

UNESCO/IOC – NOAA INTERNATIONAL TSUNAMI INFORMATION CENTRE (ITIC)

ITIC TRAINING PROGRAMME HAWAII (ITP-TEWS HAWAII) 2025

**TSUNAMI EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS AND PACIFIC TSUNAMI WARNING
CENTER ENHANCED PRODUCTS, TSUNAMI EVACUATION PLANNING AND
TSUNAMI READY PROGRAMME**

HONOLULU, HAWAII, 15 to 26 SEPTEMBER 2025

LOGISTICS NOTE

(version 12 September 2025, important information in red, blue)

The [ITIC](#), Pacific Tsunami Warning Center ([PTWC](#)), and US NOAA National Weather Service Pacific Region Headquarters ([NWS PRH](#)) are co-located in the NOAA Inouye Regional Center (IRC), which is located on Ford Island on the Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam (JBPHH) and northwest of Honolulu Airport. Access to the IRC requires passage through Security.

For the ITP-TEWS Hawaii 2025, the training venues will be:

NOAA Fisheries, Honolulu Service Center - Pier 38

1139 N. Nimitz Hwy, Suite 220

Honolulu, HI 96817 USA

Class hours: 830 am - 345 pm

NOAA Inouye Regional Center (NOAA IRC)

1845 Wasp Blvd, Bldg 176

Honolulu, HI 96818 USA

Class hours: 845 am - 500 or 530 pm

During the training, we will visit the International Tsunami Information Center, Pacific Tsunami Warning Center, Hawaii State Emergency Management Agency Emergency Operations Center in Diamond Head, City and County of Honolulu Department of Emergency Management, and receive visits from University of Hawaii scientists and the University of Hawaii Sea Level Center.

ITIC and PTWC STAFF AND CONTACT INFORMATION, ITP-TEWS HAWAII 2025:

Dr. Laura Kong, ITIC Director, laura.kong@noaa.gov

Lt. Cdr. Matías Sifón, ITIC Associate Director (in Chile), msifon@shoa.cl

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Tammy Fukuji, ITIC Information Technology and Webmaster, tammy.fukuji@noaa.gov

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Melissa Behnken, PTWC Administrative Assistant, melissa.behnken@noaa.gov

ITIC OFFICE ADDRESS:

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ITIC web: <http://www.tsunamiwave.org> or <https://tsunami.ioc.unesco.org/en/pacific/itic>

ITIC Caribbean office web: <https://www.weather.gov/itic-car>

More information on ITIC and where we are can be found on our web pages

COMMUNICATIONS

We will use email as the official means to communicate important overview information.

If you have a different email address than what is on record (such as the one you will use on travel) please let us know. This is in addition to daily announcements and reminders.

ITIC will also stand up an ITP-TEWS Hawaii 2025 'WhatsApp' group. This will be used for immediate sharing of information and logistics. In the past, it has also been used to share photos of training activities. Kimberly Maisonet-Gonzalez should be inviting you to join.

ITP-TEWS HAWAII TRAINING PRE-REQUISITES (Required)

In order for you to get the most out of our training, we would like to ask that every person to complete two (2) OceanTeacher Global Academy (OTGA) online tsunami courses **BEFORE** you arrive. Each should take a few hours to complete (consists of pre-test, learning module(s) with activities, post-test). These are:

1. UNESCO-IOC Tsunami Awareness
2. UNESCO-IOC Tsunami Ready

Please visit <https://www.oceanteacher.org> and log in to take the courses. If you are not enrolled in the OceanExpert Database, you will need to first create an account.

Access the Tsunami courses on the OceanTeacher website:

1. Please make sure you have a profile on the **OceanExpert website (www.oceanexpert.org)**
Once you have completed the entire registration process, your credentials will be checked and approved (this might take max 24 hours). Once your OceanExpert profile is approved you can use it to log into the eLearning platform.
2. Please go to **www.oceanteacher.org** and log in with the credentials you created on Oceanexpert.
Once you logged in you can go to the courses.
3. Access to the Tsunami courses:
 - **Tsunami Awareness course:** <https://classroom.oceanteacher.org/course/view.php?id=707> - code **Aware2025**
Info on the course on Oceanexpert <https://oceanexpert.org/event/4369>)
 - **Tsunami Ready course:** <https://classroom.oceanteacher.org/course/view.php?id=707>
Code: offered on your certificate once you took the Awareness course

(info on the course: <https://oceanexpert.org/event/4610>)

In case you are having difficulties please contact the OTGA secretariat (ioc.training@unesco.org)

TRAVEL SUPPORT

All participants are 'self-funded', or 'donor-funded' by external organizations.

Please carry your passports every day for identification purposes.

LODGING:

Donor-funded participants will stay at the ITP-TEWS Hawaii hotel.

ITIC-funded participants will have their hotel room costs paid directly by the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR).

SPC-funded participants will have their hotel room costs paid directly by the Pacific Community

UNESCO-funded participants will be provided DSA for each to pay their hotel room costs

Self-funded participants may stay at any hotel.

Important:

The ITP-TEWS Hawaii bus will only pick up and drop off at the ITP-TEWS Hawaii hotel.

The ITP-TEWS Hawaii hotel will be the Ala Moana Hotel (AMH).

Ala Moana Hotel (AMH)

410 Atkinson Drive, Honolulu, HI 96814

Phone: +1 (808) 955-4811 or +1 (800) 367-6025

Hotel information: <https://www.alamoanahotelhonolulu.com/>

The hotel is located adjacent to the famous Ala Moana Shopping Center, and walking distance to the 77-acre Ala Moana Beach Park

To make a reservation, visit the Ala Moana Hotel Group Reservations Site.

Deadline to book was 7 September 2025

If you do not have a confirmed place to stay, please inform Melissa Behnken immediately.

URL: <https://book.passkey.com/e/51090223>

Group Reservations ID : National Weather Service

Room Reservation Information :

- A block of rooms has been reserved for the period of 14 to 27 September 2025.
- Nightly Rates are:
 - Waikiki Tower Room: \$180 single, \$200 double occupancy, plus 17.962% room tax
Room has either 2 double beds or 1 king bed, accommodating a maximum of 2 people
- Rates include complimentary high speed internet access in all guest rooms and public areas, and use of Fitness Center with both sauna and steam rooms. Resort Fees are not charged. Self-service laundry facilities (machines accept cash/credit cards) are available.

- Changes and cancellations can be made up to 72 hours before prior to arrival date at no charge. Any cancellations within the 72 hours will be charged a one-night room and tax cancellation fee.
- Room extension requests up to 3 nights prior and 3 nights after the group dates of September 14 to 27, 2025 will be honored at the group rate subject to availability
- Ala Moana Hotel is a 100% non-smoking facility. Smoking in the guest rooms and lanai will result in a fee assessed to the guest's hotel bill
- A credit card is required to make reservations directly with the AMH. The method of payment can later be changed to cash or a different credit card. *Any participants that do not have a credit card and wish to stay at the AMH should contact Melissa Behnken at PTWC.*

MEALS AND REFRESHMENTS:

All participant meal expenses will be at your own expense.

Typical costs for meals at restaurants are: Breakfast USD \$10-20, Lunch \$15-30, Dinner, \$30-40.

Due to our funding rules, we are unable to provide coffee/tea break refreshments. Therefore, *we would like to ask each participant to contribute USD \$40 each for refreshments, to be collected in cash on Day 1 (15 September).* We will use this money to purchase fruits, coffee/tea, water, juices, soda, and snacks for everyone for the 2-week training.

On Training Days, lunch should be at your own expense, or you may bring your own.

At the NOAA Pier 38, there are several restaurants and food stores within walking distance.

At the NOAA IRC

- For September 19 and 20, the bus will stop at Moanalua Shopping Center for 1 hr for lunch at your own expense.
- For September 24 and 25, please bring our own lunch. There are only snack vending machines. There are no restaurants or food stores within walking distance.
- For September 26, ITIC and PTWC will host a Congratulations Lunch on IRC 3rd floor outdoor patio

VISA TO USA:

If you do not have a visa or visa waiver to enter the United States, please inform Melissa Behnken immediately. You will not be able to attend the ITP if you cannot enter the USA.

Please check to see if you require a visa to enter the United States, or if your country is among the 40 participating countries in the US Visa Waiver Program (VWP). The VWP enables nationals to travel to the US for tourism or business (visitor [B] visa purposes only) for stays of 90 days or less without obtaining a visa. Eligibility and requirements of the VWP can be found at: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/tourism-visit/visa-waiver-program.html>

If you do require a visa, please start this process immediately. Contact the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate in advance to get information on what paperwork they require.

TRANSPORTATION:

Air Travel to/from your home country to Honolulu International Airport:

For self-funded participants, please make your own flight arrangements.

For donor-funded participants, the donor will contact you directly to arrange your travel.

Oahu Ground Transportation

1. To/from airport and your home or AMH (or your hotel) in Waikiki:

Everyone is responsible for his or her own transportation.

We recommend an airport-to-Waikiki hotels shuttle bus to/from Honolulu Airport and your hotel. Cost starts at \$20 per person. Online booking is available. Ride time is 45-60 min with multiple stops. Three companies are:

- Speedi Shuttle (<https://www.speedishuttle.com/waikiki-transportation>)
- Roberts Hawaii Airport Shuttle (<https://www.airportshuttlehawaii.com/>)
- V.I.P. Trans (<https://www.viptrans.com/>)

Another option is by taxi (~\$50), Uber, or Lyft (30 min ride).

For transport pickup, after claiming your baggage:

- Bus and Taxi:
Proceed to curbside and cross the street to the median island where the bus and taxi transports are located.
- Uber / Lyft:
 - For Terminal 1, go to Departures level and cross the street to the median island across from Lobby 2.
 - For Terminal 2, go to Departures level and cross the street to the median island across from Lobby 5/6 and across from Lobby 8.

2. To/from Ala Moana Hotel and ITP-TEWS Hawaii 2025 training venue, and site visits:

ITIC has contracted an ITP-TEWS Hawaii bus to provide transportation for all days.

- **Day 1: Assembly time is 0745 curbside (location is side of hotel toward Ala Moana Shopping Center) – the bus will leave at 0815.**

Kimberly Maisonet-Gonzalez of ITIC will be staying at the AMH and ride the bus with you each day. Please check in with her on Day 1 at the bus.

Please be prompt. The bus will depart earlier if everyone has boarded.

- **Day 2-10: Assembly time is 0800 curbside (location is side of hotel toward Ala Moana Shopping Center) – the bus will leave at 0815.**

Please be prompt. The bus will depart when everyone has boarded.

- **The bus will return to the AMH**
 - **at 1545 each day from the NOAA Pier 38**
 - **at 1700 each day from the NOAA IRC**

- *Please always bring your Passport*

For NOAA IRC, please bring your JBPHH Pass (for NOAA venue)

- *Please form a buddy system – and make sure your buddy is never left behind!*

TRAINING VENUE

The ITP-TEWS Hawaii 2025 training venues will be:

NOAA Pier 38 Conference Room. It is located ~15-min drive from the ITP-TEWS Hawaii hotel

NOAA IRC Room 1377 (lobby to left). It is located ~30 to 45-min drive from the ITP-TEWS

Hawaii hotel, depending on traffic.

The Provisional Agenda will be shared by 13 September 2025

Course materials are posted to the ITP-TEWS 2025 web site <https://oceanexpert.org/event/4791>

TRAINING VENUE ACCESS REQUIREMENTS

NOAA PIER 38

- Each person must have their Passport for entry.

NOAA IRC, located on Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam (JBPHH) Military Facility

- Each person must have Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam (JBPHH) Military Facility Access Pass. This is the SECNAV 5512 Form that was filled out. Without this Facility Access Pass, you will not be allowed onto Ford Island
- Upon arrival at the Ford Island Bridge of the JBPHH, the ITP-TEWS Hawaii bus will stop at security. Please have your JBPHH Pass and your Passport available for showing.
- Upon arrival at the NOAA Inouye Regional Center (IRC) on Ford Island, you will sign in with NOAA Security in the lobby by showing your Passport, and receive a Visitor Badge to wear. The Badge should be returned at the end of each day.

TRAINING HOURS:

The hours will depend on the training venue.

- NOAA Pier 38 Conference Room: 830 am to 345 pm
- NOAA IRC Room 1377: 900 am to 500 or 530 pm
- The lunch break will be about 1-hour long.

Saturday and Sunday are non-working days and free days. We will not meet.

ATTIRE:

The dress code is casual office attire (e.g., coat and tie are not needed). The climate is tropical, usually sunny, and the temperature ranges from 22 during the night to 29 deg Celsius in the day (mid-70s to high-80s deg F); humidity is usually low compared to that found in southeast Asia and central America.

ITP-TEWS HAWAII ACTIVITY - Tsunami Evacuation Drill, Ala Moana area

On September 23, in the late afternoon, we will all participate in a tsunami evacuation activity around the Ala Moana area. For this, you will need to walk up to 30 minutes out of the tsunami hazard area to the assembly point, so please be prepared - you may bring these from home (shoes, sunscreen, hat), or they can be purchased when in Honolulu.

ITP-TEWS HAWAII FIELD TRIP (CANCELLED):

Unfortunately, we will not be able to conduct a Field Trip for ITP-TEWS Hawaii 2025 due to other conflicts, so September 20 is a free day.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND COMPUTERS:

We encourage everyone to bring a laptop computer (including power plug adapter for US).

Wireless internet access and a laser printer will be available in the training venue. Your computer should have up-to-date anti-virus software installed. Please let Tammy Fukuji know if you need anything specific.

We will be installing and conducting training on the use of various tsunami warning decision support tools software. If needed, please make sure you have administrative privileges that will allow you to load software. To run the TsuCAT (Tsunami Coastal Assessment Tool), Java (v1.8 or later) should be installed on your computer.

Having your own will allow you to connect to the Internet in the hotel and at the training venue, and ensure that the software is running on your computer that when you return home.

Telephone services will also be available for your use at the ITIC office; emergency calls back to your country for official business are permitted on a limited basis.

IF THERE IS ANYTHING ELSE, OR IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE ASK !