



**MINISTRY OF BUSINESS,
INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT**
HĪKINA WHAKATUTUKI

He Ara Whakahihiko Capability Fund Webinar and Q&A

Wednesday 25 June 2025





MBIE Karakia

Tāwhia tō mana kia mau, kia māia

Ka huri taku aro ki te pae kahurangi,
kei reira te oranga mōku

Mā mahi tahi, ka ora, ka puāwai

Ā mātau mahi katoa, ka pono, ka tika

TIHEI MAURI ORA

TRANSLATION:

Retain and hold fast to your mana, be bold, be brave

*We turn our attention to the future, that's where the
opportunities lie*

By working together we will flourish and achieve greatness

Taking responsibility to commit to doing things right

TIHEI MAURI ORA

Housekeeping

Questions will be read out and responded to after the presentation

Use the **Q&A FUNCTION** to ask questions as they come to you (not the chat)

A recording of the webinar (slides and transcript) will be available on our website by mid-July



Outline

- ❑ Overview of the Fund
- ❑ Application and Assessment Process
- ❑ Accessing Pītau
- ❑ Advice to Applicants



Overview of the Fund



The Fund's aim | Te Whāinga o te Tahua

INCREASE UNDERSTANDING of how scientific research can contribute to the aspirations of Māori organisations and deliver benefit for Māori and New Zealand with a focus on promoting economic growth, impact, implementation and partnerships, and

STRENGTHEN CAPABILITY, CAPACITY, SKILLS and **NETWORKS** between Māori and the science, innovation and technology system.



Investment Schemes | Ngā Kaupapa Haumitanga

Ara Whaihua

Work programmes that focus primarily on the pathway to commercialisation and **economic growth** from science.

*Existing relationships are eligible but the proposal needs to **clearly go above business as usual and build new capability***

Rangapū Rangahau

Partnerships between research organisations and Māori-facing organisations to undertake SI&T relevant research focussing primarily on promoting economic growth and/or environmental outcomes.



Funding Available | He aha te pūtea e wātea ana?



Approximately **\$8.6* million** per year is available to fund successful new projects in the 2026 HAWCF investment round



Ara Whaihua: projects of **1 year** at **\$100,000*** (**\$2.1 million allocation**)

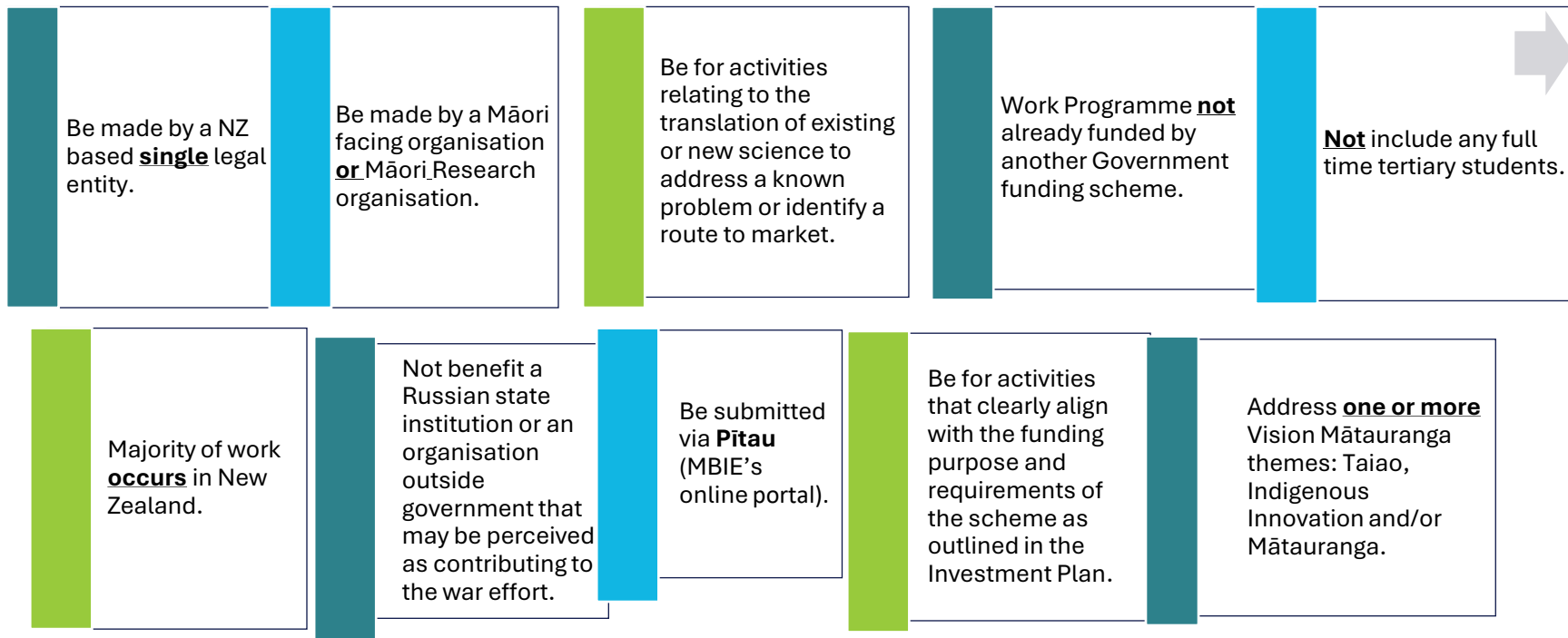


Rangapū Rangahau: projects of **2 years** at **\$350,000*** (**\$6.5 million allocation**)



**Note all funding amounts are exclusive of GST*

Ara Whaihua Eligibility Criteria | Ko wai e āhei ana ki te tono?



Ara Whaihua Eligibility Criteria | Ko wai e āhei ana ki te tono?

Be made by a Māori facing organisation or Māori Research organisation.



Be for activities relating to the translation of existing or new science to address a known problem or identify a route to market.



Be for activities that clearly align with the funding purpose and requirements of the scheme as outlined in the Investment Plan.



Address one or more Vision Mātauranga themes: Taiao, Indigenous Innovation and/or Mātauranga.



Rangapū Rangahau Eligibility Criteria | Ko wai e āhei ana ki te tono?

Be made by a NZ based **single** legal entity.

Include **both** a Research organisation and a Māori facing organisation.

Be **co-developed** between the research organisation and the Māori facing organisation(s) with a supporting co-development letter.

Work Programme **not** already funded by another Government funding scheme.

Not include any full time tertiary or school students.



Majority of work **occurs** in New Zealand.

Not benefit a Russian state institution or an organisation outside government that may be perceived as contributing to the war effort.

Be submitted via **Pitau** (MBIE's online portal).

Be for activities that clearly align with the funding purpose and requirements of the scheme as outlined in the Investment Plan.

Address **one or more** Vision Mātauranga themes: Taiao, Indigenous Innovation and/or Mātauranga.

Rangapū Rangahau Eligibility Criteria | Ko wai e āhei ana ki te tono?

Include **BOTH** a Research organisation and a Māori facing organisation.

Be **co-developed** between the research organisation and the Māori facing organisation(s) with a supporting co-development letter.

Be for activities that clearly align with the funding purpose and requirements of the scheme as outlined in the Investment Plan.

Address one or more Vision Mātauranga themes: Taiao, Indigenous Innovation and/or Mātauranga.

Vision Mātauranga Policy Themes

Indigenous Innovation



Contributing to economic growth through distinctive science and innovation

Taiao



Achieving environmental sustainability through iwi and hapū relationships with land and sea

Mātauranga



Exploring indigenous knowledge and science and innovation

Hauora/Oranga



Improving health and social wellbeing

*HAWCF proposals **must not** primarily address the hauora theme. Proposals must align with the intent of the Fund.*

Application and Assessment Process



Key Documents

- Investment Plan
- Call for Proposals x2
- Proposal Templates x2
- Assessment and Scoring Guidance x2
- Combined Progress and Final Reporting Templates x2
- Contract Templates x2

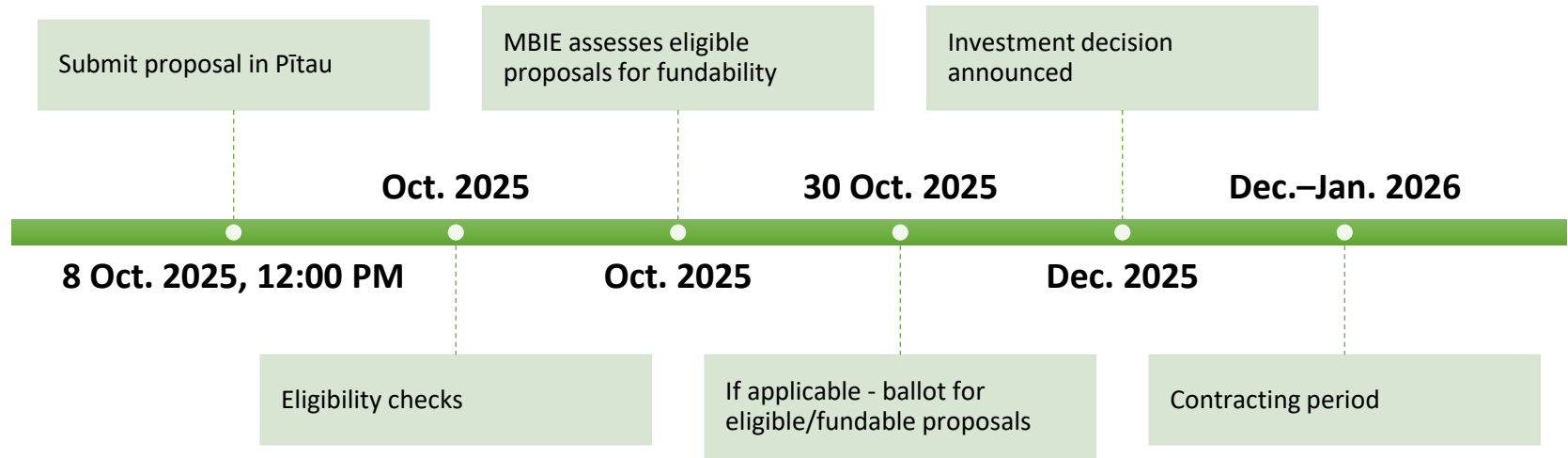
Ara Whaihua Call for Proposals 2026 investment round - He Ara Whakahihiho Capability Fund

We are inviting proposals for the He Ara Whakahihiho Capability Fund Ara Whaihua funding mechanism. Ara Whaihua focusses on scientific research that is ready to be implemented, rather than exploratory.

On this page

[↓ About this opportunity](#)[↓ The funding available](#)[↓ How to apply](#)[↓ The application, assessment, and decision-making process](#)[↓ Key documents](#)[↓ How to access webinars](#)[↓ Key documents and content](#)[↓ Application process](#)[↓ Additional support](#)[↓ The assessment criteria](#)[↓ Funding decisions](#)[↓ Contracting, payment, reporting, and monitoring](#)[↓ Contact](#)

Ara Whaihua Application and Assessment Process | Te Tukanga Tono Me Te Aromatawai

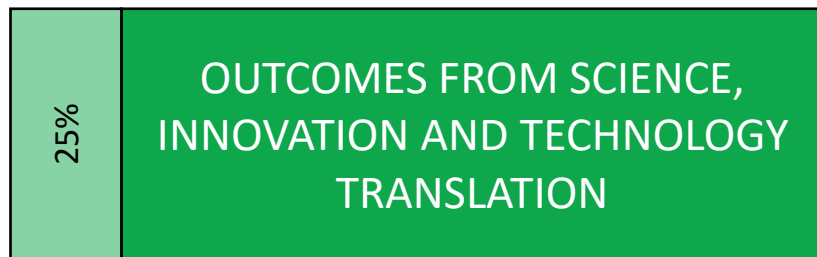


Assessment Criteria | Ngā paearu aromatawai

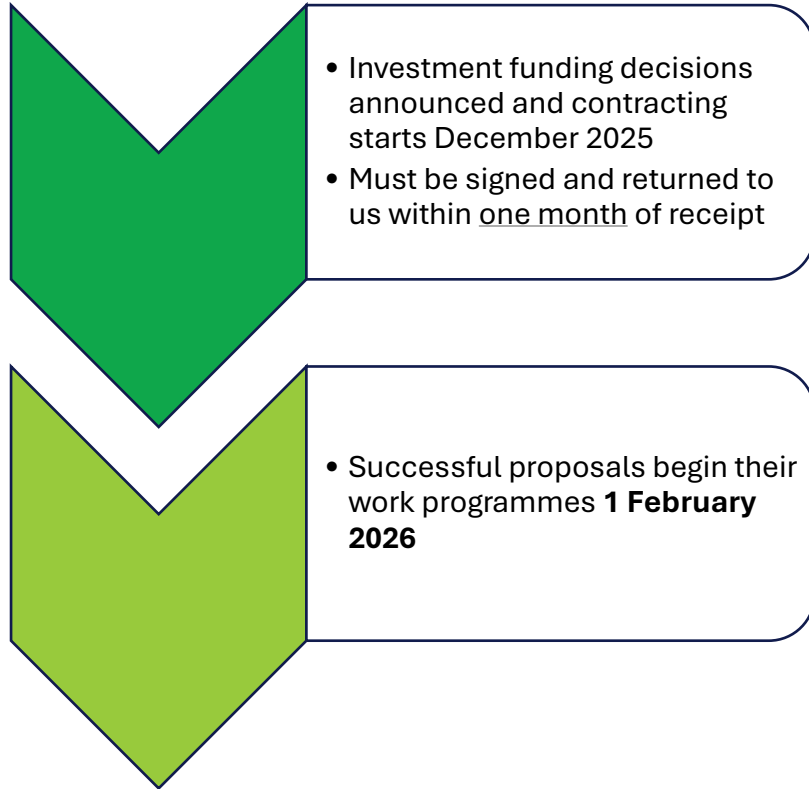
EXCELLENCE | KAIRANGITANGA



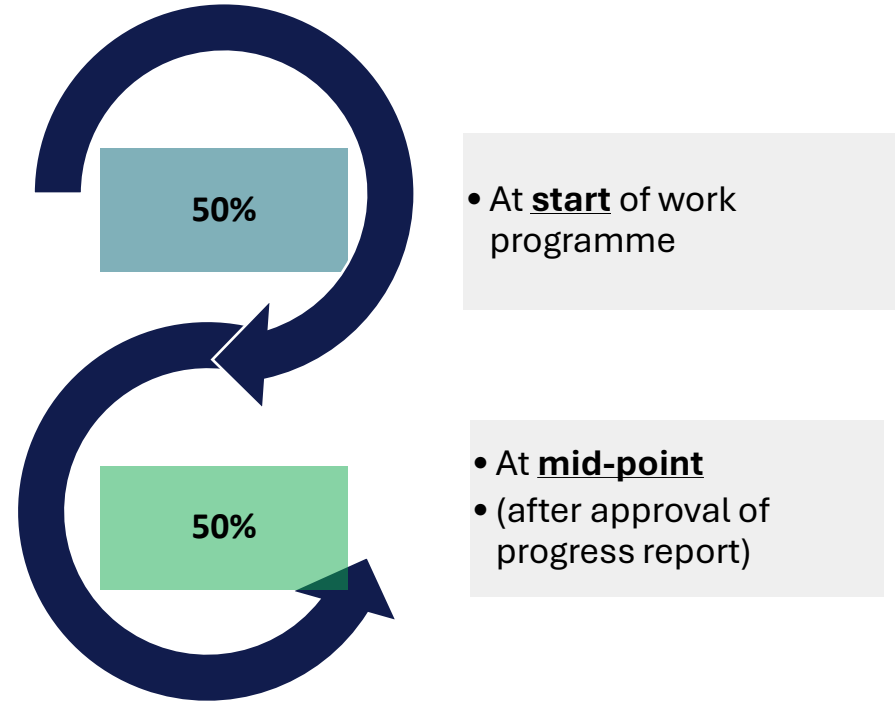
IMPACT | PĀPĀTANGA



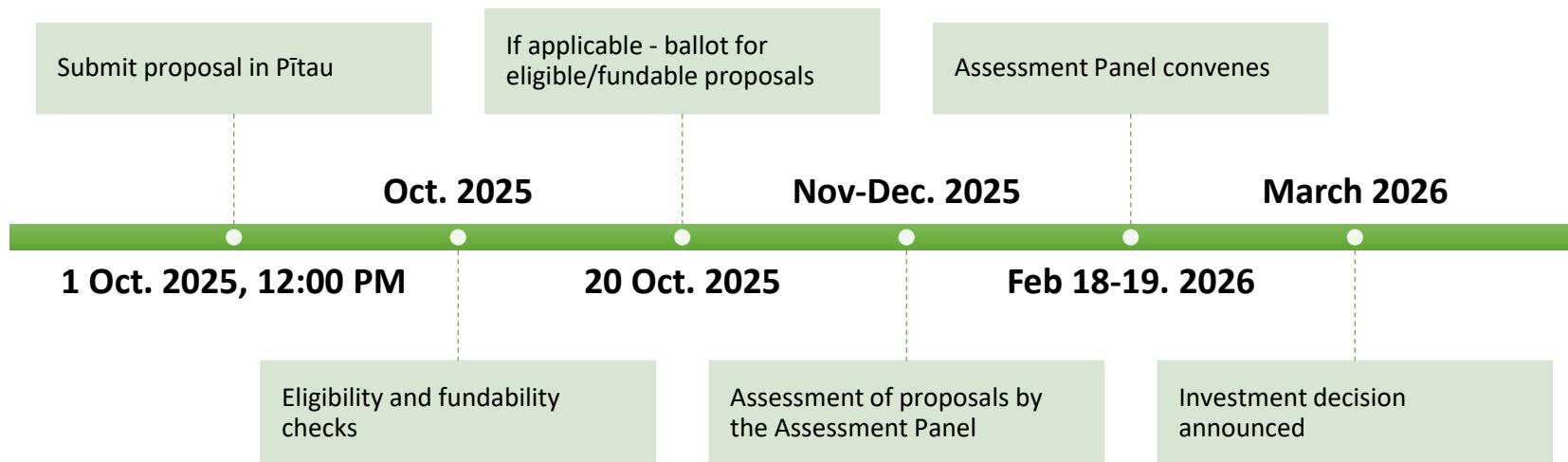
Contracting Process



Payments



Rangapū Rangahau Application and Assessment Process | Te Tukanga Tono Me Te Aromatawai



Rangapū Rangahau Assessment Panel

An external Assessment Panel will be appointed to assess the Rangapū Rangahau proposals.

The names of the panel members will be posted online with their bios by August 30, 2025.

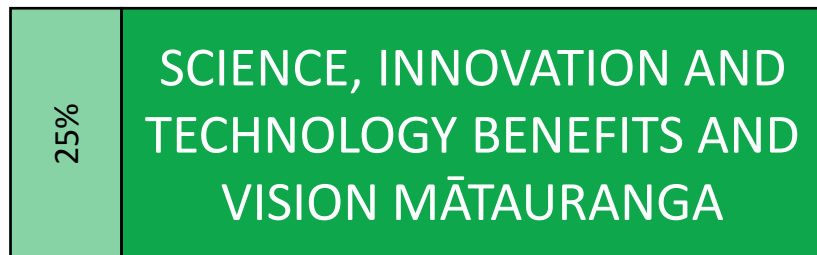
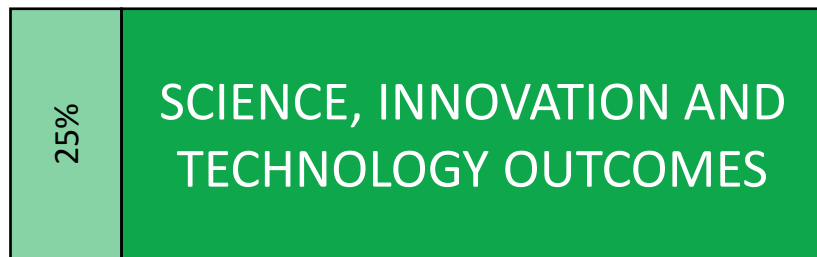
The panel will assess ALL eligible and fundable proposals up to a maximum of 70 proposals.

Assessment Criteria | Ngā paearu aromatawai

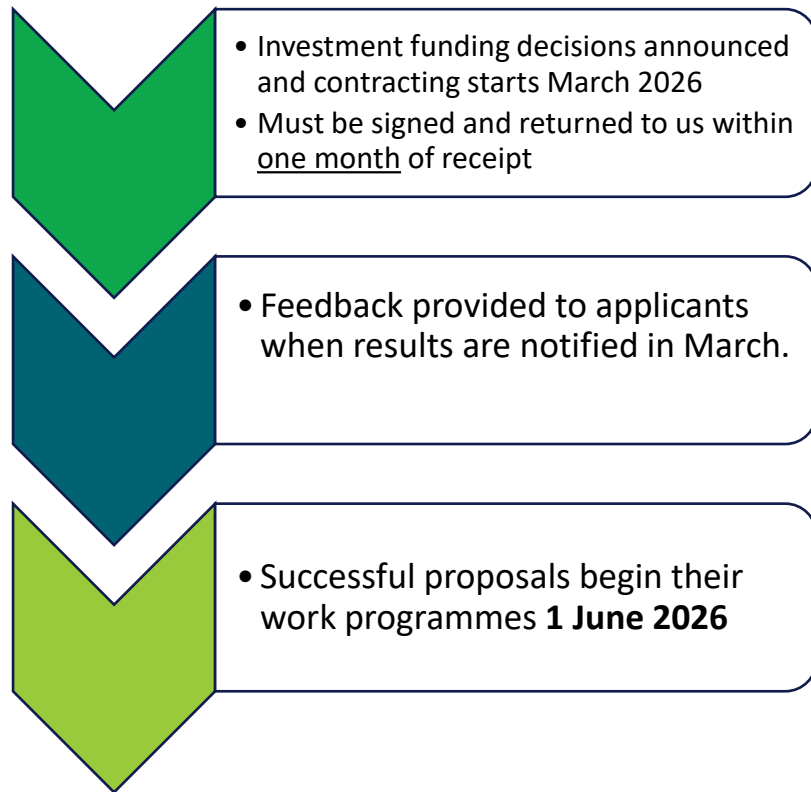
EXCELLENCE | KAIRANGITANGA



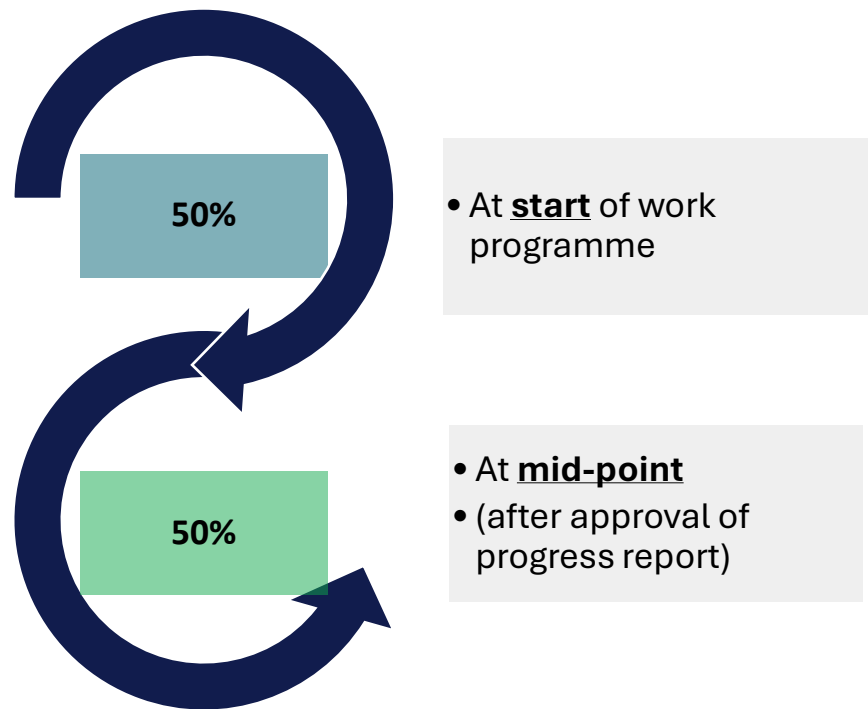
IMPACT | PĀPĀTANGA



Contracting Process



Payments



What does eligibility/fundability mean?

Eligible proposals are those that meet ALL of the listed eligibility criteria.



Fundable proposals are those that meet the minimum funding threshold, which are:



Ara Whaihua – proposals must be a “4” or above (out of 7) on the scoring grid to proceed.



Rangapū Rangahau - proposals must be a “3” or above (out of 7) on the scoring grid to proceed.



Why are we using a selection ballot?



ALL eligible proposals that meet the funding threshold will go into the ballot.



The ballot process helps us manage operational costs and is a transparent selection method which treats all proposals that meet the funding threshold fairly and doesn't discriminate against applicants in any way.



Ara Whaihua: If we receive 22 or more eligible proposals that meet the funding threshold, we will use a ballot system to select proposals for recommendation for funding.



Rangapū Rangahau: If we receive 71 or more eligible proposals that meet the funding threshold, we will use a ballot system to reduce assessment burden on the Assessment Panel.



First Time Applying for MBIE Science Grants?

If you're new to MBIE science grants or don't have access to a Research Office, **assistance is available to help you with:**

- Guidance on eligibility
- Understanding if your proposal matches the fund
- Using helpful tools and templates
- Guidance on MBIE requirements for science grants
- Clear, practical advice

Please note:

Moko Kauri cannot give advice on the **content** of your application.

Contact: info@mokokauri.co.nz



HE MOKO, HE PUNA WĀNANGA
MOKO KAURI
LIMITED

Accessing Pītau



Accessing Pītau

If you need access to Pītau:

- Complete the Request for Access form, located on the [Pītau portal webpage](#)
- Email the completed form to: imssupport@mbie.govt.nz

Apply for access **EARLY**

- We cannot guarantee requests will be processed the week of submission.



Pītau – Investment Management System allows logged in users to:

- apply for funding
- manage contracts your funding contracts
- submit funding reports
- submit invoices and expenses associated with funding contract
- perform assessments

New to Pītau?



You can request access in one of two ways:

1. If your organisation has applied with us in the past, contact your organisation's administrator, for them to grant you access.
2. If your organisation has never applied for MBIE funding, complete the [Pītau Request for Access form](#) and email it to imssupport@mbie.govt.nz.

Once your access has been processed, you will receive an email with login instructions and a unique Pītau access code. To complete the login process, you will need a RealMe account. If you do not have a RealMe account, go to [RealMe](#) to create one.

Contact

For enquiries email imssupport@mbie.govt.nz or call 0800 693 778

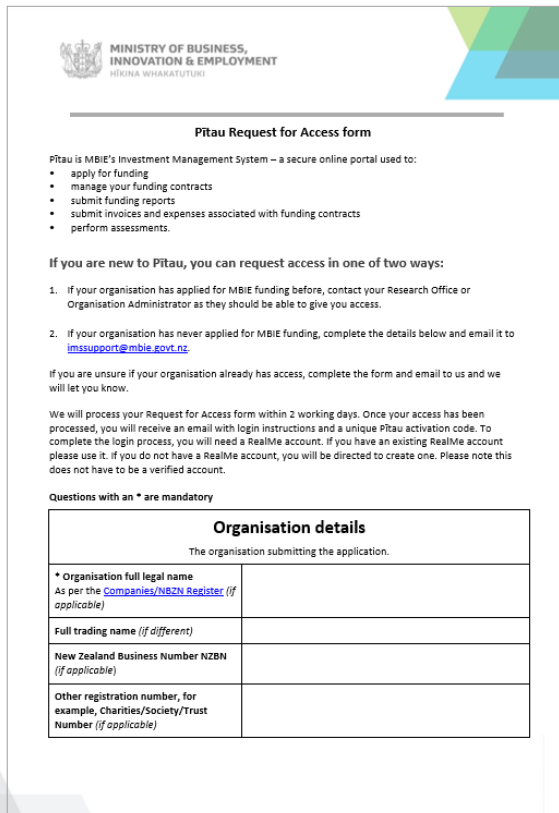
Accessing Pītau

We will set up one initial Organisation Administrator

- This person will be responsible for adding additional user access.

Levels of access:

- **Organisation Administrator:** authority to create and submit applications. Manage access to Pītau.
- **Organisation Member:** can create and/or work on applications to which they are given access.



 **MINISTRY OF BUSINESS,
INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT**
HĪKINA WHAKATUTUKI

Pītau Request for Access form

Pītau is MBIE's Investment Management System – a secure online portal used to:

- apply for funding
- manage your funding contracts
- submit funding reports
- submit invoices and expenses associated with funding contracts
- perform assessments.

If you are new to Pītau, you can request access in one of two ways:

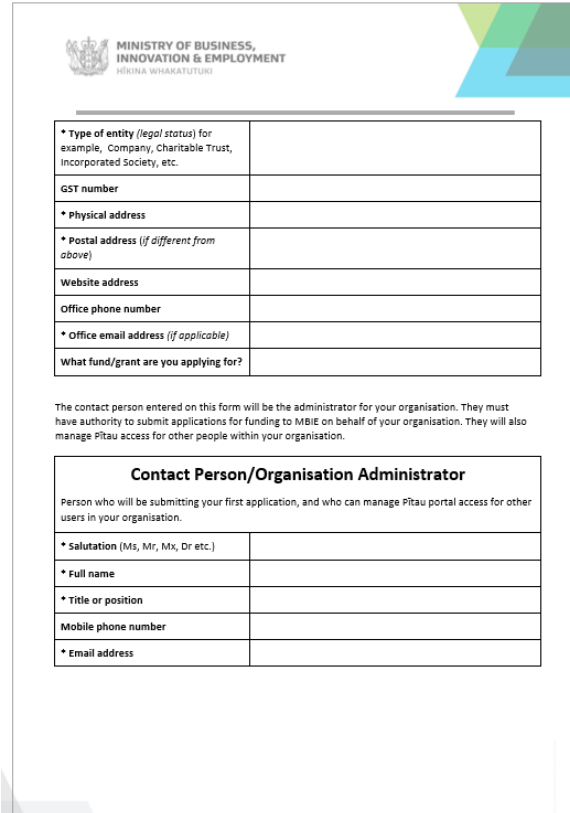
1. If your organisation has applied for MBIE funding before, contact your Research Office or Organisation Administrator as they should be able to give you access.
2. If your organisation has never applied for MBIE funding, complete the details below and email it to imssupport@mbie.govt.nz.

If you are unsure if your organisation already has access, complete the form and email to us and we will let you know.

We will process your Request for Access form within 2 working days. Once your access has been processed, you will receive an email with login instructions and a unique Pītau activation code. To complete the login process, you will need a RealMe account. If you have an existing RealMe account please use it. If you do not have a RealMe account, you will be directed to create one. Please note this does not have to be a verified account.

Questions with an * are mandatory

Organisation details	
The organisation submitting the application.	
* Organisation full legal name As per the Companies/NZBN Register (if applicable)	
Full trading name (if different)	
New Zealand Business Number NZBN (if applicable)	
Other registration number, for example, Charities/Society/Trust Number (if applicable)	



 **MINISTRY OF BUSINESS,
INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT**
HĪKINA WHAKATUTUKI

* Type of entity (legal status) for example, Company, Charitable Trust, Incorporated Society, etc.	
GST number	
* Physical address	
* Postal address (if different from above)	
Website address	
Office phone number	
* Office email address (if applicable)	
What fund/grant are you applying for?	

The contact person entered on this form will be the administrator for your organisation. They must have authority to submit applications for funding to MBIE on behalf of your organisation. They will also manage Pītau access for other people within your organisation.

Contact Person/Organisation Administrator	
Person who will be submitting your first application, and who can manage Pītau portal access for other users in your organisation.	
* Salutation (Ms, Mr, Mx, Dr etc.)	
* Full name	
* Title or position	
Mobile phone number	
* Email address	

Helpful Hints for Pītau



Pītau login is via RealMe. You will need a RealMe login, but this should not be verified.



Allow plenty of time to work in Pītau - Complete your Request for Access form early. Give your team time to set up their RealMe login and provide diversity information.



When adding key personnel to your application, search for them by full name (and preferred name, if applicable), before creating a new contact.



Add an extra Organisation Administrator if possible.



For additional help contact IMS Support: imssupport@mbie.govt.nz | 0800 693 778 (Monday to Friday 8:30am – 4:30pm)

MBIE Advice – Ara Whaihua



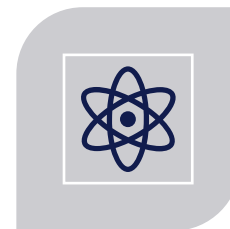
CLEARLY DESCRIBE
THE
**UNDERPINNING
SCIENCE.**



**DESCRIBE THE
PATHWAY TO
COMMERCIALISATION
AND/OR ECONOMIC
GROWTH FROM
EXCELLENT SCIENCE.**



**HIGHLIGHT
FUTURE OUTPUTS
AND OUTCOMES
OF THE PROJECT.**



**SCALE YOUR
ACTIVITY TO FIT
THE STEP.**



MBIE Advice – Rangapū Rangahau



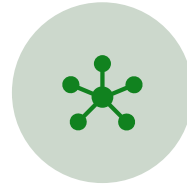
CLEARLY
DESCRIBE HOW
YOUR PROJECT
IS **CO-
DEVELOPED/CO-
DESIGNED**



DESCRIBE HOW
YOU WILL
DISSEMINATE
PROJECT
FINDINGS



EMPHASISE
NEW
PARTNERSHIPS /
GOING BEYOND
BUSINESS AS
USUAL



HIGHLIGHT
SCIENCE,
OUTPUTS AND
OUTCOMES OF
THE PROJECT.



EXPLAIN HOW THE
PROJECT ALIGNS
WITH ECONOMIC
GROWTH AND/OR
ENVIRONMENTAL
OUTCOMES.

MBIE Advice

- **READ** all the provided documentation
- **DON'T LEAVE THE PREPARATION OF YOUR APPLICATION TO THE LAST MINUTE**; allow time to check for obvious mistakes.
- Make sure that **ALL RELEVANT INFORMATION IS PROVIDED** in all sections of the application so that it **ACCURATELY REPRESENTS THE PROJECT**.
- Ensure that any **ACRONYMS ARE DEFINED**
- Ensure the **TITLE** simply and accurately reflects the proposal aims, particularly the underpinning science and the economic benefit.
- Your **PUBLIC STATEMENT** must accurately capture the underpinning science and clearly describe the outputs in a way that is understandable by a wider audience.
- Ensure you use either the **RS&T CV template or Narrative CV template** for key personnel.
- **ANZSRC codes** are mandatory; carefully read the instructions.
- You should apply under the **ORGANISATION NAME/LEGAL ENTITY** you wish to be contracted under.



Questions? | Pātai?

Use the Q&A function





MBIE Closing Karakia

Ka hiki te tapu

Kia wātea ai te ara

Kia turuki ai te ao mārama

Hui ē, Tāiki ē

TRANSLATION:

Restrictions are moved aside

So the pathway is clear

To return to everyday activities

Enriched and unified.

Ara Whaihua applications CLOSE 12 noon, 8 October 2025

Rangapū Rangahau applications CLOSE 12 noon, 1 October 2025

Questions about applying?

HAWCF@mbie.govt.nz

info@mokokauri.co.nz

Questions about Pītau?

imssupport@mbie.govt.nz

0800 693 778 Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 4:30pm

