

Te Korowai Pūtahi Manawa Kapa Haka and Cardiovascular Health Research Grant

Request for Proposals

At a Glance

Indicative value: up to NZD \$300,000.

Project duration: up to 24 months, with all work completed by the end of October 2028, aligned with the CoRE funding timeframe.

Background

Pūtahi Manawa seeks to improve equity in heart health for Māori and Pacific Peoples through research excellence and precision medicine. This targeted grant, sitting within the Te Korowai Pūtahi Manawa funding stream, will support a high-quality, translational research project focused on the cardiovascular and wider heart-health-related impacts of kapa haka. The Te Korowai Pūtahi Manawa funding stream enacts Pūtahi Manawa's commitment to research that is grounded in Indigenous values, connected to communities, and capable of informing real-world prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and service change. Through Te Korowai Pūtahi Manawa, the successful applicants will join a cohort of community-based kaupapa Māori researchers working on different heart health kaupapa.

Purpose of the grant

This grant is intended to generate robust evidence on whether, how, and for whom kapa haka contributes to improved cardiovascular health and wellbeing. Applications should move beyond description and propose a credible intervention, observational, or implementation-focused study with a clear line of sight to equity impact and translation.

Scope

Applications may address one or more of the following: cardiovascular risk reduction; blood pressure, cardiorespiratory fitness, metabolic or other heart-health indicators; health behaviours such as physical activity, kai, attendance, adherence, or engagement; mechanisms through which kapa haka contributes to heart health; implementation and sustainability in whānau, kura, community, primary care, or provider settings; and wider value components such as whānau outcomes, economic evaluation, or social return on investment where these are integrated into a sound health research design.

Preferred features of proposals

Pūtahi Manawa will prioritise proposals that are Māori-led; demonstrate scientific rigor; partner with kapa haka communities; use mixed methods where appropriate; include a feasible translation plan; and show how the work will strengthen Māori research capability and contribute to heart health equity.

Grant duration and funding

Up to NZD \$300,000 is available. Pūtahi Manawa reserves the right to fund one proposal in full, fund one proposal in part, request revisions prior to contracting, or make no award if the required standard is not met.



The project may be up to 24 months in duration, with all work completed by the end of October 2028, aligned with the CoRE funding timeframe.

Who can apply

Applications are welcomed from organisations with a demonstrated track record in Māori health research, cardiovascular research, intervention evaluation, and/or kaupapa Māori community research. University teams, Māori providers, iwi-based entities, and collaborative partnerships are all eligible where the proposed team can demonstrate the required capability and governance arrangements.

Key Dates

Applications open: 3 July 2026.

Submit an intention to apply by: 24 July 2026

- Email your research team details to hhanzcoregrants@auckland.ac.nz

Deadline for proposals: Midday 11 August 2026.

- Applications must be submitted through the online portal (see *How to Apply* below).

Results announced: September 2026.

Contracting and project commencement: as soon as practical thereafter

Funding Criteria:

All proposals should be aligned with our CoRE principles as outlined in the table below.

	Definition
Scientific integrity	<i>Best practice or rules of professional practice in research</i> How robust is the science? How relevant is this topic to the aims of Pūtahi Manawa? Evidence of peer review on background work?
Equity	<i>Fairness and justice, distinct from equality</i> How does the proposal address /enhance equity/ intervene in inequity? How will this funding impact equity?
Te Tiriti o Waitangi	<i>Acknowledgment and upholding of Te Tiriti o Waitangi</i> How is Te Tiriti o Waitangi embedded and advanced in this research? How are Māori partnership, leadership, and governance included?
Community engagement	<i>Contributing to Community Visions of Wellbeing</i> What communities will be involved in your research? How does your research impact these communities and their wellbeing aspirations? How will you ensure community voices are included within the research governance? Is Maori data sovereignty upheld? Any project that is dependent on community engagement and/or co-design must have already established the necessary relationships.
Translation	<i>Translation is the process of passing research findings along the research pathway to the next user and/or end user.</i>



	How will you translate your findings? Make explicit how your research will improve heart health equity How will this project engage with the community and stakeholders and build capacity for Māori researchers? How will dissemination of results to Māori communities occur?
Multidisciplinary and Team Excellence	<i>Tell us about your team.</i> Is the research team Maori-led? Who are the key stakeholders? What research disciplines are involved? What is the track record, relative to opportunity, of the team?

Scoring and Weightings:

- Sections A and C: Research team and community involvement (33.33%)
- Section B: Research plan (33.33%)
- Section C: Alignment to CoRE principles (33.33%)

Conditions:

- Presentations, publications, or media (e.g. press releases), or patents resulting from the project will acknowledge Pūtahi Manawa's support and be submitted as part of regular reporting.
- The applicant will upload an image of themselves to their Pūtahi Manawa member portal account and be available to be interviewed upon request.
- The applicants' host institution will administer the project. If there are changes to the research project, a variation request will need to be submitted to the Pūtahi Manawa administration team before implementation.
- Half-yearly reporting will be required.

How to apply:

Step 1 – Submit an Intention to Apply

Deadline: 24 July 2026

Please email hhanzcoregrants@auckland.ac.nz with your research team information, including: Name, Role on the Project, Organisation. You may use the table provided in **Section A** of the application form.

Step 2 – Submit Your Application

Deadline: Midday, 11 August 2026

Please sign in to the portal, go to "Funding Opportunities" on your dashboard, select the opportunity you are applying for, and submit your application form and documents.



Applicants should provide the completed application form, budget template, and a New Zealand RS&T Curriculum Vitae or Narrative CV Template for all Investigators.

If you have any issues with accessing the portal or submitting your application, please contact hhanzcoregrants@auckland.ac.nz.

CV format

Please use the CV template provided. The template provides options for two formats MBIE's Narrative CV template or the New Zealand RS&T – template. You may use whichever format you prefer.

Contact information:

hhanzcoregrants@auckland.ac.nz

Our office hours are Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

