



# PŪTAHI MANAWA

HEALTHY HEARTS FOR  
AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

## Le Alamea Pūtahi Manawa Fund 2025 - Call for Proposals

### Pūtahi Manawa mission:

Through research excellence, we will progress equity in heart health outcomes for Māori and Pacific Peoples and improve cardiovascular health and well-being for all in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Together, we reach beyond a 'business as usual' approach and create a connected and collaborative environment for cardiovascular health research grounded within the Indigenous paradigm of Aotearoa. We take a life course approach, guided by Māori and Pacific values and principles, to address the nation's crisis of equity for cardiovascular health in Aotearoa by earlier, more precise and personalised prevention, prediction, detection/diagnosis, and treatment of cardiovascular disease.

### About the Le Alamea Fund:

Le Alamea Pūtahi Manawa Fund aims to improve Pacific heart health equity through research excellence by responding to the voices of our Pacific communities and improving the well-being of all peoples across Te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa and globally.

Le Alamea refers to the Crown-of-Thorns starfish significant in the Samoan proverb, "E fofu le alamea le alamea" - "the alamea heals itself" signifying "the solution lies within" and emphasising the belief that our communities possess resilience and wisdom to resolve their own challenges.

Guided by Pūtahi Manawa's Pacific Strategy and led by our Pacific Leadership Team we announce the opening of the inaugural **Le Alamea Pūtahi Manawa Fund** to close the gap in equitable heart health services, workforce development and community participation.

We are seeking high impact interdisciplinary projects that will:

- Improve and increase Pacific research for heart health equity,
- Create workforce growth and sustainability
- Improve heart health promotion with education and community partnerships

Projects are not restricted to medical specialties and may include initiatives in technology, data sovereignty and innovative approaches to health promotion, participation and engagement.

- We will also consider project applications for piloting programmes in public engagement, health promotion or community projects. These would need to clearly show alignment with research that aims to improve Pacific heart health equity.
- For creative organisations, proposed work must also have a very clear link to heart health.

The project does not need to be conducted by a primarily research organisation and could be a community organisation.

### Fund duration and funding:

This fund pool comprises of \$2 million and will be allocated to community and research projects between \$50,000 and \$500,000 for the period February 2026 up until 31 October 2028.

## Criteria

- All projects must be led by persons of Indigenous Pacific descent.
- All projects must focus on improving heart health for Pacific Peoples
- Applicants must adhere to the guidelines and space limitations as detailed in this call for proposals and the application or else the application will be disqualified.

Projects can be:

- Pacific community led research - translational/preventative/interventional research
- Workforce development and Pacific entry to research
- Health promotion /community/education and schools (must have a research component eg, evaluation of effectiveness of the programme)

## Who can apply:

- Those who work in the following sectors - research organisations, health providers, or community organisations (eg. NGOs, charitable trusts, churches, sports groups)
- To be considered for this fund, you must be of indigenous Pacific descent.
- You do not have to be a New Zealand Citizen or Resident to be eligible, but you must have a right to work/hold a current visa to work in New Zealand. The principal investigator (research team lead) must be based in New Zealand but may undertake some of the research overseas.

## The application process:

Applications will be assessed for a shortlist of projects. These candidates will be invited for a talanoa with Pūtahi Manawa's Pacific Leadership Team about their project and if approved will progress to the full and final stage of assessment.

Pūtahi Manawa is committed to open discussion, freedom of ideas and expression, and considerate of differences and diverse viewpoints. We foster an environment that recognises and acknowledges every person and group, and value inclusion, dignity, understanding and mutual respect (see Pūtahi Manawa vision and mission statements).

## Key Dates:

Applications open	25 July 2025
Applications close	1 September 2025
Shortlisted applicants announced	12 September 2025
Talanoa with shortlisted applicants	17 September 2025
Final applications for shortlisted applicants close	Midday 30 September 2025
Awards announced	10 November 2025
Projects begin by	1 February 2026
Projects completed by	31 October 2028

## Budget:

Please use budget template provided and follow the instructions on the template. The purpose of this budget is to demonstrate that the project is sufficiently resourced to achieve the project objectives. If awarded the Pūtahi Manawa operations team will work with you to produce a more detailed budget.

### Scoring and Weightings:

	Weighting
Significance and Rationale	30%
Methods and Approach	20%
Team Strength	20%
Likelihood for tangible impact	30%

### Conditions:

- Presentations or publications or media (eg, press releases), or patents resulting from the award will acknowledge Pūtahi Manawa's support and be submitted as part of regular reporting.
- The organisation the applicant will be employed at for the project will administer the award. If there are changes in details of the project team or research project, a variation request will need to be submitted to the Pūtahi Manawa operations team.
- Regular reporting will be required. If it is deemed that inadequate progress has been made, a review may be triggered. A final report will be required on the project end date.

### How to apply:

Please apply via the Pūtahi Manawa member portal - <https://portal.putahimanawa.ac.nz>

### Contact information:

[hhanzcoregrants@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:hhanzcoregrants@auckland.ac.nz)