



UNIVERSITY  
of HAWAII®  
WEST O'AHU

**NEWS RELEASE**  
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## **LOW-INCOME RESIDENTS TO GET FREE TAX PREP ASSISTANCE FROM UH WEST O'AHU STUDENT VOLUNTEERS**

**PEARL CITY** --- As the filing deadline draws near, UH West O'ahu (UHWO) student volunteers will offer free assistance for low-income taxpayers with federal and state tax returns in partnership with Volunteer Legal Services Hawai'i, a non-profit organization that provides free or low-cost legal services to low-income residents. At tax preparation workshops across O'ahu, UHWO students will provide a valuable service to the community.

The workshops will be held on the following dates:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Place</b>
Friday, March 28	1 – 4 p.m.	US Vets (Barber's Point), Bldg. 37 Shangrila Way
Saturday, March 29	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Waianae Neighborhood Place, 85-979 Mill Street
Saturday, April 5 and Saturday, April 12	9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Volunteer Legal Services Hawai'i, 545 Queen Street, Suite 100

All volunteers have been trained and certified to prepare basic tax forms not including returns for self-employed taxpayers or those with a rental income. Since February, UH West O'ahu students have provided tax assistance for Hawai'i families as part of the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, a cooperative partnership between the Internal Revenue Service and the State of Hawai'i.

"Over a decade ago, we incorporated the VITA program as a key part of the learning experience for students in tax classes at UH West O'ahu," says UHWO Accounting Lecturer Wayne Tanna. "I utilize the service-learning experience as a way to make the subject of taxation applicable to the world outside the classroom. I truly believe this experience transforms not just the community but also the students themselves."

Participants are required to bring all relevant tax forms. For more information, contact Wayne Tanna at 739-4606 or wtanna@chaminade.edu.

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This Fall, UH West O'ahu became a four-year, comprehensive university when it served its first class of freshmen. The University offers quality education, small classes and personalized attention at convenient locations. A new campus in the City of Kapolei is scheduled to serve students in Spring 2010. For more information about UH West O'ahu, visit [uhwo.hawaii.edu](http://uhwo.hawaii.edu) or call (808) 454-4700 or toll-free (866) 299-8656.