

Ko te Rangahau me te Auaha

Ako Aotearoa Research and Innovation Agenda co-funding (AARIA)



AARIA 2025 – proposed priorities guide

Broader priorities – are high-level funding priorities that bring together the strategic aims of Ako Aotearoa.

Targeted priorities identify specific areas of research, learning, and teaching provision where we want to see growth or change.

Key dates

- Funding round opens March 2025
- Full proposals due May 2025

Background

The 2025 request for proposals aims to catalyse systems-level change within the tertiary education sector, with the goal of advancing more equitable learner outcomes.

We invite proposals that contribute to the following objectives:

- Improve systems and processes that support best practices at an organisational level and the connection between its wider partners (iwi, industry and community).
- Ensure equitable outcomes for Māori, Pacific, neurodiverse, and disabled ākonga.
- Response to pressing global and local issues such as technological advances (eg: A.I); online learning; and the needs of learners from low socio-economic and low-income backgrounds.
- Facilitate system-wide change across the tertiary education sector and greater alignment with the Tertiary Education Strategy (TES) objectives.

2024 Co-funded Projects

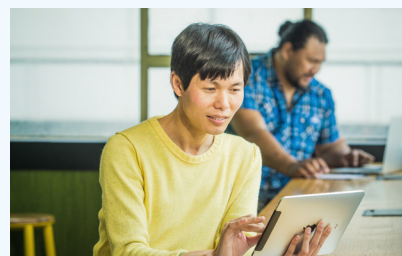
All projects, outputs and findings can be found on our Knowledge Centre



Can a focus on ākonga Māori learning experiences positively impact on the learning experiences for all ākonga.



Circle of Knowledge: Engaging strategies for teaching and learning.



Matapaki Atamai Hangahanga | Promoting reflective and interactive learning with AI conversations.



Panitīnaku | Kaupapa Māori approaches to doctoral examination.



A Tiriti-led approach to psychology.



Empowering Aotearoa: An Inclusive approach to AI literacy in tertiary education.

2025 funding allocation

Value: \$25,000 – \$80,000 over the term of the contract

Duration: 5 months – 12 months

Total funding pool: \$400,000

Broader priorities

1. **Auaha (Innovation):** Driving system-level transformation in tertiary education with a learner-centred approach and addressing the evolving needs of ākonga and the broader education system.
2. **Te Tiriti o Waitangi (Treaty of Waitangi):** Honouring Te Tiriti o Waitangi in tertiary education.
3. **Ōritetanga (Equity):** Achieving system-wide equity for all ākonga
4. **Hua Akoranga (Learner Outcomes):** Education and training that delivers for all learners, including supporting the work readiness of all learners.

Targeted priorities

Education	Neurodiversity, Te Tiriti o Waitangi (Treaty of Waitangi), Mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge), Pacific Cultures, Leadership of teaching
Technology	Artificial Intelligence, Education Technology

Eligibility

To be eligible for funding, projects must be:

1. Be made by an Aotearoa New Zealand-based tertiary education organisation (TEO)[1] or a New Zealand citizen/resident employed by an Aotearoa New Zealand-based TEO.
2. Be for research or related activities, the majority of which are to be undertaken in Aotearoa New Zealand.
3. Research and related activities are required to completely focus on Aotearoa New Zealand tertiary education. Proposals targeting on the compulsory sector (eg: secondary schools) are not eligible, even if the proposed research result can contribute to tertiary education.

To find out more, visit ako.ac.nz/AARIA

The screenshot shows the Ako Aotearoa website header with navigation links: Pūtahi Mātauranga Knowledge Centre, Te Akoranga Ngaio Professional Learning, Storehouse of Māori Knowledge Te Pātaka Mātauranga Māori, Foundation Learning Manako, Ko ngā Hōtaka me ngā Ratonga Programmes and Services, and Mō Mātou About Us and News. A banner below the navigation features the text 'Project co-funding Ko te Rangahau me te Auaha Research and Innovation' and an illustration of a plant growing from a stack of coins.

If you are interested in either applying to the AARIA Contestable Funding Round for 2025 or have questions, please email research@ako.ac.nz



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