

## ***Te Hiranga Rū QuakeCoRE 2020 Strategic Funding***

### Proposal Development Grants

#### *Scope:*

Grants are available for early-career researchers toward research-related costs for the development of contestable external research proposals targeting specific contestable funding programmes. The aim of the grant is to provide seed funding to enable miscellaneous data collection, analysis, proposal team building for the purpose of preparing strong proposals in competitive Aotearoa New Zealand public funding rounds. Proposal development grants can be requested for up to \$10,000.

#### *Requirements:*

The following material is required for submission, via the template provided:

1. Proposal Project Leader
2. Date of PhD awarded [Project Leader must have had their PhD awarded within the last 6 years. Specifically, after 1 March 2014. Extensions to this timeframe will be considered for career interruptions due to parental leave, or similar, as consistent with the Marsden Fast-Start definitions]
3. Engagement with Te Hiranga Rū QuakeCoRE to date, such as attendance at Annual Meeting, participation in Monthly Flagship Calls or Associate Investigator
4. Title of the proposal to be developed [nominal title]
5. Mentor to the Project Leader
  - a. The mentor should be an existing PI/AI of QuakeCoRE and be able to provide advice to the Project Leader with respect to the various aspects of the proposal development (research question, methods, team members, etc.)
6. Select the contestable funding agency to be applied for. Available options in this funding round are:
  - a. 2021 Marsden Fast-Start Round. Proposal submission mid-Feb 2021.
    - i. Please advise which “Marsden Fund Panel” you anticipate your proposal will reside within [see: <https://www.royalsociety.org.nz/what-we-do/funds-and-opportunities/marsden/about/marsden-fund-panels/> ]
  - b. 2021 MBIE Smart Ideas Investment Round. Proposal submissions early November 2020.
    - i. Please advise which “Fund Objective” you anticipate your proposal will reside within. [see page 7 of: <https://www.mbie.govt.nz/assets/6a4e807a69/2019-endeavour-fund-investment-plan.pdf> ]
7. Summary of the current conceptualisation of the research proposal (100-200 words)
8. Funding requested [allowable range \$5000-\$10,000]
9. Specifics of the intended use of the funding. Examples uses, for which details should be provided, may include, but are not limited to, one of more of the following:



- a. Collection of incremental data to enable pilot data analysis for proposal research question and/or hypothesis determination.
  - b. Data analysis, or numerical analysis to provide baseline results for proposal research question and/or hypothesis determination.
  - c. Initiating collaborations with researchers from other organisations whose skillsets have been identified as synergistic for the proposal
  - d. Support for a Research Assistant, where project funding is used to support project staff, the staff member must be named in the application documents.
10. Please attach a 'standard' (5 page) MBIE CV for the Project Leader

*Timelines:*

1. Submission: Proposals will be accepted from 24 January – 14 February 2020.
2. Evaluation: Proposals will be evaluated and applicants notified by 28 February 2020
3. Commencement: 1 March 2020
4. Contract End: 30 September 2020<sup>1</sup>

*Evaluation criteria:*

1. The Project Leader has been actively involved in QuakeCoRE to date (e.g. Flagship meetings, QuakeCoRE Annual Meeting) [30%]
2. The proposal title and summary indicates a basic conceptualisation of the project, and is consistent with the funding agency and panel/objective considered [30%]
3. The use of the requested funding is well articulated, specifically indicating: (i) how the funding will be used, and (ii) how that use will directly assist in the development of a competitive proposal. [40%]

*Contracting:*

Funding will be contracted to the Project Leader via a Letter Agreement. Reimbursement will be made based on actual expenses up to the maximum amount specified in the Letter Agreement. Invoices should be submitted to Te Hiranga Rū QuakeCoRE for payment on the 15 July 2020 for the period 1 March 2020 – 30 June 2020 and on the 15 October for the period 1 July – 30 September 2020.

*Reporting requirements:*

The following reporting requirements are intended to capture key project progress in an efficient manner.

1. 3 month report (1 June 2020)
  - a. Answer the questions: Is the proposal development proceeding as intended? If no, please advise of changes to the proposal.
  - b. Please summarise (100-200 words) the activities undertaken to date
  - c. Please confirm the name of the contact in your organisations Research Office that you have discussed the proposal with.

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<sup>1</sup>Due to the TEC contracting ending in 2020, no extension past this date will be possible under any circumstances



- d. Do you anticipate spending the full amount of the requested budget?
- e. A copy of the submitted report will be sent the Project Leader and Mentor
- 2. Project Leader: 6 month completion report (30 September 2020)
  - a. Do you still intend to submit a proposal as planned? If no, please advise of changes in your intentions
  - b. Please summarise (200-300 words) the total activities undertaken during the proposal development grant
  - c. Do you have any feedback on the QuakeCoRE proposal development funding process that could make it more useful in the future?
  - d. A copy of the submitted report will be sent the Project Leader and Mentor
- 3. Project Mentor: 6 month completion report (30 September 2020)
  - a. What support did you provide to the Project Leader as part of this project?
  - b. Do you have any feedback on the QuakeCoRE proposal development funding process that could make it more useful in the future?