MINISTRY OF BUSINESS, INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT
HĪKINA WHAKATUTUKI

He Ara Whakahihiko Capability Fund Webinar and Q&A

Wednesday 25 June 2025

Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government

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

MĀIA
BOLD & BRAVE

PAE KAHURANGI
BUILD OUR FUTURE

MAHI TAHI
BETTER TOGETHER

PONO ME TE TIKA
OWN IT

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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?

- Be made by a NZ based **single** legal entity.
- 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.
- Work Programme **not** already funded by another Government funding scheme.
- **Not** include any full time tertiary 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 **Pītau** (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.

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- 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.
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- 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

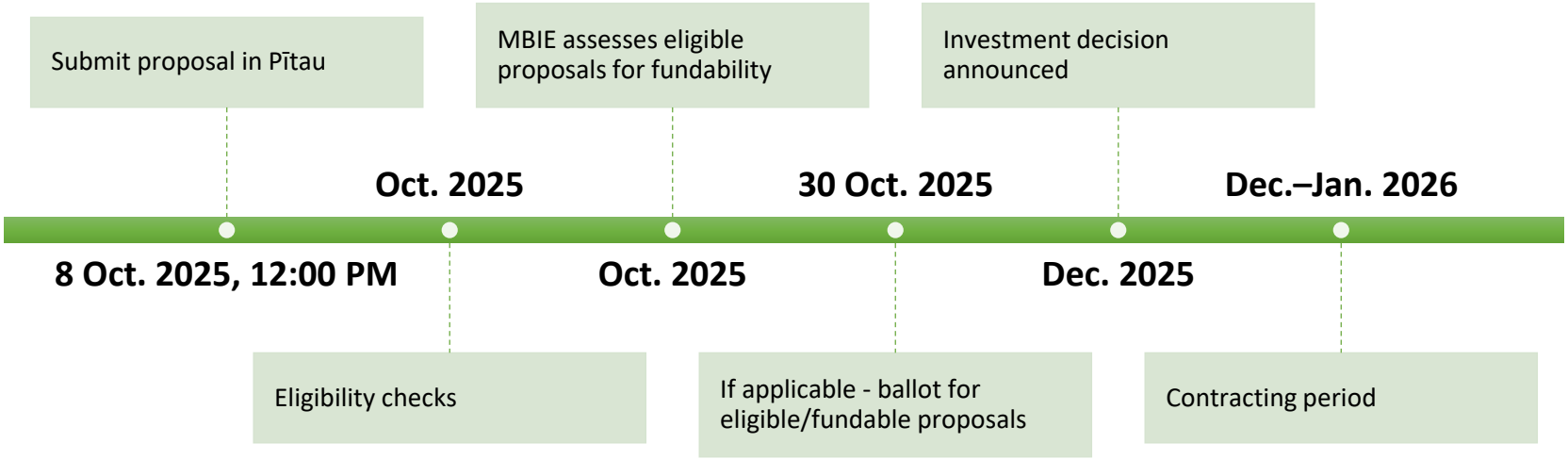
*HAWCF proposals **must not** primarily address the hauora theme. Proposals must align with the intent of the Fund.*

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 Application and Assessment Process | Te Tukanga Tono Me Te Aromatawai



Assessment Criteria | Ngā paearu aromatawai

EXCELLENCE | KAIRANGITANGA

15%	LEVERAGING EXCELLENT SCIENCE
35%	ABILITY TO DELIVER

IMPACT | PĀPĀTANGA

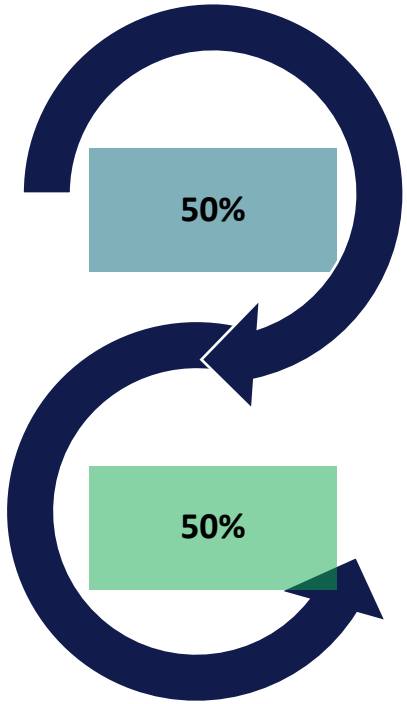
25%	OUTCOMES FROM SCIENCE, INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSLATION
25%	SCIENCE, INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY BENEFITS AND VISION MĀTAURANGA

Contracting Process

- Investment funding decisions announced and contracting starts December 2025
- Must be signed and returned to us within one month of receipt

- Successful proposals begin their work programmes **1 February 2026**

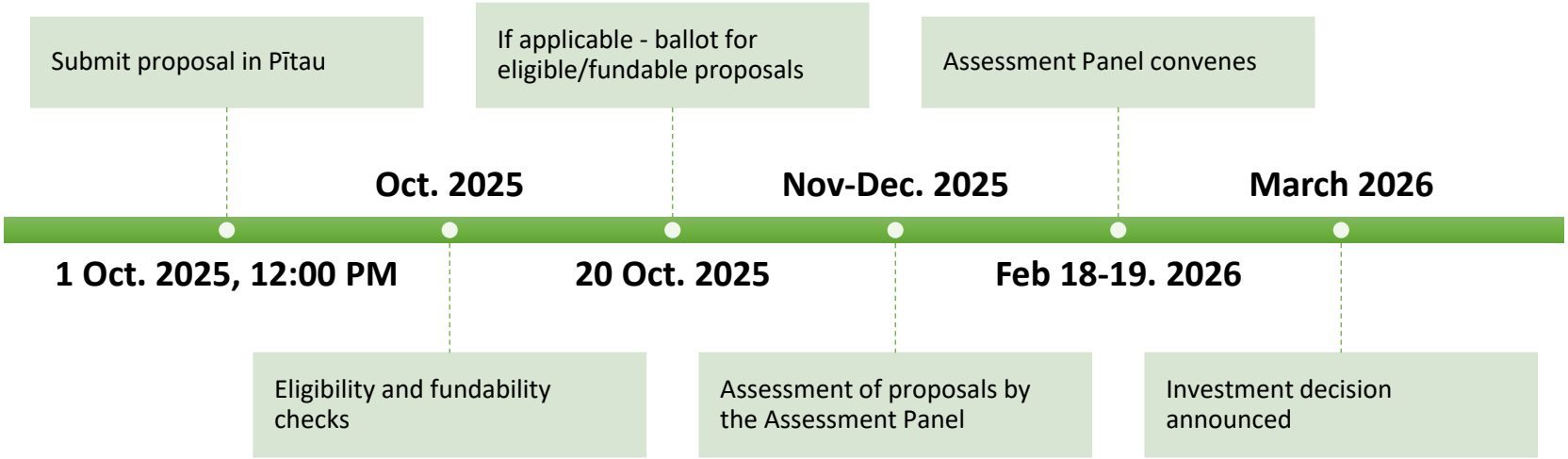
Payments



- At **start** of work programme

- At **mid-point**
- (after approval of progress report)

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

25%	DEVELOPMENT OF PEOPLE, PARTNERSHIPS, AND SKILLS
25%	ABILITY TO DELIVER

IMPACT | PĀPĀTANGA

25%	SCIENCE, INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY OUTCOMES
25%	SCIENCE, INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY BENEFITS AND VISION MĀTAURANGA

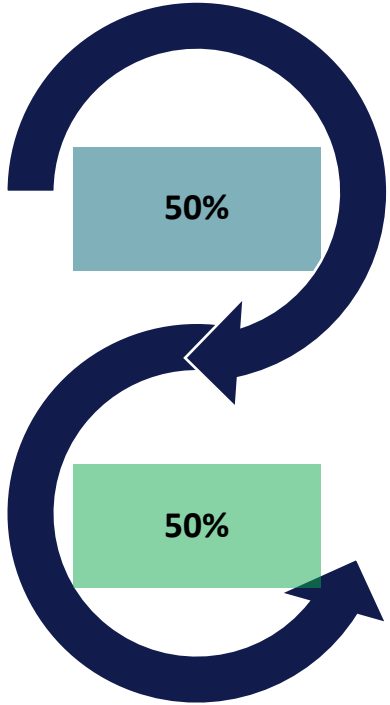
Contracting Process

- Investment funding decisions announced and contracting starts March 2026
- Must be signed and returned to us within one month of receipt

- Feedback provided to applicants when results are notified in March.

- Successful proposals begin their work programmes **1 June 2026**

Payments



- At **start** of work programme

- At **mid-point**
- (after approval of progress report)

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

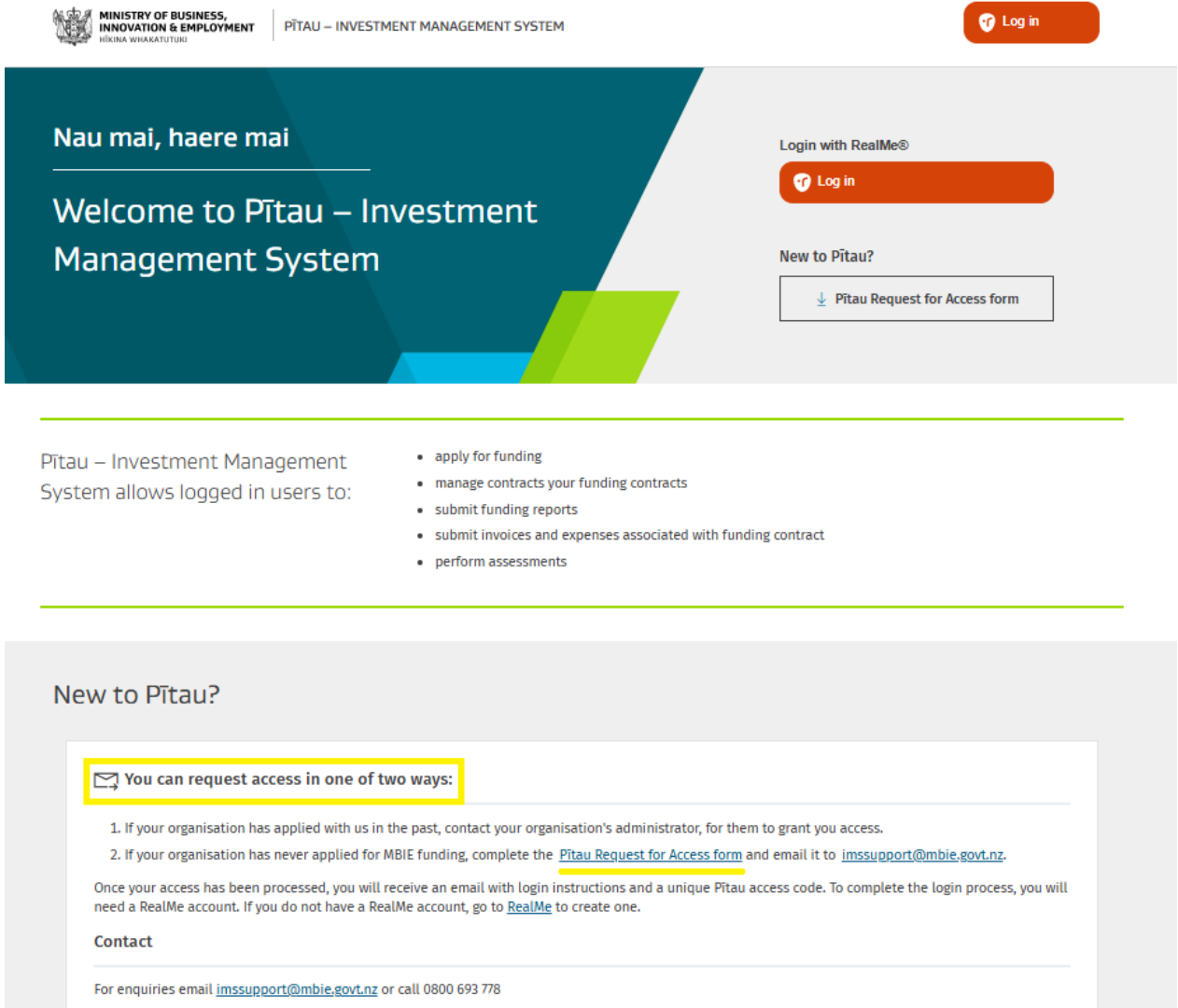
Accessing Pītau

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.



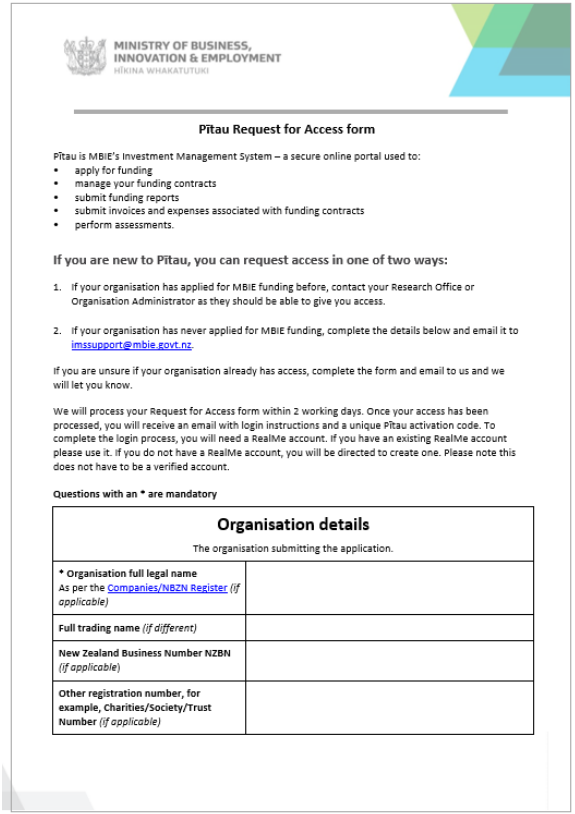
Accessing Pītau

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.



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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:

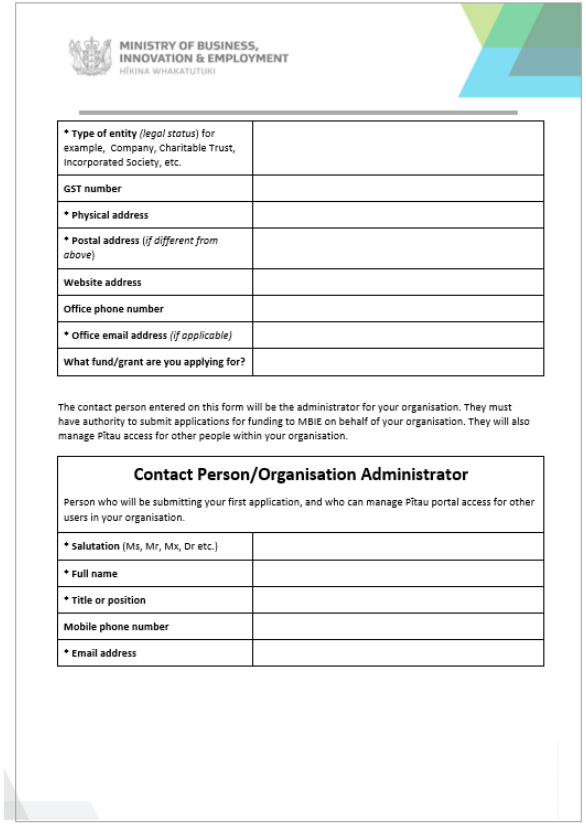
1. If your organisation has applied for MBIE funding before, contact your Research Office or Organisation Administrator as they should be able to give you access.
2. If your organisation has never applied for MBIE funding, complete the details below and email it to imssupport@mbie.govt.nz.

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/NBZN 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)*	



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*** 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.

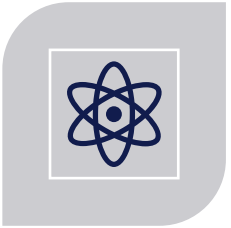
For additional help contact IMS Support: imssupport@mbie.govt.nz | 0800 693 778 (Monday to Friday 8:30am – 4:30pm)

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.



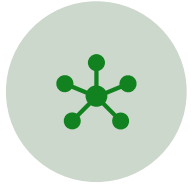
SCALE YOUR ACTIVITY TO FIT THE STEP.

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