



“Tips for Living in Hawai‘i”

Spring 2021

International Student Services

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Due to COVID-19 many on-campus offices and off-campus establishments, office and businesses have changed their operation hours and or services.

Please contact them directly for the most updated operation hours and services.

Undergoing Quarantine?

Review the ISS Resources During Quarantine.



Choose Cell Phone



1. Unlocked cell phone from home and purchase SIM card here.
 - buy SIM card at [Walmart](#) or [Target](#) or go directly to phone provider stores ([Verizon](#), [AT&T](#), [T-Mobile](#), [Sprint](#)).
1. Buy new cell phone and set up pre-paid plan.
 - more \$, SSN/credit check not required
1. Buy new cell phone and set up contract plan.
 - 2 years contract, need SSN/credit check



HOUSING

- Location, location, location-Waikiki and Mānoa can be more expensive.
- Consider sharing apartment with roommate(s); share internet and cable costs.
- Don't pay for anything before seeing the place.
- Tip: If you will be taking the bus to commute to campus, check for housing along the bus route.
- Read your rental contract.





BANKING

- Open a local bank account to avoid costly ATM service charges or foreign credit card charges.
- Savings account? Checking Account?
- College or Student Checking Account.
- Checking card will allow you to pay for product and services easily.
- Bank services and cost vary considerably.
- Tip: American Saving Bank and University of Hawai'i Federal Credit Union have on-campus locations.

Transportation mode:



The Bus

- Avoid parking cost.
- Avoid insurance cost.
- Avoid gas/car cost.
- Day, monthly, annual pass available.
- Download the app: **DaBUS2**
- Need exact fare- no change (\$2.75).
- Bus Route on Campus:
 - A going towards Ala Moana Ctr: Sinclair Circle
 - 4 going towards Chinatown/Nuuanu: University/Dole (by Sinclair Circle), Banan
 - 6 going towards Ala Moana/Chinatown: across Banan on Metcalf/Uni. Ave., across music building on Uni. Ave.



Transportation mode:

The logo for Biki, consisting of the word "biki" in a teal, lowercase, sans-serif font, followed by a yellow chevron pointing to the right.

Biki-Bikeshare

Uber or Lyft

- Download the apps.
- Request, ride, and pay via your phone.



UH-Commuter Services

Maximise commuting access to UH Mānoa:

- Parking permits (car, moped, motorcycle)
- Carpool parking permits
- Rainbow Shuttle
- Moped registration
- Free bike repair
- Secure bike cage parking
- EV Charging Provider
- Cost-effective car rental

*<https://www.hawaiicarrentals.net/hawaii-underage-driver-fees.php>

Shop Wholesale/Discount Stores

- Buy bulk food: can food/frozen food/dry food at large discount stores like Sam's Club and Costco.
- Shop for clothes, small home appliances at Ross, Walmart and Target for low prices.
- Share cost with roommates whenever possible.





Major Oahu Grocery Chains

- Don Quixote - Grocery (near Ala Moana Shopping Center)
- Foodland Super Markets - Grocery (various locations)
- Times Supermarkets - Grocery (various locations)
- Safeway Stores - Grocery, Drugstore (various locations)
- Down to Earth - Grocery, Health market, Organic Food

Discount Cards



Shop Sales- be flexible & be creative

- Look for weekly specials, ads, coupons.



Pharmacies (Drugstores)

Long's Drugstore (CVS)- various locations.

Walgreens Pharmacy- various locations.

Many supermarkets also have pharmacies: Walmart, Safeway.



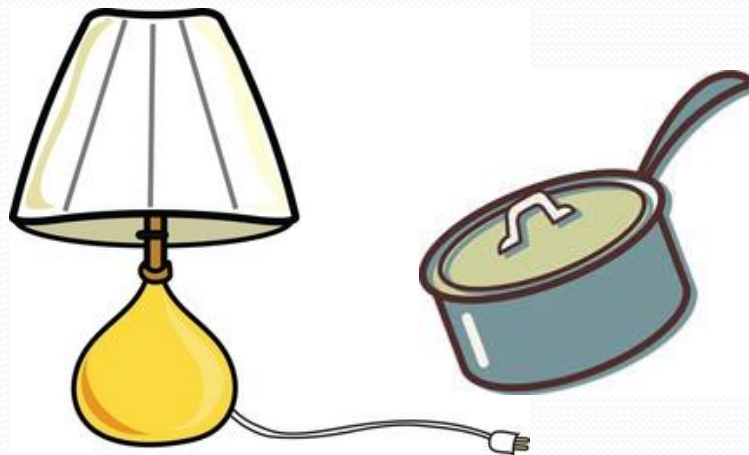
University Health Services Mānoa Pharmacy Department located on campus, has wide variety of over-the-counter medications at very affordable cost.

- Shop at local farmer's market or Chinatown
- Farmers' market listing [Hawai'i Department of Agriculture](#)



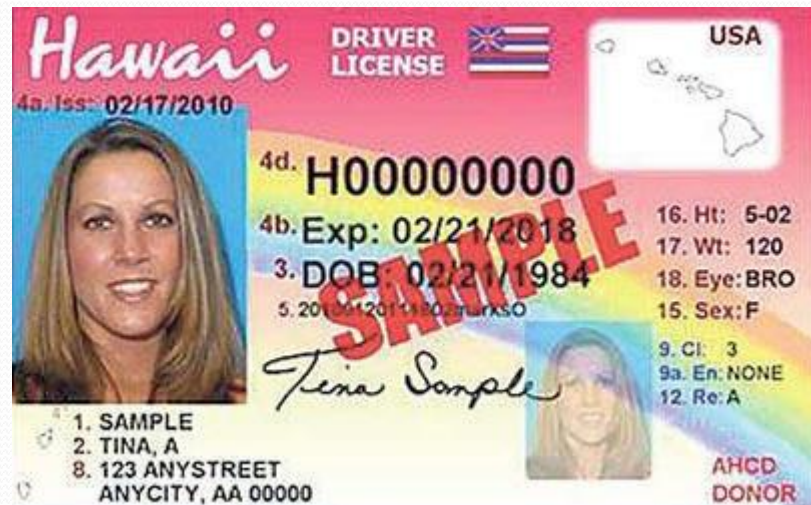
Thrift Stores

- Lightly used clothing, housewares, kitchenware, office supplies, small furniture, appliances.
- [Salvation Army Thrift Store](#).
- [Goodwill Hawai'i](#).



Ask for kama'aina discount

If you live in Hawai'i and have a local ID like the State ID or Hawai'i driver license, you qualify for Kama'aina discount. Usually 10-15% off your purchase.



Meals

- Go out for breakfast and lunch, try to avoid dinner.
- You'll spend less for daytime meals than you will for dinner.
- Try locals' favorite eateries.
- Tip: Download the

The Yelp app logo, consisting of the word "yelp" in a bold, lowercase font, followed by a red starburst icon and the word "app" in a smaller, lowercase font.



Tipping

Show service providers that you appreciate what they've done for you.

- Airport porters: \$1-\$2 per bag
- Taxi drivers: 15%-20%
- Hotel Bellhops: \$2 per bag, \$5 per two bags
- Hotel housekeeping: \$2 per each day you stay
- Waiters: 15%-20%



Hawai'i climate

- Mild temperature throughout the year, moderate humidity, persistence trade winds, significant differences in rainfall within short distances, occasional storms.
- Two seasons: Summer May-Oct
85-90°F (29-32°C)
Winter Nov-April
79-83°F (26-28°C)
- Winter is also rainy season: little downpour for a minute or two can happen anywhere on the island. Snow does not fall in Hawai'i except for the peaks on Mauna Loa and Mauna Kea, both located on the island of Hawai'i (Big Island).



Cold classrooms & rainy Mānoa!





- General Medical Clinic & Specialty Clinics
Illness/Injury, Dermatology, Nutrition, Psychiatry, Sports
Medicine, Women's Health
- Immunizations
- Laboratory
- Pharmacy
- Travel Medicine
- Telehealth Appointment-call (808) 956-8965
- After Hours "Medical Advise Line"-call (808) 956-8965
- UHMS's Patient Access Portal



URGENT CARE

- Urgent Care Hawai'i- Waikiki
- Island Urgent Care-Kapahulu, Kahala, Hawai'i Kai, Kakaako
- Kahala Mall Minute Clinic
- Kuhio Walk-In Medical Clinic

Hospitals

- Kaiser Permanente Moanalua Medical Center
- Kapiolani Medical Center for Women & Children
- Kuakini Medical Center
- The Queen's Medical Center
- Straub Clinic & Hospital



Out and About

- Avoid Jaywalking- Crossing the street outside of a crosswalk or away from street corner.
- Fine starting at \$130



Pedestrian Safety

STEPS TO SAFETY



STEADY Start crossing when you see this signal. *This is the only time you may legally enter the crosswalk.*



FLASHING Don't start crossing if this flashing signal appears. Finish crossing if you are already in the crosswalk.



"Don't Walk" STEADY Remain at the curb when this signal appears. Push the pedestrian button and wait for the next walk signal.



TIMER Don't start crossing if this signal appears. Finish crossing within the time remaining.

Fine

Crossing on the "Don't Walk" or flashing signal	\$130
"Jaywalking"	\$130
Entering/crossing any roadway closed to pedestrian traffic	\$130
Failing to stop for pedestrians in same half of the roadway	\$130

Always use a marked crosswalk.

Make eye contact. Look left, right, left again.

Wear white, bright, or reflective clothing.



Out and About

No texting while crossing street

Starts October 25th, 2017

Fine: starts at \$15, escalates up to \$99 for recurrent

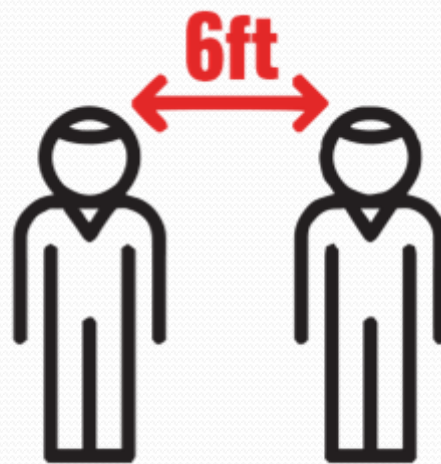




Out and About

- Have a valid ID on you- Hawaii State ID/driver's license
- Legal drinking age in Hawai'i is **21**.
- Do not drink and drive.
- Legal smoking age is **21**.
- No using cell phone/texting while driving- fine of \$200.
- Wearing seat belts is mandatory for all car occupants- front and back.

Out and About





Free and low cost activities

- Stay healthy: yoga, swimming, etc.
- Join [UH Mānoa campus club or organization](#)
- [8o8youth.com](#) - Searchable database of government, private and nonprofit organization offering services or activities for children and youth in Hawai'i

Be safe and have fun!



Mahalo!

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