



**Emergency Medical Services and Injury Prevention Systems  
Branch (EMSIPSB)**

**Hawaii State Department on Health (DOH)**



# ***EMSAC REPORTS***

Friday, April 17, 2026

9:30 AM – 11:30 AM HST





UNIVERSITY of HAWAII  
KAPI'OLANI COMMUNITY COLLEGE



**To:** Marilyn Matusnaga, EMSAC Chair  
**From:** Stacey Oho, EMS Department Chair  
**Date:** April 3 2026  
**Subject:** Kapi'olani Community College EMSAC Report

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**Kapi'olani Community College Students**

We have the following number of enrolled students for the spring semester:

- EMT Oahu cohort: 10 (all private) that started their clinical experience in the hospital and ambulance
- EMT Hawai'i cohort: 17 (16 HCFD and 1 private) that started their clinical experience in the hospital and ambulance
- MICT Oahu cohort: 17 (15 HESD, 1 AMR Kaua'i, and 1 private) that are in the second of four internship rotations
- MICT Hawai'i cohort: 4 (all HCFD) that are in the second of four internship rotations

**Neighboring Island EMT Programs**

Kauai is offering an EMT-1 (non-transport) course for 8 fire recruits for the Kauai Fire Department, Lihu'e Airport Rescue Firefighting (ARFF), and the Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF) at Barking Sands.

Maui is offering an EMT 110 course for 8 students who hold EMT licenses but are riding ambulances to maintain their skills until they can get hired.

**Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center (WCCHC) EMT Partnership Program**

Michele Chrissy Kuahine, WCCHC Educational Coordinator, has 12-20 students enrolled in the EMT program at KCC, but will train at the Waianae Moku campus. All of them have their English 100, while most of them have their Health 125 prerequisite and 5-6 of them will be taking their medical terminology prerequisite concurrently. We are projected to start the EMT training on May 18 and will end on August 28. This is the partnership between WCCHC, LCC, and KCC to meet the community needs on the leeward coast.

**US Army Paramedic Training Partnership**

The US Army at Schofield asked KCC to develop a paramedic training for the 68<sup>th</sup> Whiskey Combat Medical Unit. The paramedic program director, Ms. Leaugeay Barnes, has been in contact with her team of instructors and has developed the content for their training that is projected to begin after May 1, 2026. We are awaiting for the approved MOUs.

**Paramedic Stipend**

There was no signed agreement for FY 2025-2026.

**SAMHSA Grant**

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) grant to fund tuition, professional, and licensing fees has been terminated by the federal government as of 01-15-2026. However, it was reinstated the following day. We distributed \$108,500.00 to 49 EMS students statewide to cover their spring semester tuition, student, and professional fees.

**CME Update**

There is none at this time.

### **Faculty Staff Openings**

Oahu: An instructor has been hired and will be assigned to assist with the MICT program. A second recruitment for another instructor is ongoing. Also, a recent administrative, professional, and technical position was vacated, and we will begin the recruitment process.

Maui: The office assistant position is in the recruitment process.

### **Accreditation Site Visit**

The Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions ([CoAEMSP](#)) verbally approved Kapi'olani Community College's paramedic program's accreditation on September 19, 2025. The final written approval is expected in the spring or summer of 2026. The purpose of accreditation is to meet the standards established by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians ([NREMT](#)), which requires all paramedic applicants to graduate from an accredited program. The NREMT certification is required for state licensure. Thus, it is essential for the safety of our communities that the college maintain accreditation. Otherwise, students would have to go to the mainland for training. The preliminary evaluation was positive with some recommendations. The final results will be sent in the summer.