



# **Antarctic Science Platform**

## **Request for Proposals**

### **Early Career Researcher Capability Fund 2019**

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## Contents

Joint NZARI - Platform Call for Proposals.....	3
Funding Scope .....	3
Requirements.....	3
Budget .....	4
Timeline .....	4
Submission .....	4
Accompanying Documents .....	4
Assessment Criteria.....	5
Successful Grants .....	5
Conditions of Contract.....	5
Reporting .....	5
Contacts .....	5

## Joint NZARI - Platform Call for Proposals

The New Zealand Antarctic Research Institute (NZARI) and the Antarctic Science Platform (“Platform”) are jointly calling for research funding proposals for three types of grant:

1. NZARI Seed Grant for Early Career Researchers
2. Antarctic Science Platform Early Career Researcher Capability Fund
3. Antarctic Science Platform Data Analysis Fund

Each grant (ca.10-20k) will fund either (i) a small seed project, (ii) early career researcher development, or (iii) analysis and interpretation of existing data.

The awards will NOT include any logistics support for field work in Antarctica.

**IMPORTANT NOTE: This Request for Proposals ONLY covers the instructions for (2) the Antarctic Science Platform Early Career Researcher Capability Fund.**

For information on the other two funds, please visit the websites:

<https://nzari.aq/>

[www.antarcticsscience.nz](http://www.antarcticsscience.nz)

## Funding Scope

The purpose of the Antarctic Science Platform is to conduct excellent science to understand Antarctica’s impact on the global earth system, and how this might change in a +2°C (Paris agreement) world. For more information about the Platform – visit [www.antarcticsscience.nz](http://www.antarcticsscience.nz).

The 2019 Early Career Researcher (ECR) Capability Fund aims to support the applicant’s attendance at a summer school, training course or appropriate opportunity that provides important skill sets for their scientific capability, and focusses on relevant Antarctic Science Platform themes.

This fund has a total value of \$50,000 and will fund up to \$10,000 per application (all values exclude GST).

## Requirements

- Only one proposal per applicant will be accepted in the joint NZARI-Platform call for proposals. The applicant must select from one of the three funds, and the same project may not be submitted to more than one fund.
- Applicants should be enrolled in a PhD or be within 8 years of submission of their PhD.
- The applicant’s institution must be in New Zealand.
- The applicant must reside in New Zealand.
- Applications are encouraged from those not already funded by the Antarctic Science Platform.
- The grant will run for a maximum of 12 months, with a start date to be agreed. The project must be completed and invoiced by 31 December 2020.
- Funds requested from the Antarctic Science platform cannot exceed \$10,000 (excl. GST)
- The capability building activity can occur in New Zealand or overseas.
- The funding is for direct costs such as travel, registration fee, or course attendance fee.
- Funding for conference attendance is excluded.

- Applicants must be prepared to support the Antarctic Science Platform public outreach activities.

## Budget

Funds are awarded to assist with the direct costs of the project. Investigators may propose directing Antarctic Science Platform support towards any item(s) or area(s) required to support attendance at a summer school, training course or other appropriate opportunity. This funding is not to be used for personnel costs or overhead costs.

Each proposal must contain a budget. The amounts requested for each budget line item must be documented and explained in the budget justification.

The budget should include total costs and detail where costs are requested from the Antarctic Science Platform and where matching support is already available to the project or being sought from other sources.

## Timeline

Call for proposals	9 August 2019
Application deadline (5pm)	16 September 2019
Assessment of applications	September-October 2019
Applicants notified of outcome	End of October 2019
Contracting	November 2019
Projects commence	1 November - 31 December 2019

## Submission

Please submit the completed application form including accompanying documents in a single pdf file (not exceeding 7MB file size) to [scienceplatform@antarcticnz.govt.nz](mailto:scienceplatform@antarcticnz.govt.nz). The application deadline is **Monday, 16 September 2019** at 5pm.

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

## Accompanying Documents

Include the following support materials in your application:

1. One Curriculum Vitae (CV), using the NZ RS&T CV template provided (for the applicant only).
2. One letter of recommendation from your **current** supervisor, programme leader or co-Principle Investigator (as appropriate) that:
  - a. endorses the quality of your chosen professional development activity; and

- b. shows how this activity aligns with your professional development and New Zealand’s Antarctic Science capability.

## Assessment Criteria

Applications will be assessed on the information provided in the application form and the accompanying documents. Applications will be assessed by the Platform Leadership Team.

Selection is based on an applicant’s demonstration of academic excellence, relevance of technical skills and experience, depth of understanding of the proposed needs, and how the proposed activity will advance knowledge of Antarctic science, as it align with the themes of the Antarctic Science Platform.

Assessment criteria will be weighted in the following manner:

40%	Track Record: Applicant’s research delivery and outputs to date (appropriate for their career stage)
30%	Value of Proposed Activity: Appropriateness of proposed professional development activity to contribute to development of the applicant (suitable for their discipline at their career stage)
30%	Alignment with Antarctic Science Platform: Applicant’s research area, skills and interest are within the scope of the Platform, and their plan to share their experience is sound and will build New Zealand capability

## Successful Grants

### Conditions of Contract

In making its investment decisions, the Antarctic Science Platform may also:

- set pre-contract conditions which must be met before the investment is contracted;
- negotiate appropriate and agreed milestones and deliverables;
- assess the appropriateness of the budget submitted with the application.

If an application is successful, a contract will be entered into between Antarctica New Zealand (as the host of the Antarctic Science Platform) and the PI’s institution. The payment schedule will likely be 70% payment of funding on signing of contract, and 30% payment of funding on delivery of the final milestone and report.

### Reporting

Funded researchers will be required to submit one final report, aligned with the Platform’s internal reporting deadlines of either 28 February, 30 June or 30 September annually.

## Contacts

Antarctic Science Platform Manager

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