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### CIFAL Honolulu - "I Go To College" Early College Program Session 1

#### People

Date limite: 11 Feb 2026

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Type:	Workshop
Emplacement:	Chaminade University of Honolulu, United States of America
Date:	12 fév 2026
Durée:	5 Hours
Domaine du programme:	Decentralize Cooperation Programme
Site internet:	<a href="https://chaminade.edu/catholic-school-fifth-graders-go-to-college/">https://chaminade.edu/catholic-school-fifth-graders-go-to-college/</a>
Prix:	0.00 \$US
Email du point focal de l'événement:	cifalnetwork@unitar.org
Partenariat:	Chaminade University of Honolulu, , Chaminade University of Honolulu

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#### CONTEXTE

The "I Go To College" Early College Program is a collaborative initiative between Hawai'i Catholic Schools and Chaminade University designed to introduce

elementary students to higher education in a positive and engaging way.

Approximately 350 fifth-grade students from Catholic schools across the state of Hawai'i participate in immersive, day-long campus visits. Students attend mini-classes taught by university professors, experience campus life, interact with peers from other islands, and participate in a formal graduation ceremony.

Research supports early exposure to college environments. A seven-year longitudinal study (Radcliffe & Stephens, 2008, *Research in Middle Level Education*) found that campus visits are integral to shaping positive perceptions of college. Early college and career awareness—especially among first-generation and underrepresented students—significantly increases aspirations for higher education and supports long-term enrollment and diversity outcomes.

This program aligns with efforts to expand access, opportunity, and aspiration in education.

## OBJECTIFS DU COURS

- To provide early exposure to college life for elementary school students.
- To foster positive perceptions of higher education.
- To increase college awareness among first-generation and underrepresented students.
- To inspire academic curiosity through engaging, university-level mini-classes.
- To strengthen partnerships between K-12 Catholic schools and higher education institutions.

## OBJECTIFS D'APPRENTISSAGE

By the end of the program, participants will:

- Develop a foundational understanding of what college life is like.
- Engage in hands-on academic experiences led by university faculty.
- Explore introductory concepts in psychology, language morphology, and science.
- Build confidence in envisioning themselves as future college students.

- Recognize college as an attainable and welcoming goal.

## CONTENU ET STRUCTURE

The program includes:

### **1. Campus Welcome & Orientation**

Students gather on campus and are introduced to the university environment.

### **2. Interactive Academic Sessions**

Examples of Session 1 classes include:

- **Amazing Brain Class**

Exploration of brain functions, limitations, and psychology, emphasizing patience and acceptance.

- **Catching Morphology Concepts through Pokémon**

Learning word parts (morphology) through Pokémon names and understanding how language connects to meaning and abilities.

- **Mini Science Lab: The Invisible Ink Mystery**

A fast-paced, hands-on lab where students write secret messages using invisible ink and reveal them using a color-changing indicator, engaging in scientific inquiry.

### **3. Campus Experience**

- Interaction with university faculty and staff
- Exposure to campus facilities including Sullivan Library and classrooms
- Shared pizza lunch fostering community and connection

### **4. Graduation Ceremony**

Students receive diplomas and mortar boards from the President of Chaminade University in a ceremony held at Mamiya Theatre, reinforcing identity as future college students.

## MÉTHODOLOGIE

- Experiential learning

- Hands-on laboratory activities
- Interactive mini-lectures
- Inquiry-based learning
- Cross-school peer engagement
- Positive reinforcement through symbolic graduation ceremony

The program emphasizes joyful learning, belonging, aspiration-building, and early college identity formation.

## **AUDIENCE CIBLE**

- Fifth-grade students (elementary level)
- Catholic school students across Hawai'i
- Students including first-generation and underrepresented college-bound populations