of the state population.





## **Jobs for FAS Citizens**

Occupation	% FAS in Hawaiʻi	Compared to Hawaiʻi Average
Food Prep and Serving	24.8%	+17.1%
Building and Grounds Maintenance and Cleaning	15.3%	+9.6%
Transportation and Materials Cleaning	14.5%	+9.5%
Education, Training and Library	1.6%	-4.46%
Healthcare	0.3%	-4.8%







# **Going Forward**

#### Ongoing projects:

- Partnering with City departments such as DPR, HPD, DMV, DEM to share concerns and building partnership.
- Hosting webinars about good jobs to encourage communities to apply.
- Working with government on education outreach and talk story sessions about COFA.
- Partnering with DOE to create career and college pathways with Micronesian students.

- Connecting community members to education and career development opportunities.
- Visiting schools to speak to Micronesian students to encourage and empower.



# Challenges with Employment

- Understand COFA/FAS citizens do not have
  Visa/Alien Registration numbers.
- 1-94 inaccessible or lost (database issue).
- Passport expiration and renewal (ID issue).
- Employment ID issue.







# Help with Immigration or I-94

#### **CONTACT THE CONSULATE OFFICES:**

FSM Consulate Office Citizens of Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei, Yap 3049 Ualena Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96919 (808) 836-4775

RMI Consulate Office Citizens of Marshall Islands 188 Lusitana Street Honolulu, HI 96813 (808) 545-7767





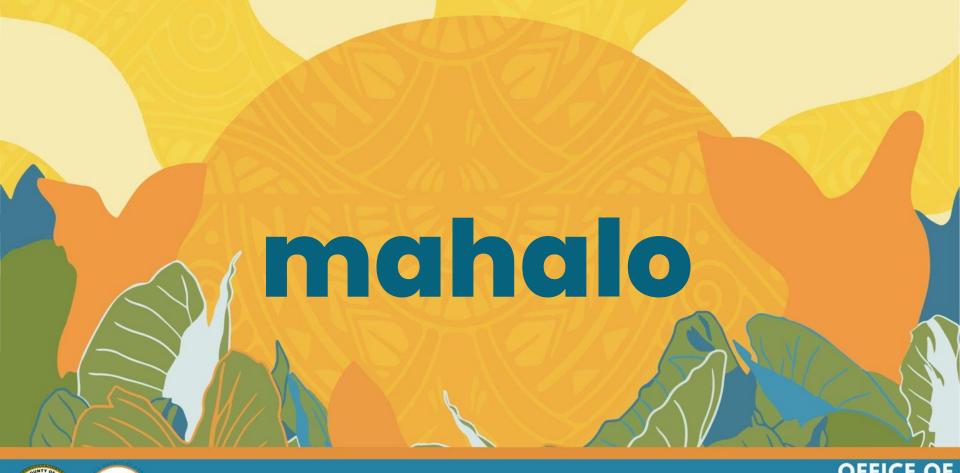




## **How to Say Mahalo!**

- In Chuukese: "Killisou!"
- In Kosraean: "Kulo!"
- In Yapese: "Kamagar!"
- In Pohnpeian: "Kalangan!"
- In Marshallese: "Kommol Tata!"
- In Paulaun: "Sulang!"

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