American Samoa/CRAG - WESTPAC - University of Hawaii at Hilo Marine Science fellowship
Scholarship Announcement

Location: University of Hawaii at Hilo

Opening Date: May 13, 2013
Closing Date: June 17, 2013
Scholarship winner notified: July 10, 2013

APPLY BY MAIL TO:
The Coral Reef Advisory Group
American Samoa Government, Department of Marine & Wildlife Resources
Fagatogo, American Samoa 96799
Attn: Derek Toloumu
684-633-4456
derek.toloumu@doc.as

Introduction
The Government of American Samoa seeks to empower its citizens through 4-year, BS/BA degree level undergraduate education and training to be able to secure local jobs after graduation. While American Samoa Community College (ASCC) provides students a solid beginning toward achieving this goal, there are no institutions located in American Samoa that are able to provide the complete education and training required for a BS/BA degree in marine science. Therefore, American Samoa Government (ASG) and the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo (UH Hilo) share a strong commitment to provide increased opportunities for undergraduate students from American Samoa to obtain marine science BS/BA level degrees in order to secure permanent, diverse and expanding employment opportunities in American Samoa.

Partnership
Since its inception in 1976 the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council (WESTPAC) has been guided by social, cultural and economic realities of Pacific Island communities, with a specific goal of promoting the involvement of western Pacific communities in western Pacific fisheries management. American Samoa’s Coral Reef Advisory Group (CRAG) is a collaborative of five ASG agencies, united by a mutual consensus to manage coral reefs in American Samoa. CRAG plans and implements strategies to address various areas of coral reef protection in American Samoa, from education and outreach to scientific studies and monitoring.

Through the CRAG-WESTPAC-UH Hilo Marine Science Undergraduate Fellowship Program, CRAG continues its commitment to increasing local capacity in the field of marine science and resource management. UH Hilo is well positioned to help American Samoa meet its goals, and with matching fund support from CRAG and WESTPAC, this innovative collaborative fellowship program is made available for interested students from American Samoa.
Who is Eligible?
Eligibility requirements for this Partnership Scholarship

- Completed a 2 year program in marine science or related field at any accredited college/university within the US and its territories
- Accumulative GPA of 3.0 and above
- Acquire acceptance letter to the University of Hawaii at Hilo for Fall 2013
- Has demonstrated interest and previous work/involvement with coral reef conservation
- Is guaranteed to return to American Samoa upon completion of the program and provide services through any of the five agencies of CRAG for a minimum of 3 years
- Have strong ties (of Samoan Ancestry) to the culture and traditions of American Samoa
- Must be a U.S. Citizen or U.S. National

Application Material
All applicants wishing to be considered for the CRAG-WESTPAC Scholarship should submit the following material:

- Unofficial copies of all college and/or university transcripts
- A resume with relevant experience and activities
- One letter of recommendation from a professor or relevant employer
- A 750 word essay (maximum) on the importance of managing coral reefs in your island jurisdiction; and your career goals upon completion of the marine science fellowship program

Application material may be sent by mail, fax, email, or drop-off at attention to Derek Toloumu at the Department of Marine & Wildlife Resources in Fagatogo, and must be received no later than June 17, 2013, at 4:00 pm, to the following:

ASG/CRAG-WESTPAC-UH Hilo Marine Science Scholarship
Attn: Derek Toloumu
Mail: P.O. Box 3730
      Department of Marine & Wildlife Resources
      Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799
Email: derek.toloumu@doc.as
Phone: 684-633-4456
Fax: 684-633-5944

Contact: For more information contact Derek Toloumu at the information above