



RESEARCH AND ENTERPRISE

Updates and Announcements from week commencing 1 June 2026

Health Research Council – Career Development Awards- **update**

The career development award rounds will open on the 4th of June 2026 and there are some changes to the way the rounds look. Refer here for further information [HRC Gateway - Home](#). The [funding calendar](#) has links to the specific rounds.

A webinar on the 2027 Career Development Awards was held on 18 May 2026. A recording of the webinar and the presentation slides can be found on [the HRC's website](#). Please note the recording includes an important note regarding an update to values for working expenses given in the webinar.

Aotearoa New Zealand Tāwhia te Mana Research Fellowships – **New Q&A session**

The Aotearoa New Zealand Tāwhia te Mana Research Fellowships are administered by Royal Society Te Apārangi on behalf of the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment. There are three schemes:

- [New Zealand Mana Tūāpapa Future Leader Fellowship](#). Supports early-career researchers
- [New Zealand Mana Tūānuku Research Leader Fellowship](#). Supports mid-career researchers
- [New Zealand Mana Tūārangi Distinguished Researcher Fellowship](#). Supports researchers with expansive and international reputations. Fellowships will be offered for **Artificial Intelligence (AI) Technologies**.

An overview of changes to the Fellowships is available at the Royal Society Te Apārangi's "[About Tāwhia Te Mana Fellowships](#)" webpage as well as in the guidelines for each scheme.

Please contact your [Research Advisor](#) as soon as possible to confirm eligibility and to begin your application in RAS. The Research Office will organise access to the new portal on your behalf. The Society highly recommends that any **exemption request/career gaps calculators are forwarded to them no later than two weeks** before the application closing date, or they may otherwise not be able to assess the request before the application deadline, so it is important that you register, and discuss with your [Research Advisor](#) as soon as possible. Refer to RAS and the funding calendar below for internal dates.

Applicants yet to be employed at Otago do not have RAS access. Therefore, the intended HoD must create an application on the applicant's behalf within RAS. Please include the applicant's name in the project title in RAS.

Please note if the grant you have been nominated for requires Host Support Template: R&E have prepared a template for this. This template is a guideline and details applicable to Departmental areas and PIs can be edited/personalised. Please see the RAS opportunity for a copy of the template and discuss with your Research Advisor.

Another question and answer session will be held Thursday June 18th at 3pm. You can submit questions ahead of time or via the Q&A tab during the session, noting that Royal Society may not have time to address all questions. Register in advance for this webinar:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_3hO_V1_OT1eiLcBVQIAx3A

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar

A recording of the webinar held in May is available [here](#)

Cancer Research Trust grant writing workshop – NEW

Cancer Research Trust are offering grant writing workshops in Wellington, Christchurch, Auckland and Dunedin. View these [here](#). Please register as soon as possible.

Transition Research Fund for 2027 - NEW

The Gov't is introducing a new Transition Research Fund for 2027 to provide funding continuity during the Research & Innovation system reforms. The round is expected to open later in the year.

This contestable fund for *investigator-led research* replaces funding through Marsden and Endeavour funding mechanisms. It will support *impactful* research across three mechanisms - Talent Development, Projects, and Programmes.

More information will be available when MBIE:

- Publish the Investment Plan and Gazette Notice for the three funding mechanisms in June 2026
- Hold an information and Q&A webinar by the end of June 2026

[Transition Research Fund 2027](#)

He Ara Whakahihiho Capability Fund 2027 Investment Round: Investment Plan and Gazette Notice Published – NEW

The He Ara Whakahihiho Capability Fund 2027 Investment Round: Investment Plan and Gazette Notice has been published. The Call for Proposals and the proposal, reporting and contract templates will be published in June 2026. Please visit the [He Ara Whakahihiho Capability Fund web page](#) for more details.

[Register](#) for a webinar and Q&A session will be held for applicants on Wednesday, 17 June 2026 from 1pm with information about the 2027 Investment Round for both the Ara Whaihua and Rangapū Rangahau funding schemes

New Zealand Association of Scientists (NZAS) 2026 Science Medals - NEW

Applications are invited for the following [NZAS science medals](#) - Marsden Medal, Shorland Medal, Hill Tinsley Medal, Cranwell Medal, Scientific Workers Medal

To apply, complete the [Airtable application form](#) by 03 August 2026. Applicants can apply directly or can be nominated.

Otago Innovation Proof of Concept Competition – NEW

Applications open today. See [here](#) for more information.

Royal Society Te Apārangi postgraduate scholarships – NEW

Applications for the [RHT Bates Postgraduate Scholarship](#) and [The Sir Hugh Kawharu Masters Scholarship](#) open soon

Neurological Foundation grant round open and changes to upcoming rounds

The Neurological Foundation is now accepting applications for Grant Round 2026B. See RAS and the funding calendar below for more information. Please read the guidelines carefully, taking note of the important changes for 2026:

Heart Foundation World Congress on Rheumatic Heart Disease (RHD)

The Heart Foundation is a supporting partner for this years [World Congress on Rheumatic Heart Disease \(RHD\)](#) being held 11-14 November in Perth, Australia. The Heart Foundation supports New Zealand researchers working on the fight against rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease to attend the Congress and is making up to 10 [RHD Congress 2026 Travel Grants](#) of up to \$5000 each available.. Applications open 15th June 2026. [Abstract submissions](#) for the congress are open.

Funding Results in RAS - Change in Process

Please refer here [Funding Results in RAS – Change in process](#) for an update regarding how funding results will be communicated.

Equipment Advisory Committee Expressions of Interest

Expressions of Interest are invited by the Equipment Advisory Committee for purchase of major items of equipment (that is, a single item of equipment costing more than \$250,000) during 2027. Proposals are welcomed from individual Departments or Divisions as well as inter- Departmental or Divisional applicants.

Expressions of interest (2-3 pages in 12 point), should provide a brief description of the equipment and its approximate cost (quotations are not needed at this stage), a comment on how the equipment will be used and how it will contribute to furthering the research effort at Otago. Emphasis should be given to the strategic importance of the equipment and how a grant may be used to leverage external sources of research income. Applicants are encouraged to discuss their proposal with Department Heads and Divisional Research Committees. Full applications will be invited by the Committee following consideration of the preliminary applications. Applications not funded in a previous year can be resubmitted in their original or updated form.

For further information, a copy of 2026/7's Guidelines for Full Applications may be accessed [here](#). Email Expressions of Interest, as an attachment, to research.committee@otago.ac.nz by or before 12:00 noon on Thursday, 4th June 2026.

University of Otago Research Grants (UORG) - 2027 Round and University of Otago Prestigious Writing Grants (UPWG) – 2027 Round

Registration in the Research Administration System (RAS) must be completed by midnight 2nd June 2026. Applications and Budgets must be uploaded into RAS by midnight 3rd June 2026. All approvals (including HoD/Head of Resource Centre) must be completed via RAS workflow by midnight 10th June 2026.

Application forms and guidelines are available on the [Forms & Guidelines](#) page of the University of Otago website. Please refer to the guidelines for an update on what's changing including R&E support, commencing in 2026.

Important for Applicants

The **pre- and post-award RAS workflows have been updated** to reflect the change in system support and to streamline processes. It is recommended that applicants pay close attention to the **"Changes in 2026"** section of the application form, particularly relative to RAS application set-up. For **RAS support**, please refer to the [RAS Sharepoint site](#) for guidance. Two videos are available to help complete a UORG application. View the recordings here [Researchers: training resources and support](#)

Royal Society Te Apārangī - Call for nominations for Fellowship 2026

The Academy of the Royal Society Te Apārangī is calling for new Fellowship, Ngā Ahurei a Te Apārangī, and Honorary Fellowship, Ngā Ahurei Honore a Te Apārangī, nominations for 2026. Email (academy@royalsociety.org.nz) to submit a new nomination and you will be provided with a URL to access the web portal. Details of the nomination process and requirements can be found [here](#), and the closing date is **30 June 2026**. Please note that the Academy welcomes diversity of nominations from under-represented groups, particularly with respect to gender and ethnicity.

Research Bazaar Aotearoa 2026 (29 June - 3 July)

Registrations now open for [ResBaz Aotearoa](#) 2026! ResBaz is a free, online, digital research skills workshop series It is free to register. Workshops are not recorded.

HealthTech Week 2026 Awards

[HealthTech Week 2026](#) | Te Titoki Mataora Forum 1 - 3 July 2026, The Hilton Auckland – an event designed to spark new ideas, foster meaningful connections, and strengthen Aotearoa New Zealand's HealthTech ecosystem. Registrations are open now! Find the programme and registration details [here](#)

L’Oreal-Unesco for Women in Science International Awards

The [awards](#) honour five outstanding researchers in Physics, Mathematics, Computer and Information Sciences, Chemistry, Earth & Related Environmental sciences. Nominations close **June 30, 2026**. Visit [here](#) for more details.

Frontiers Planet Prize

The 5th edition of the [Frontiers Planet Prize](#) is now open. Three prizes of USD 1 million awarded to breakthrough research enabling healthy lives on a healthy planet. If you are interested or want additional information, contact the Office of the DVC Research and Innovation at dvc.research@otago.ac.nz.

Horizon Europe

To learn more, please refer to this [special research news](#) which has been updated for 2026, this [document](#) and the [Funding and Tenders Portal](#).

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES from Week Commencing 1 June 2026

TYPE	AF	Awards and Fellowships
	RE	Research projects and Equipment grants
	TC	Funding for Travel and Conferences (attendance/registration)
	Oth	Other grants (including research support for proposal development, dissemination of findings through hui or stakeholder meetings, running conferences/workshops, etc)

ONLINE APPLICATIONS Where applications are to be submitted through an online portal, please note that a budget is still required via the financials tab in RAS and must be submitted to your Research Advisor by the due date detailed below.

DUE DATE (Internal Deadline):

Applicable to **all Researchers**, please register your interest in a fund (via RAS) early with your Research Advisor, so that support can be provided. Submit your application and completed RAS budget to your Research Advisor by the internal due date.

NEW	TYPE	FUNDING BODY	FUNDING OPPORTUNITY	INTERNAL DUE DATE
	RE	University of Otago	University of Otago Research Grants 2027	Refer to announcements for key dates

NEW	TYPE	FUNDING BODY	FUNDING OPPORTUNITY	INTERNAL DUE DATE
	RE	University of Otago	University of Otago Prestigious Writing Grants 2027	Refer to announcements for key dates
	RE	Otago Medical Research Foundation	Annual Grants & Otago Community Trust Grants	5-Jun-2026
	RE	Graci Foundation	Annual Grants	5-Jun-2026
NEW	RE	Ovarian Cancer Research Foundation	National Research Grants Program Expression of Interest	5-Jun-2026
	AF	Medicines NZ	Value of Medicine Innovation Jump Start Award	12-Jun-2026
	RE	Ovarian Cancer Research Alliance	AI Accelerator Grant Letter of Intent	15-Jun-2026
	TC	Blood Cancer NZ	Travel and Conference Grants	17-Jun-2026
	RE	Blood Cancer NZ	National Research Grant	22-Jun-2026
	AF	Royal Australasian College of Physicians	Research Establishment Fellowship	22-Jun-2026
	RE	Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment	New Zealand - China Strategic Research Alliance 2026 (<i>note: There is a separate deadline for Chinese partners MoST appln</i>)	23-Jun-2026
	AF	Royal Australasian College of Physicians	Research Entry Scholarship	29-Jun-2026
NEW Rounds open 4 th June	AF	Health Research Council of New Zealand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foxley Fellowship Clinical Research Training Fellowship Sir Charles Hercus Health Research Fellowship 	29-Jun-2026
	AF	Royal Society Te Apārangi	Aotearoa New Zealand Tāwhia te Mana Research Fellowships <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mana Tūārangi Distinguished Researcher Fellowship • Mana Tūānuku Research Leader Fellowship • Mana Tūāpapa Future Leader Fellowship 	1-Jul-2026

NEW	TYPE	FUNDING BODY	FUNDING OPPORTUNITY	INTERNAL DUE DATE
NEW	RE	Auckland Medical Research Foundation	Jean Cathie Fund – Expression of Interest	7-Jul-2026
	RE	John Templeton Foundation	Templeton Small Grants - Online Funding Enquiry	7-Jul-2026
NEW	RE	Prime Ministers Space Prizes Secretariat	Prime Ministers Space Prizes	13-Jul-2026
	TC	Royal Society Te Apārangi	Catalyst: Seeding	15-Jul-2026
NEW Rounds open 4th June	AF	Health Research Council of New Zealand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pacific Health Research Postdoctoral Fellowship Pacific Health Research Masters Scholarship Pacific Health PhD Scholarships Māori Health Research Postdoctoral Fellowships Māori Health Research Masters Scholarships Māori Health Research PhD Scholarships Health Delivery Research Career Development Award 	15-Jul-2026
	RE	Vic Davis Memorial Trust	Research Grant	23-Jul-2026
	AF	Vic Davis Memorial Trust	Postgraduate Scholarship	23-Jul-2026
NEW	RE	Cancer Research Trust New Zealand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Grant Special Purpose Grant 	28-Jul-2026
NEW	AF	Cancer Research Trust New Zealand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Murray Jackson Clinical Fellowship John Gavin Postdoctoral Fellowship Postgraduate Scholarship 	28-Jul-2026
NEW	RE	Cure Kids	Project Grant	29-Jul-2026
	AF	Neurological Foundation of New Zealand	First Fellowship Senior Clinical Research Fellowship VJ Chapman Fellowship O'Brien Clinical Fellowship Doctoral Scholarship Neurology Postgraduate Scholarship Summer Studentship	10-Aug-2026

NEW	TYPE	FUNDING BODY	FUNDING OPPORTUNITY	INTERNAL DUE DATE
	RE	Neurological Foundation of New Zealand	Project Grant Small Project Grant	24-Aug-2026
	AF	Cancer Research Institute	CRI Irvington Postdoctoral Fellowship	24-Aug-2026
	AF	Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research	SCAR Fellowship Scheme	27-Aug-2026

Recurring Funding Opportunities

NEW	TYPE	FUNDING BODY	FUNDING OPPORTUNITY	DUE DATE
	RE	New Zealand Brain Tumour Trust	Research Grant	Anytime
	TC	Neurological Foundation of New Zealand	Education and Training Event Grants Education and Training Resource Grant Travel Grants	Anytime
	RE	Rule Foundation	Research Grants	Anytime
	RE	Southland Medical Foundation	Research Grants	Anytime
	RE	Cancer Society - Southern Division	Special Project Grant Local Grant Applications	Anytime

Other funding opportunities – discuss with Research Advisor if interested in applying

- AINSE refer [here](#) for upcoming and open opportunities
- **Fulbright New Zealand** - Fulbright NZ offers a variety of awards throughout the year, some in conjunction with Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga. Refer [here](#) for open and upcoming opportunities. Professor Phil Bremer is the Fulbright New Zealand Campus Advisor for the University of Otago. Find Phil's contact details [here](#).
- **Gates Foundation Grand Challenges** - [Estimating the Global Burden of Diarrheal Disease](#). Applications due no later than **June 16, 2026, at 11:30 AM Pacific Daylight Time**.

If you have any queries or would like further information regarding any of these Funding Opportunities, **please contact your Research Advisor**. Contact details are available on the Research and Enterprise [Website](#).

Subscribing to Research News

To subscribe to Research News, please email research@otago.ac.nz, with subject line: 'Subscribe to Research News'
NB: Research News is intended for University of Otago staff and students.

GENERAL INFORMATION REGARDING RESEARCH FUNDING AT OTAGO

When you need to contact us

Staff are reminded that **every application for external research funding must come through Research and Enterprise, via your Research Advisor**. Please contact for advice. All grant applications and proposals should be submitted by academic staff. Please inform your Research Advisor if you intend to apply as Principal Investigator for *any* contestable funding, whether advertised here or not, at the beginning of the development of your application. The same situation exists if you have been approached by researchers at another institution/organisation to collaborate on a funding proposal where Otago is not the lead institution and/or is not submitting the proposal.

Requirement for Field of Research (FOR) and Socio-Economic Objective (SEO) codes

Universities are required to report to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment on FOR and SEO codes for all research and commercial projects, see [MBIE requirements](#). A link to the codes is provided in the help section in RAS. Please talk to your Research Advisor or Business Development Manager if you have any queries regarding the codes. In RAS, these codes must be entered in the initial set-up steps of applications/projects.

The [UoO Policy Document on Externally Funded Research](#) outlines both the need for and the usage of the budget builder.

Panui Rangahau Māori – Māori Research Consultation

For researchers submitting to NTRCC work within your divisions, department, and your [Research Advisors](#) to develop your Vision Mātauranga Policy statements and to progress developing your ideas toward ethics approval. Document your thoughts regarding VM, relevance to Māori, and pathways to impact on society, this is all valuable thinking even in early stages. Your [Research Advisors](#) will be able to provide support in the first instance or may choose to escalate if necessary.

For Christchurch researchers: the Māori Health Advancement Programme for researchers at UOC has two components: a professional development programme and a new research review process. For all information about how to complete the professional development programme and complete the research review process please head to this page: <https://www.otago.ac.nz/christchurch/services/researchoffice/maoriconsultation>

For any queries or pātai please email the Kaitohutohu Rangahau Māori/Māori Research Advisor at: maorihealthadvancement.uoc@otago.ac.nz

Ethics and Regulatory Consents

The University requires that any research involving human participants and/or animals is conducted in accordance with the highest ethical standards. Where appropriate, compliance includes ethical approval from the relevant ethics committee. Please refer to our [Ethics and Regulatory Consents](#) webpage for further information.

Human Ethics applications and assessment via Conduit

All applications for Human Ethics consents and amendments (Health, Minimal Risk Health Research (MRHR), Category A Non-Health, Category B Low Risk Non-Health) must now be made via Conduit. This system replaces all previous methods of applying for Human Ethical consents. Note that applications for Animal Use protocols will remain via IARMS. Access the web-based system via [this link](#) and using your Otago University log in and password.

For recorded online training sessions, further resources and more information about Conduit on this SharePoint site: <https://otagouni.sharepoint.com/sites/Conduit/SitePages/training-home.aspx> The Research Integrity Office (who manage the Human Ethics application process) are happy to talk through questions or queries you may have about ethics applications. Contact them on humanethics@otago.ac.nz

Checklist for submitting grant proposals

Remember to include:

- **Copy of the application** (*signed by applicant, and HoD/Dean if requested by funder*)
- **Completed budget (in RAS)**
- **Evidence of Māori Research Consultation**
- **Ethical / Regulatory approvals** (*if required and already approved*)

Research and Enterprise then obtains the authorised signature of the University for you (if required), copies the application (when required), and sends it to the funding body by the due date.

University of Otago Bridging Scheme Register and Continuation of Research Achievement Grant (CRAG) for External-Grant-Funded Research-Only Staff

Further information about the **Bridging Scheme** which provides a mechanism to protect the continued contributions of Research-Only Principal Investigators can be found [here](#).

The **Continuation of Research Achievement Grant (CRAG)** supports highly productive research leaders within the University in the event of significant grant failure. Application Forms and Guidelines can be found [here](#).

Contact Details for General Enquiries

R&E Research Office: research@otago.ac.nz

Research Finance: research.finance@otago.ac.nz