University of Hawai‘i Maui College (UH Maui College) serves the educational needs of residents of the three islands comprising Maui County: Molokai, Lana‘i, and Maui.

Mission

University of Hawai‘i Maui College is a learning-centered institution that provides affordable, high quality credit and noncredit educational opportunities to a diverse community of lifelong learners.

Vision

We envision a world-class college that meets current and emerging Maui County education and training needs through innovative, high-quality programs offered in stimulating learning environments and guided by the Native Hawaiian reverence for ahupua‘a, a practice of sustaining and sharing diverse but finite resources for the benefit of all.

Accreditation

UH Maui College is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities of the Western Association of Schools & College, 985 Atlantic Avenue, Suite 100, Alameda, CA 94501, (510) 748-9001, an institutional accrediting body recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation and the US Department of Education.

Bachelor of Applied Science

UH Maui College’s first baccalaureate degree offered, is Applied Business and Information Technology (ABIT), which received accreditation in 2007. This degree combines a curriculum including business, information technology and liberal arts.

University of Hawai‘i Center, Maui

The University of Hawai‘i Center, Maui delivers bachelor and master programs and professional certificates to Maui County from the UH colleges at Mānoa, West Oahu, and Hilo.

Classes are taught on site at the Kahului campus or through distance technology, including the Internet and videoconferencing, and make it possible for students who live and work in Maui County to earn advanced degrees. Course schedules are designed to accommodate students’ work and family responsibilities.

Summer Session

The College summer session provides students the opportunity to accelerate progress toward a certificate or degree. Since summer session courses are “self-supporting,” tuition rates are higher than regular sessions.

History

UH Maui College is an outgrowth of the Maui Vocational School established in 1931. In 1958 the Department of Public Instruction authorized the name change to Maui Technical School, denoting an upgrade of vocational education to a technical level. In 1964 the Hawai‘i State Legislature enacted the Community College Act establishing a statewide community college system under the University of Hawai‘i (UH). Maui Technical School was incorporated into this system on July 1, 1965, and jurisdiction transferred from the Department of Education to the University of Hawai‘i.

In 1966 the UH Board of Regents authorized the College to confer the Associate in Arts and the Associate in Science degrees and approved the name change to Maui Community College, effective July 1, 1966. The first lower division transfer courses followed in September, 1967.

In February 2010, the UH Board of Regents approved the name change from Maui Community College to University of Hawai‘i Maui College to more accurately represent the college’s programs and services that now include 15 associate and two baccalaureate degrees, with more planned for the future.

The College is one of seven community colleges in the UH system. It is the only UH community college that specifically serves the residents of more than one island. The student population is about 4,000 students. The main campus encompasses 78 acres at the Kahului site. Since 1995, five buildings have been added: Ka Lama, Ka’a’ike, Kūpa’a, Lau’lima, and Pa‘ina. A private, off-campus, student apartment facility is within a short walking distance to the College, shopping centers, markets, and banks.

Accommodating students by using alternative delivery has been a primary value of the College. Self-paced classes, begun in 1985, opened up an array of concurrently-taught courses and diversified offerings in areas with a lower population base. Technological advances further opened access to students by minimizing their need to be physically present on the Kahului campus. The first cable course was broadcast across Maui County in 1986. The SkyBridge tri-isle interactive television system followed shortly in 1988 and enabled students at Molokai, Lana‘i, and Hana to participate in classes simulcast from the Kahului studio. State-wide delivery via the Hawai‘i Interactive Television System (HITS) began in 1991, which made possible advanced degrees from UH four-year institutions.

The history of UH Maui College also reflects its value to accommodate students with difficulty reaching the Kahului campus through the development of Outreach Centers in Hana, Kihei, Lahaina, Lana‘i, and Molokai.

Molokai Education Center

Outreach classes were first offered in 1970 to Molokai residents. Hotel Operations and Liberal Arts classes were taught at the Kaunakakai Elementary School. In 1986 the College rented a 2,000 sq. ft. facility, and enrollments doubled. The Molokai Ag Farm, acquired in 1982, offered Agricultural Careers, the first on-site full-time college degree program accessible to the residents of Molokai.