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IA-0000000629

Individual Application

Application ID	IA-0000000629	Account	
Application Status	Submitted	Contact	Jeffrey St. Pierre

ACT 310 - Application for Grants

Legal Name of Requesting Org/Individual	East Hawaii Special Olympics	DBA	
Type of Business Entity	501 (C)(3) Non-Profit Corporation	Existing Service(Presently in Operation)	Yes
Mailing Address	PO BOX 7265 Hilo, Hawaii 96720 United States	Amount of State Funds Requested	\$15,000.00
Island	Hawaii (Big Island)		

Program Overview

Program 1 Overview

Program 2 Overview

Program 3 Overview

Department Notes

Agency Eligibility

Recipient of Terminated Federal Funding	Unsure	Able to Provide Documentation Evidence	Yes
Serves Negatively Impacted Populations	Yes	Narrative	Client Demographics
			Special Olympics Hawai'i, including our East Hawai'i program, is open to all individuals with intellectual disabilities, regardless of age or the extent of their disability. We believe that everyone deserves the opportunity to live a full and active life—enriched with the same social, recreational, and community experiences that many of us take for granted. As our program continues to grow, both in athlete and volunteer participation, we are continually reminded of the vital importance of social interaction, meaningful relationships, and a strong sense of belonging for our athletes. These connections have a profound impact—not only on the athletes themselves but also on their families and the broader community. To keep this momentum going, we must

ensure that every athlete has the opportunity to participate in practices, competitions, events, and inclusive social activities. Through Special Olympics, athletes not only feel included—they also gain confidence, develop skills, and actively contribute to the community.

Narrative Statement Describing the Causal Link Between the Federal Funding Reduction and the Resulting Adverse Impacts on the Population Served

The recent reduction in federal funding was not a direct line-item cut, but it triggered events that severely strained Special Olympics East Hawai'i's operations and impacted its athletes. This began with a \$7 billion nationwide freeze on the Department of Education and related grants, initiated by the federal administration in mid-2025. This action immediately created a significant funding gap for networks supporting Special Olympics, including programs for children with disabilities and essential after-school partnerships. To manage the unexpected shortfall, East Hawai'i programs reduced essential services in early fall 2025. These cuts include:

Reduced Athlete Mobility and Access:
The organization reduced travel subsidies and postponed training camps. This directly limits athletes' access to training, skill development, and competition, hindering their growth and inclusion.

Uncertainty for Core Services: The organization is now struggling to sustain year-round athlete services, including medical screenings and Young Athlete clinics. Continued delays in federal support may put participants' health and development at risk.

In summary, the federal funding freeze created a financial disruption resulting in cuts to travel and training essential for the athletic and social well-being of East Hawai'i Special Olympics athletes.

Date Funding Stopped 6/30/2025

Amount of Other Funds Available

State Fund Total Amount		County Fund Total Amount	\$35,000.00
Federal Fund Total Amount		Private/Other Fund Total Amount	
Total Amount of State Grants	\$0.00	Unrestricted Assets	

Contact Person for Matters Involving this Application

Applicant Name Jeffrey C St Pierre

Applicant Title Assistant Area Director - East Hawaii Special Olympics

Applicant Phone 8088257868

Applicant Email easthawaiiad@gmail.com

State of Hawaii Eligibility

Organization is Licensed or Accredited	Yes	Nonprofit is a 501c3	Yes
Complies with Anti-Discrimination Laws	Yes	Nonprofit has Governing Board	Yes
Will not Use State Funds for Lobbying	Yes	Is Incorporated Under Laws of State	Yes
Will Allow Access to Audit Records	Yes	Has Bylaws and Policies	Yes

Account Information

Organization Name	East Hawaii Special Olympics	Organization DBA	
EIN	██████████	Street	
Account Email	easthawaiiad@gmail.com	City	Hilo
Account Phone	8088257868	State	HI
Website		Zip	96720
Mission Statement	The mission of Special Olympics is to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy, and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and our community.		

Point of Contact

Point of Contact First Name	Jeffrey	Point of Contact Last Name	St Pierre
Point of Contact Title	Assistant Area Director - East Hawaii Special Olympics	Point of Contact Email	easthawaiiad@gmail.com
Point of Contact Phone	8088257868		

Leadership

Leadership First Name	Dan	Leadership Last Name	Epstein
Leadership Title	CEO	Leadership Email	depstein@sohawaii.org
Leadership Phone	8086953526		

Background and Summary

Applicant Background	Special Olympics Hawai'i has been proudly serving individuals with intellectual disabilities for over 50 years, providing year-round access to a wide range of sports, health, and community engagement opportunities. Through inclusive programming, athletes are empowered to build confidence, improve their physical and emotional well-being, and develop lifelong skills. One of the most powerful aspects of Special Olympics is the opportunity for athletes to participate alongside community volunteers. This inclusive model fosters meaningful relationships, bridges social gaps, and creates a supportive environment where both athletes and community members benefit from positive social, emotional, and physical engagement. It's more than just sports—it's a movement for inclusion, dignity, and unity.
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Funding Request Purpose	One of the most significant and growing expenses is travel. The cost of roundtrip airfare to O'ahu—where the State Games are held each June, August, and November—averages over \$200 per athlete. With increasing numbers of athletes qualifying and eager to participate, this funding would directly help us bring as many dedicated athletes as possible to compete on a statewide level, representing East Hawai'i with pride. Your support would directly impact the lives of our athletes by helping to remove financial barriers, ensuring every qualified individual can experience the joy, confidence, and camaraderie that comes with participation in Special Olympics. Thank you for considering our request and for supporting inclusion, dignity, and opportunity for individuals with intellectual disabilities in our community.
Geographic Coverage Served	Our geographic coverage includes the districts of Hamakua, Hilo, and Puna.
Public Purpose or Need Served	Special Olympics Hawai'i, including our East Hawai'i program, is open to all individuals with intellectual disabilities, regardless of age or the extent of their disability. We believe that everyone deserves the opportunity to live a full and active life—enriched with the same social, recreational, and community experiences that many of us take for granted. As our program continues to grow, both in athlete and volunteer participation, we are continually reminded of the vital importance of social interaction, meaningful relationships, and a strong sense of belonging for our athletes. These connections have a profound impact—not only on the athletes themselves but also on their families and the broader community. To keep this momentum going, we must ensure that every athlete has the opportunity to participate in practices, competitions, events, and inclusive social activities. Through Special Olympics, athletes not only feel included—they also gain confidence, develop skills, and actively contribute to the community.
Target Population Served	Special Olympics Hawai'i has been proudly serves individuals with intellectual disabilities fro 8 years old without an age cap.

Summary and Outcomes

Measure(s) of Effectiveness	The East Hawaii Special Olympics will report its success using three objective Measures of Effectiveness (MOEs) to the State expending agency. The primary measure is the Travel Participation Rate (T-PR), which tracks the percentage of all eligible East Hawaii athletes who competed in the O'ahu State Games. The goal is 100% participation, confirming the grant successfully eliminated the financial travel barrier. Secondly, the Financial Barrier Removal metric reports that a minimum of 95% of the \$15,000 grant was used directly for athlete travel costs (flights and ground transport). Finally, the Cost Efficiency Index (CEI) will calculate the average grant expenditure per participating athlete. Together, these MOEs provide the State with a clear, quantifiable assessment of the program's achievement and fiscal responsibility in maximizing athlete opportunity.
Projected Annual Timeline	The 2026 calendar for East Hawaii Special Olympics is built around three major trips to O'ahu, each requiring travel funding from the Aloha United Way ACT 310 grant. The most significant trip is the State Summer Games scheduled for early to mid-June 2026 at the University of Hawai'i and surrounding venues. This event, which includes sports like Track & Field, Swimming, and Powerlifting, represents the largest single draw on the travel budget due to the number of athletes and coaches involved. Following this, athletes will return to O'ahu in August 2026 for the 'Aukake Classic State Games at Waiau District Park in Pearl City, where they will compete in Soccer and Bocce. The travel year concludes in November 2026 with the Holiday Classic State Championship, held at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) just before Thanksgiving, featuring competitions in Basketball, Bowling, and Bocce. For each of these three events, the Area Director must begin securing cost-effective group travel and accommodation three months in advance, while the Assistant Area Director must collect all financial documentation immediately following the trip to ensure timely grant reporting.
Quality Assurance and Evaluation Plans	The Quality Assurance (QA) and Evaluation Plan is managed solely by the Area Director and Assistant Area Director. QA centers on the Area Director's Financial QA duties: tracking all flight and ground transportation receipts post-competition and reviewing costs monthly against the \$15,000 budget. The Assistant Area Director handles Program Integrity, measuring the grant's success by confirming that all qualified East Hawaii athletes who wished to attend the O'ahu events in June, August, and November were able to do so because travel was covered. The Evaluation Plan uses this data, supplemented by athlete and family testimonials, to document that the grant successfully removed the travel barrier. Finally, the Improvement Plan includes a comprehensive review in December 2026. Both Directors will analyze overall participation and booking efficiency (e.g., optimizing group flight times) to ensure future grant funds maximize athlete opportunity..
Scope of Work	The Scope of Work for the East Hawaii Special Olympics, funded by the \$15,000 Aloha United Way ACT 310 grant, is to eliminate financial barriers to competition by funding the high cost of athlete travel expenses. This ensures East Hawaii athletes can attend critical events, such as state championships and regional tournaments on Oahu, which are necessary for full program participation. Successful execution of the grant relies solely on the Area Director and Assistant Area Director, who will assume all necessary Tasks and Responsibilities. The Area Director will oversee Budget Allocation and Financial Tracking, ensuring the \$15,000 is prioritized for athlete travel (flights and ground transport) and that all expenditures comply with grant requirements. The

Director is also responsible for all Travel Logistics, personally securing cost-effective group travel bookings and approving arrangements.

The Assistant Area Director is tasked with Expense Documentation and Grant Reporting. This includes the meticulous collection of all receipts and invoices, compiling the necessary financial records, and submitting detailed reports to the Aloha United Way. They will also handle Impact Measurement, tracking the number of athletes who travel due to the grant and documenting the resulting positive program outcomes.

Financial Information

Q1 Requested Amount	\$0.00	Q3 Requested Amount	\$2,727.00
Q2 Requested Amount	\$8,182.00	Q4 Requested Amount	\$4,091.00
Sources of Funding	ELCF Grant, Waiwai Grant Badges and Buckets Charity Walk LETR Smaller Fundraisers	State and Federal Tax Credits	N/A
State and Federal Contracts and Grants	N/A	Prior FY Balance of Unrestricted Assets	N/A

Experience, Capability, and Personnel

Skills and Experience	8 Years Volunteering for Special Olympics B.Sc Exercise Science M.Sc Special Education Recently hired as Assistant Area Director for East Hawaii Special Olympics
Facilities	Facilities include University of Hawaii, Hilo for our Basketball and Bocce Area Games in September, Waiakea HS for our track and field area games in April, and the Pahoa Aquatic Center for the Swimming Area Games
Proposed Staffing and Service Capacity	East Hawaii Area Director 5+ experience, Former Hilo Principal and currently works for Houston, Texa Area for the Law Enforcement Torchrun fundraiser as well as Area Director. Assistant Area Director newly hired with 10+ years of experience as special education teacher and 8 years as a special olympics volunteer.
Staff Position(s) and Compensation	Area Director: \$20,800 Assistant Area Director: \$11,200

Other Information

Pending Litigation	N/A
Special Licensure or Accreditations	As the Special Olympics Incorporated accredited program in Hawaii, Special Olympics Hawaii is responsible for assuring that the same commitment to the goals and objectives of Special Olympics occurs among each of our Area Programs. That process is achieved through this Area Accreditation. PRIVILEGES OF ACCREDITATION In accrediting an Area Program, Special Olympics Hawaii grants the Area the right to: 1. Operate as the officially sanctioned agent of Special Olympics Hawaii in a designated geographic setting, including the right to use the name and logo of Special Olympics; 2. Solicit and expend funds in the name of Special Olympics Hawaii for the purpose of the Area, furthering the goals of the program, consistent with International and State standards; 3. Participate in State events, including Summer Games, Aukake Classic, Holiday Classic, Weinberg Tournaments, Oahu-wide Tournaments, training schools and clinics, and conferences; 4. Participate in National and International Special Olympics competition (when applicable); 5. Receive the full benefit of Special Olympics International and Special Olympics Hawaii resource materials and other programmatic support.
Private Educational Institutions	N/A

Confirmations

Documentation of Federal Impacts	☐		
Hawaii Compliance Express Certificate	☒	Active Status with the Hawaii AG	☐
IRS Determination Letter	☐	Certificate of Good Standing by the DCCA	☐
Records Retention Policy	☐	By-laws or Corporate Resolutions	☐
Authorized Representative Certification	☒	Signee Title	Assistant Area Director - East Hawaii Special Olympics

System Information

Application Type	Act 310 Nonprofit Grant Application	Applied Date	10/24/2025, 4:30 PM
Owner Name		Category	Grant Application
Created By	Jeffrey St. Pierre, 10/21/2025, 7:34 PM	Created Date	10/21/2025, 7:34 PM
Last Modified By	Jeffrey St. Pierre, 10/24/2025, 4:30 PM	Last Modified Date	10/24/2025, 4:30 PM

Files

AUW_HCE_certificate	East Hawaii Special Olympics-12 month budget FY25-26.xlsx - Sheet3 (1)
Last Modified 10/24/2025, 4:30 PM	Last Modified 10/24/2025, 4:10 PM
Created By Jeffrey St. Pierre	Created By Jeffrey St. Pierre