



ARMED SERVICES YMCA

2026 Operation Ride Home

Hawai'i Application Period:
September 4 to October 9

Picture cover courtesy of 2025 Operation Ride Home Recipient



Armed Services YMCA, in partnership with Jack Daniel's, helps junior enlisted military families (E1-E5) travel **home for the holidays** by offering a subsidy toward round trip flights for eligible service members and their immediate family.

Armed Services YMCA and Jack Daniel's are committed to making this travel possible for those most in need.

APPLICATION PROCESS & TIMELINE:

Command Approval Form

START EARLY! Your leadership must complete this form as soon as possible. A signed approval form is required and must be submitted with your online application [HERE](#).

Missing this step has been the #1 reason applications are disqualified in the past. You can start working on this prior to application period. Please download the form.



Scan QR code to download fillable PDF of Command Approval Form. **COMPLETE THIS EARLY!**

Online Application

Find FAQs, program details, and the online application [HERE](#).

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Late applications will NOT be accepted — no exceptions. Link will be available on Sep 4.



Scan QR code and scroll down to ASYMCA Hawaii to submit your online application when it opens.

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE:

✈ Start preparing your answers early—especially the Q&A section. **One key question asks: Why would you like to be selected as a 2026 Operation Ride Home recipient?**

Your response should be compelling, personal, and written as a full paragraph (min. 5–7 sentences). Share your story, highlight your need, and explain how this opportunity would make a difference for you. **Please have destination & travel dates set as well.**

✈ **Important:** Please **DO NOT** submit the Command Approval Form separately or email it to us. It must be included with your online application to be considered valid. The application period is September 4 to October 9, 2026. **Submissions will only be accepted during this timeframe.** In the meantime, you may begin preparing your Command Approval Form and drafting your written responses for the Q&A section.



Contact ASYMCA Hawai'i Executive Director, Keola Taniguchi, at (808) 448-1972 or KTaniguchi@asymca.org with any questions.