



Hawai'i Food Producers Fund

A collaboration between The Kohala Center, the Hawaii Department of Agriculture, County of Hawai'i, and Kiva

The Hawai'i Food Producers Fund provides 0% interest loans to Hawai'i food producers through Kiva. The Kohala Center, with support from the Hawaii Department of Agriculture and County of Hawai'i, created the Fund to increase the amount of capital available to local food producers and stimulate local food production in Hawai'i.

Kiva Loans

Kiva is a peer-to-peer online lending program (kiva.org) that provides 0% interest business loans through crowd-funding. Crowd-funding is “the practice of funding a project or venture by raising many small amounts of money from a large number of people, typically via the Internet.” Kiva has maintained a 100% funding success rate for entrepreneurs in Hawai'i and is looking to expand its impact by supporting more entrepreneurs. You can learn more about Kiva loans at us.kiva.org/hifarmers.



Hawai'i Food Producers Fund

Hawai'i food producers seeking loans through Kiva are eligible to receive 50% of their loan from the Hawai'i Food Producers Fund. Hawai'i food producers include Hawai'i-based farmers and food processors utilizing at least one Hawai'i-grown ingredient.

Loan Terms

Loans are available up to \$10,000. The interest rate is fixed at 0%. Loan proceeds may be used for any business purpose, including working capital. Borrowers have up to three years to repay the loan in weekly or monthly installments through PayPal. Grace periods up to six months are available for farmers. Kiva borrowers that have successfully repaid their loans may apply for subsequent loans in greater amounts. Kiva loans do not require collateral.

Do You Qualify?

Hawai'i farmers and food processors utilizing at least one Hawai'i-grown ingredient are eligible to receive 50% of their Kiva loan from the Hawai'i Food Producers Fund.

To qualify for a Kiva loan, borrowers must be at least 18 years of age, must have or create a PayPal account, and must not currently be in bankruptcy or foreclosure proceedings. In addition, borrowers must invite an initial pool of lenders from their own network to lend as little as \$25 each. More information on the ways to qualify and apply for a Kiva loan can be found at us.kiva.org/hifarmers.

How to Apply

Hawai'i food producers should visit kiva.org/borrow to apply for a loan. Applicants are required to provide a photo, a personal story, and a business description.

Questions?

If you have any questions, contact us at info@kohalacenter.org or (808) 887-6411 or visit kiva.org.