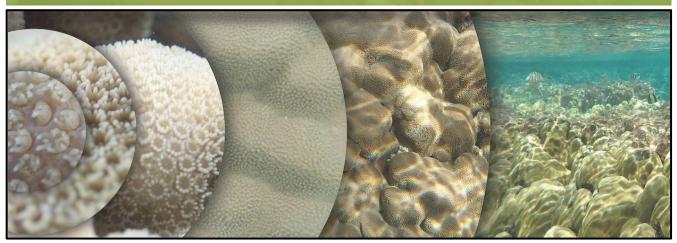


<<<< Māhuahua Ka Lae >>>>



Māhuahua Ka Lae Research Fellowship Cohort 2: June 2025 - September 2026

KA HIKINA: OVERVIEW

THE CONCEPT OF MĀHUAHUA KA LAE

We interpret Māhuahua Ka Lae as the proliferation of Hawaiian intellect and wisdom. The imagery of the coral exemplifies the intention and impact of the kind of proliferation we seek to catalyze. Extensive reef systems are built from a single polyp and nurture multitudes of fish species. The well-being of our ocean and ourselves relies heavily upon this critical reef-building process.

Māhuahua Ka Lae aims to mimic this process within and beyond the research community. The hāpapa we aim to contribute to is an increased prevalence and influence of Native Hawaiian perspectives, knowledge, practices, and approaches through the overlapping of traditional and Western academic research. The proliferation of 'ike and process into our practices and communities contributes to improving the well-being of our lāhui, Hawai'i, and honua.

In recognizing the need for scholarship and research to better align with the Native Hawaiian worldview in both form and function, and in its work to bring together KS' and community partners' rich Hawaiian culture, 'ōlelo and 'āina-focused opportunities that grow 'ōiwi leaders (people who use their knowledge, skill, and passion to strengthen Hawai'i, its people, and our global community), Kamehameha Schools Kaiāulu puts forth the opportunity to immerse into the Māhuahua Ka Lae Research Fellowship.

THE MĀHUAHUA KA LAE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Through the Māhuahua Ka Lae Research Fellowship, we create a unique environment that supports and fosters 'ōiwi leadership practices through the medium of Hawaiian research. By investing in and elevating 'ike Hawai'i, the Māhuahua Ka Lae Research Fellowship seeks to accomplish significant short-term strides through trail-blazing and innovative research and dissemination of 'ike for the benefit of kanaka, 'ohana, kaiāulu, and lāhui. Long-term, systemic change will also be advanced via well-supported emerging Native Hawaiian practitioners and scholars who will be poised to move into leadership roles in their practices and disciplines. More specifically, Māhuahua Ka Lae aims to manifest the following intentions:

- Increase access to past and present 'ōiwi-based knowledge and practices that inform and influence our ability to improve the well-being of our lāhui and Hawai'i.
- Forward 'ōiwi-led research and scholarship in traditional 'ōiwi contexts and Western academic settings, along with the integration of both, as deemed appropriate, from a kuana'ike Hawai'i.
- Nurture traditional learning contexts that enable mentoring of the most promising practitioners to achieve a level of competence that will ensure the continuity and further elevation of that practice in future generations.
- Advance 'ōiwi perspectives, knowledge, practices, and approaches in academic settings by creating pathways for Native Hawaiians to enter and complete PhD degrees or other terminal degrees requiring substantial research.
- Provide vehicles and venues that generate interest in, application and adoption of, and normalization of compelling, peer-supported research findings and recommendations to create systemic change to improve the well-being of our lāhui, Hawai'i, and our honua.

Unlike a traditional research grant or award, where funding is the primary focus and the researcher works independently, Māhuahua Ka Lae Research Fellowship prioritizes the importance of the research community. For optimal success in this Fellowship experience, a confident and open mindset is essential. Embracing a willingness to be part of the collective is fundamental. Trusting in the well-designed process established will undoubtedly support and elevate the journey. Engaging fully is crucial to overcoming the isolation that can accompany research. Engaging with this community means putting yourself out there to contribute meaningfully to the many discussions and activities. It is giving and receiving feedback and taking full advantage of all the various supports the Fellowship offers. The convenings are a means for Fellows to get excited about and be inspired by the work of their multi-generational cohort members to see different philosophies, perspectives, and approaches. The modeling of how 'ike Hawai'i & kuana'ike Hawai'i exist in the research space lends to clear visioning of what we, as kānaka, want and need to see in this research space. Through Fellows' open sharing of self, experience, and perspective, valued ideation, feedback, and networking are gained in support of each other's research journeys.

KA LEO KUA'ANA: COHORT 1 PERSPECTIVES

In addition to the many touch points along the way, we sat with each of our inaugural Fellows toward the end of their Māhuahua Ka Lae journey to gain their insight on the experience. We share some of their perspectives here to give you a better idea of what you can expect directly from those who lived it.

The Fellowship Experience of Māhuahua Ka Lae

"The hale, the hālau, to create generative leaders for our community should come from within our community. What Māhuahua Ka Lae is doing is a much bigger ask because you're generating various leaders for our lāhui, not just the academic kine, not just the next generation of masters of a cultural art/knowledge system, or our next generation of community-grounded leaders. You're generating all of those things. And no other program is doing that right now."

"It was an experience like no other and I think in so many good ways."It created that space where we were able to gather and, like 'ike bombs dropping left & right & us being in that, that or normalizing that space. You know, we don't have spaces like this or conversations like this."

"One of the greatest parts about the Māhuahua Ka Lae process was my cohort. Being able to bounce off ideas back & forth, not just this shower feedback but being able to give feedback. And when you're giving feedback, you're also receiving feedback. It was overall something that would definitely go on my life experience list."

"The research is key; the process was even better because it allowed us to communicate, allowed us to network, allowed us to introduce our ideas & bounce off our ideas off of everybody. Essentially creating leaders within ourselves."

"It was so very friendly & there was a lot of autonomy for you as a researcher. You weren't signing your life away to all the things. There was always discussion; whatever your comfortability is, we're not here to just take your stuff."

Advice for Cohort 2 Applicants & Fellows

"From the beginning, people need to understand this is an investment. It will only be better for the fellows to invest more time in the process and in conversation with people. In each Kalaeloa, they have to ho'ea mai me ka mākaukau. You're not just coming here as a passive participant."

"Are you the right person for this Fellowship? Are you gonna be as open as everyone else? Cause it's not just self-service."

"Don't bite off more than you can chew & in like the first 3 months, you're like, oh no."

"Bring the people who are the hammers around you & let them kinda like (not in a negative connotation) but hammering you down like a nail, being willing to take the feedback and welcoming it early."

KA MALAE O KA 'IMI NA'AUAO: RESEARCH CONTEXT

PRIORITIZING HAWAIIAN RESEARCH

Māhuahua Ka Lae intentionally views research through an 'ōiwi lens and, therefore, prioritizes a research paradigm that is grounded in this kuana'ike. As part of the Fellowship, our inaugural cohort collectively worked to begin articulating what Hawaiian research looks like. The resulting draft underwent an initial paka at the Māhuahua Ka Lae Research Summit in July 2024, the findings of which called for more focused dialog to ho'okā'oi the current draft. As in any other development of theory or framework, this process will take many more years and will be something Cohort 2 contributes to. In the meantime, we honor the work of Cohort 1 by offering their framing (Table 1) as a common point of reference for applicants to clarify further the kind of research we prioritize in prospective applications for this Fellowship.

Table 1. Hoʻolaupaʻi Hawaiian Research Framework (Māhuahua Ka Lae Research Fellowship Cohort 1, 2024)

Hawaiian Research:

- is a situated process of relational accountability to 'ike that is grounded in akua, 'āina, and kānaka
- ensures longevity and integrity to the succession of 'ike kūpuna that is renewed from generation to generation.

Hawaiian Research requires:		
	Relational accountability	
pilina akua, 'āina, kānaka	o hierarchy	
	 what we do/research strengthens our pilina 	
moʻokūʻauhau – kuʻu ēwe, kuʻu piko, kuʻu iwi, kuʻu koko	Relation of you to your immediate kuleana	
	 linked to pilina akua, 'āina, kānaka 	
	 hones pilina to the 'ohana/practice level 	
ma ka hana ka 'ike	Empirical knowledge	
	 Knowing is in the doing, doing is in the knowing 	
makawalu	Our analytical lens	
	 Looking beyond the obvious allows for the flexibility of the 	
	research	
	 Deconstruction & reconstruction 	
	Process through which we gain wisdom	
ʻimi na'auao	 knowledge and wisdom are not the same 	
	 iterative process of learning, applying learning to get to new 	
	learning	
na kākou, no kākou	It's not all about you as the researcher; what we do reaffirms pilina &	
πα κακού, πο κακού	moʻokūʻauhau. It's by us for us.	

RESEARCH PATHWAYS

The Māhuahua Ka Lae Research Fellowship offers three research pathways for applicants to pursue: **Traditional Master-Apprentice Research, Community-Applied Research and Dissertation Research**. Please read through each pathway description carefully to determine the best fit for you at this time. Other than the Dissertation Pathway, one research project may have more than one Fellow. Each research project must be completed within one year (June 2025 – June 2026). The dissemination component must be completed by September 2026 (see the Engagement Calendar in the Fellowship Requirements section). Financial support will range from \$25,000 - \$50,000 based on the nature of the research project.

	Traditional Master-Apprentice Research Pathway		
Researcher Eligibility	Applicants have a long-standing master-apprentice relationship within a Hawaiian cultural practice		
Research Focus	 Efforts that ensure the long-term perpetuation of the area of expertise relevant to the master and apprentice Deepens or elevates the practices, knowledge, and approaches used in the area of expertise relevant to the master and apprentice 		
Readiness	 area of expertise relevant to the master and apprentice The applicants can fully commit to the expectations of this research fellowsh (e.g., readiness for engaging in a collective learning space, attending all sessions, proposed research fits within the given timeframe, etc.) The applicants' ability to apply their expertise to fulfill kuleana impacting oth kānaka, natural environments, or cultural contexts relevant to their area of expertise Considerations have been made regarding what aspects of their studies and research can be shared in various circles to perpetuate and advance their ar of expertise (e.g., within their own pā or hālau, among trusted practitioners, with their 'ohana, in their communities, with Hawaiian educational entities, etc.) Has a sound research plan to study and address the focus of the planned research: Clear focal question, challenge, or opportunity to be impacted Intended planned outcome or impact Means by which the planned research will create the envisioned outcome or impact 		

Table 2. Traditional Master-Apprentice Research Pathway Overview

Table 3. Community-Applied Research Pathway Overview

Community-Applied Research Pathway		
Researcher Eligibility	Has strong ties to the community of which the research focuses on, includes, or affects and has a good record of working in, with, and for community	
Research Focus	 Research is of high relevance and impact to a given Hawaiian geographical, cultural, or demographic community Research aims to identify/contribute to solutions, recommendations, processes, etc., that address the community's need 	
Readiness	 The applicant(s) can fully commit to the expectations of this research fellowship (e.g., readiness for engaging in a collective learning space, attendin all sessions, proposed research fits within the given timeframe, etc.) The applicant's ability to exercise the kuleana to address the focus of the planned research (e.g., has approval from/access to the community of focus, etc.) Has a sound research plan to study and address the focus of the planned research: Clear focal question, challenge, or opportunity to be impacted Intended planned outcome or impact Means by which the planned research will create the envisioned outcome or impact 	

Table 4. Dissertation Research Pathway Overview

Dissertation Research Pathway		
Researcher Eligibility	 Doctoral candidate status within a research-focused doctoral program at an accredited institution (Candidate status means coursework is completed, and the candidate is solely in the dissertation phase.) Dissertation research is in a phase where learning from this Fellowship can be incorporated into the methodology 	
Research Focus	Approval of a dissertation proposal involving research that advances the well- being of our lāhui and Hawai'i	
Readiness	 The applicant can fully commit to the expectations of this research fellowship (e.g., readiness for engaging in a collective learning space, attending all sessions, proposed research fits within the given timeframe, etc.) Readiness to successfully accomplish the proposed research Deep familiarity with the knowledge base related to the proposed research Completed research relevant to the further expanded research proposed An ability to engage in the proposed research (e.g., access to 'āina, access to collections or archives necessary to conduct the research, informed and willing participants or informants) Willingness and autonomy to integrate kuana'ike Hawai'i into the research methodology 	

Eligibility for all applicants

Resident of the state of Hawai'i.

Kamehameha Schools Preference Policy

Kamehameha Schools' policy is to give preference to applicants of Hawaiian ancestry to the extent permitted by law. All applicants who would like to be considered under this preference policy must verify his or her Hawaiian ancestry through the KS Ho'oulu Verification Services (HVS). All applicants are encouraged to contact HVS to initiate this process as soon as possible.

For more information, go to www.ksbe.edu/verification/ancestry/har_request/

REQUIREMENTS

Fellows are expected to fully commit to engaging as active participants through Kalaeloa sessions, individual Ko'o sessions, individual and group work, the Māhuahua Ka Lae Research Summit, the dissemination of 'ike generated through research, and Kūkā Pani sessions.

Kalaeloa

Manifesting the stretch & growth of thinking is the intention of these multi-day sessions, catalyzed by new learning, dialog, processing, and reflection. The concept and practice of paka (constructive critique) will be a means to engage in collegial discussions intended to enhance the research experience and elevate the final research outcome. These sessions allow this Fellowship community to share progress and receive supportive guidance and feedback from peers and experts. Kalaeloa sessions are held on the various islands of our Fellows, so most will require travel.

Koʻo Sessions

The Ko'o sessions are one-to-one, one-hour sessions (virtual or in-person) with the Fellowship director as extensions of Kalaeloa in support of bringing to fruition the potential of your research project. Ko'o sessions are scheduled bi-monthly, but more sessions can be added based on the needs of the Fellow.

Māhuahua Ka Lae Research Summit ('Aha)

This invitational 'Aha gathers practitioner, community, and university researchers from across the pae 'āina to engage in the rich, productive, and actionable exchange of 'ike to collectively deepen our understanding of Hawaiian research. All fellows are required to attend the two-day 'Aha and present their research at the summit as part of the dissemination process of the Fellowship. Depending on the host island, 'Aha may require travel for certain Fellows.

Dissemination

A primary goal of Māhuahua Ka Lae is to generate interest in, application and adoption of, and normalization of compelling, peer-supported research findings and recommendations to create systemic change to improve the well-being of our lāhui, Hawai'i, and our honua. Toward that end, KS Kaiāulu and Māhuahua Ka Lae Fellows will commit to taking steps to disseminate and proliferate the research conducted. Through Kalaeloa and Ko'o sessions, each Fellow will develop and implement a dissemination plan according to the requirements below (Table 5).

Table 5. Dissemination Overview

Traditional Master-Apprentice	Community-Applied	Dissertation
Research Pathway	Research Pathway	Research Pathway
 Conduct two levels of tailored, differentiated sharing to: a trusted circle of people associated with the area of expertise a larger circle of those interested in the area of expertise 	 Conduct at least one in-person presentation for the targeted, impacted community that conveys the research methods, findings, impacts, & recommendations to build momentum around any progress made Engage in at least one formal meeting with appropriate community leaders, policymakers, or other relevant influencers & powerholders whose areas of purvey could be improved by the adoption of the research recommendations 	 Conduct two levels of tailored, differentiated sharing: within & beyond academe (may include publishing, public presentations) through engagement with native Hawaiian communities

Create & submit to KS Kaiāulu a single document or set of documents that transmit the publicly shareable aspects of your research. Educators are the primary audience for these documents, for use in their classroom or for their own professional development. All documents will be housed in the Māhuahua Ka Lae Collection of Waihona (waihona.net).

Kūkā Pani

Kūkā Pani is held after the 'Aha & intends to not only "pani" our work together but to get a good sense of the Māhuahua Ka Lae journey from the pā nānā of the researcher. Valuable insight is gained through these face-to-face conversations that lend to the continual ho'okā'oi of Māhuahua Ka Lae. The Fellowship director will travel to where the researcher is for the Kūkā Pani. The session typically lasts approximately two hours.

Engagement Calendar

The table below (Table 6) lists the dates for the various required engagements that are aligned with the trek of the sun. The Fellowship begins near Ala Polohiwa A Kāne 2025 and sets near Piko o Wākea 2026. The expectation is that Māhuahua Ka Lae Fellows fully attend all engagements, so be sure that you can commit to these dates.

Table 6. Fellowship Engagement Calendar

Engagement	2025
Kalaeloa 1	June 14 – 15
Kalaeloa 2	October 11 – 12
Koʻo Sessions	August & December

Engagement	2026
Kalaeloa 3	February 7-8
Ko'o Sessions	April & June
'Aha Prep (virtual)	June 25
'Aha	July 10-11
Kalaeloa 4	August 1
Kūkā Pani	August 1 - 21
Dissemination Report	September 22

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Researchers will maintain all intellectual property rights. Kamehameha Schools Kaiāulu asserts no claim of whole or partial rights to such intellectual property. Awardees are encouraged to follow established means (whether through copyright or other cultural practices) to safeguard, as desired, their intellectual property.

GENERAL FUNDING INFORMATION

- A portion or all of the award may be taxable; please consult with your tax advisor. Funding will be disbursed upon reasonable progress and participation in the designated checkpoints.
- > The award is non-transferable to another Awardee.
- A portion of the award shall be used toward the fellowship participation requirements (See budget component in the application process section).
- > Disbursement of funding will be made upon reasonable progress and participation in the checkpoints.
- > Preference is given to applicants of Hawaiian ancestry to the extent permitted by law.
- > An awardee may receive funding from only one KS-funded program during an award year.
- The Māhuahua Ka Lae Research Award is limited to a specified period of time of one (1) award year. Recipients will not be eligible for another year of funding.
- Any lawsuit or claim against KS related to Māhuahua Ka Lae must be brought exclusively in the U.S. District Court for the District of Hawai'i or in the state courts of the State of Hawai'i. Any federal claims shall be governed exclusively by the federal law applied by the U.S. District Court for the District of Hawai'i, and any state law claims shall be governed exclusively by the laws of the State of Hawai'i, without reference to its conflict of law rules.

APPLICATION & SELECTION TIMELINE

In an effort to ensure clarity and best fit, we are offering two different types of virtual support sessions: Hālāwai 'Ai Kole and Ko'o. While these are optional, they are highly encouraged for potential applicants.

- The Hālāwai 'Ai Kole is an orientation session about the Fellowship and the application process. A recording of the Hālāwai 'Ai Kole will be made available through the Māhuahua Ka Lae page on the KS Kaiāulu site (www.kaiaulu.ksbe.edu/mkl-fellowship).
- There will be two Ko'o sessions as a follow-up to the Hālāwai 'Ai Kole, where you can share about your research project and pose additional questions about the Fellowship and the application process. These are not individual sessions. The Ko'o sessions will not be recorded.

Makaliʻi - Ala Polohiwa A Kanaloa December 21, 2024 @ 12:00 pm (noon)	Māhuahua Ka Lae Cohort 2 Fellowship Announced
Kāʻelo : 'Olepau January 8, 2025 @ 5:30 – 6:30 pm	Hālāwai 'Ai Kole: Virtual Orientation Session (optional) <i>Zoom Meeting ID:</i> 845 6143 9827 <i>Passcode:</i> mahuahua
Kā'elo : Mōhalu January 10, 2025 @ 12:00 pm (noon)	Application OPEN
Kā'elo : Kāloakūkahi January 22, 2025 @ 5:30 – 7:30 pm Kaulua : Hilo January 29, 2025 @ 11:00 am – 1:00 pm	Koʻo: Project Calibration Sessions (optional) <i>Zoom Meeting ID:</i> 831 1686 6790 <i>Passcode:</i> kakoo
Kaulua : Lono February 25, 2025 @ 12:00 pm (noon)	Application CLOSES * No late or incomplete applications will be considered
Nana : Lā'aukūlua March 17, 2025	Notification of Finalists
Welo : Kūkolu-'Olekūkahi April 2-4, 2025	Phase 2: Finalists' Presentations (virtual)
Welo / Ikiiki Late April 2025	Fellowship Award Notification

Table 7. Application & Selection Timeline

For more information, go to the KS Kaiāulu site (<u>www.kaiaulu.ksbe.edu/mkl-fellowship</u>) or e-mail us at <u>kaiaulupartnerships@ksbe.edu</u>.

KE KA'INA NOI: APPLICATION PROCESS

Phase 1: Fellowship Application

Application deadline is kau ka lā i ka lolo - 12:00 pm (noon) on Tuesday, February 25, 2025. The application is available through the Māhuahua Ka Lae page on the KS Kaiāulu site (www.kaiaulu.ksbe.edu/mkl-fellowship).

If you are applying as a pair/group, each individual must submit their own application.

Each member of the group will be required to list the full names of the pair/group in their individual application. Pair/Group members may use the same articulation of interest, budget and affirmation of support.

Component 1 – Articulation of Interest

Each prompt will show up separately on the application. Please note the word counts for each prompt. Quality applications speak well to the following:

- 1. Introduction of the applicant(s) explaining the personal connection and relevance of this research project to their future goals and contributions of the proposed research to our lāhui. (350 words maximum).
- Eligibility of the researchers to the selected research pathway the project to the <u>intentions</u> and <u>focus</u> of the chosen research pathway. (450 words maximum). Please refer to <u>Research Pathways & Fellowship Requirements sections</u> of this overview for additional information.
- 3. Explanation of how the project aligns with the research focus of the selected research pathway. *(350 words maximum)*. Please refer to <u>Research Pathways section</u> of this overview for additional information.
- 4. Research project overview Research question, methodology, proposed knowledge sources, intended outcome (hua) with explanation of how the methodology would yield that hua. (450 words maximum.).
- 5. Explanation of how the proposed research aligns with the intentions of Māhuahua Ka Lae. (450 words maximum). Please refer to <u>Māhuahua Ka Lae Fellowship section</u> of this overview for additional information.
- Explanation of how the proposed research and methodology align with the Ho'olaupa'i Hawaiian Research Framework. (450 words maximum). Please refer to <u>Prioritizing Hawaiian Research</u> <u>section</u> of this overview for additional information.
- 7. A timeline with milestones to ensure the on-time completion of research and dissemination. (300 words maximum).
- 8. Readiness of the researcher(s) to engage in the Māhuahua Ka Lae Research Fellowship. (400 words maximum) Please refer to <u>Research Pathways & Fellowship Requirements sections</u> of this overview for additional information.

<u>Component 2 – Budget</u>

Be prepared to provide a high-level budget that identifies the anticipated expenses of your research project from start to dissemination in the following areas: research, travel, dissemination and other. Include approximately \$10,000 per researcher for travel expenses (airfare, car, lodging, etc.) to attend all Fellowship engagements (refer to Fellowship Requirements section).

Component 3 – Affirmation of Support

Interested applicants will provide the name and email address of someone who can affirm the applicant's work and readiness to engage in this type of fellowship program. A separate, automated email will be sent to the identified supporter once an application has been completed and submitted.

You will receive a notification once the Affirmation of Support has been submitted. Applications will **not be** considered complete until the Affirmation of Support has been submitted. **Affirmation of Support is due by** kau ka lā i ka lolo - 12:00 pm (noon) on Tuesday, February 25, 2025.

Below are the prompts that will be sent to the identified supporter. We recommend that you have a conversation with the person prior so that they are aware of and can expect an email. You may share these prompts ahead of time. Please note the word counts for each prompt.

- 1. Please tell us a little about yourself (your name, work/practice, etc.). (150 words maximum)
- 2. Describe your relationship to the applicant (e.g., in what capacity do you know the applicant, how long you have known him/her/them, etc.). (150 words maximum)
- 3. From your vantage point, summarize the applicant's work in relation to the chosen Research Fellowship pathway (Traditional Master-Apprentice Research, Community-Applied Research or Dissertation Research). (200 words maximum)
- 4. Describe the applicant's level of readiness for this kind of Research Fellowship. (200 words maximum)

Phase 2: Finalist's Presentation

Finalists will be selected from the pool of applicants and invited to provide a 30-minute virtual presentation to an online Review Panel. Finalists should expect to present during the week of April 2 - 4, 2025. The panel will be comprised of a cross-section of 'ōiwi scholars and cultural experts invited by KS. The Review Panel will consider how the applicant furthers the purpose of Māhuahua Ka Lae, has a strong connection to the applicant's chosen research pathway, and considers the following:

- 1. How the applicant and research project further the purpose of Māhuahua Ka Lae.
- 2. Demonstrated commitment to 'ōiwi authored knowledge and research methodology as outlined in the Ho'olaupa'i Hawaiian Research Framework.
- 3. Potential contribution to increasing 'ōiwi-based knowledge and practice in Western and traditional fields of study, research, or practice as an 'ōiwi leader.
- 4. Feasibility of research project scope, timeline, milestones, budget, etc.
- 5. Readiness to fully engage in the Māhuahua Ka Lae Research Fellowship.

Final Notification

Māhuahua Ka Lae Research Cohort 2 Fellows will be selected and notified via email in late April 2025.

QUESTIONS?

If you have questions or for more information, go to <u>http://www.kaiaulu.ksbe.edu/mkl-fellowship</u> or e-mail us at <u>kaiaulupartnerships@ksbe.edu</u>.