

2026 Hawaii Internship Summit

From Internships to Impact: Building Hawai'i's Future Workforce

- **Internships as Workforce Strategy:** Practical guidance on building high-quality, meaningful internship programs that deliver real value for employers and interns
- **Employer Playbook:** What works, what doesn't, and why — with powerful testimonials from interns, employers, and educators
- **Pathways to Impact:** How internships support career readiness, economic mobility, and local talent retention
- **Funding & Resources:** Learn about Hele Imua, state and federal supports, and upcoming opportunities for private-sector employers
- **Internship Excellence Awards:** Celebrating outstanding interns, employers, coordinators, and programs across Hawai'i

Who Should Attend?

- Employers (especially small & mid-sized businesses)
- HR and workforce leaders
- Educators and training providers
- State and county workforce partners



JOIN US!

Wednesday, March 4th
Japanese Cultural Center
2454 South Beretania Street
8:30 am - 3:00 pm

Seats are limited, click here to REGISTER TODAY!

Visit <https://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/> for more information and award nomination details



HAWAII P-20
Partnerships for Education



2026 Hawaii Internship Summit

Wednesday, March 4, 2026 | 8:30 AM – 3:00 PM

- 8:30 – 9:00 AM** *Registration & Continental Breakfast*
- 9:00 – 9:20 AM** *Welcome & Opening Comments*
- 9:20 – 9:50 AM** *Morning Keynotes: “Internships as Pathways:
Building Careers Through Real-World Experience”*
- 9:55 – 11:00 AM** *Internship Playbook + Interactive Learning
Corners: What works, what doesn’t, and practical
insights*
- 11:00 – 12:10 PM** *Employer & Intern Spotlights: Real-world internship
experiences and apprenticeship models*
- 12:10 – 1:10 PM** *Lunch & Networking*
- 1:10 – 1:25 PM** *Internship Funding, Federal Programs & State
Resources*
- 1:35 – 2:00 PM** *Afternoon Keynote: “Building Hawaii’s Future
Workforce: The Power of Internships” - Sen.
Donovan M. Dela Cruz*
- 2:00 – 2:45 PM** *Hawai‘i Internship Excellence Awards*
- 2:45 – 3:00 PM** *Closing Remarks & Next Steps*

FEATURED SPEAKERS



Senator Donovan M Dela Cruz
Senate District 17



Tracie Foglia
Hawaii Employers Council



Kazu Hayashida
Hawaiian Electric



Trang Malone
CVS



Maricar Pilotin-Freitas
Department of Labor and
Industrial Relations, WDD

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