

# New Zealand Product Accelerator Industry Collaboration Funding 2025

## Purpose:

The **New Zealand Product Accelerator (NZPA) Industry Collaboration Funding** is designed to support industry-led research projects that support the implementation of innovation in NZ businesses. This funding aims to enable researchers to develop relationships and collaborations with NZ industry. Successful applications must demonstrate a clearly identified industry need and outline how research collaboration will lead to practical and commercial outcomes for the business. This fund is open to all the early career researchers from New Zealand Universities, Public Research Organisations (PROs) or an independent research institution (IRANZ members).

## Criteria

The **NZPA Industry Collaboration Funding** is open to engage in industry-led research projects that support the implementation of innovation. The fund aims to address critical industry challenges. To be considered, applications must clearly define:

- The collaboration must demonstrate a clear benefit to New Zealand and be a **new partnership between a company and a researcher**, rather than an extension of an existing project.
- Engage with an industry partner to address a current challenge and outline how this collaboration will contribute to a viable solution and value creation.
- The business should be a registered entity that must operate in New Zealand and engage in value-creating activities.

## How much Funding?

There will be **10 funded positions** available, each valued at up to **\$10,000**. Projects are expected to be short-term, with a maximum duration of **six months unless otherwise agreed with NZPA**.

## How to Apply?

Interested researchers can submit their completed applications via the following link: [Apply Here](#)

For any queries, please contact [nzpa@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:nzpa@auckland.ac.nz).

## Assessment Process and Timeline:

Applications will be evaluated by an NZPA panel based on the **social, economic, or environmental benefits** of the proposed project. Shortlisted applicants will be interviewed by the NZPA assessment panel. The applications will close on Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> November 2025.

## Terms & Conditions:

A successfully funded researcher will need to be a member of the NZ Product Accelerator network (no cost for joining) and should:

1. Commit to being an active partner in the network and be available for discussions and engagements with companies where their expertise is relevant.
2. Provide verbal project updates quarterly during NZPA's weekly operations meetings, with frequency determined by project duration.
3. Submit an interim report within 3 months of project commencement, and a final report upon project completion and participate in an NZPA event upon project completion.
4. Acknowledge NZPA funding in any relevant publications, reports, or presentations.
5. Allow NZPA to use non-confidential project information for reporting and promotional purposes.
6. Typically, only one project per researcher will be funded at any given time under standard conditions.
7. The funding must be exclusively used at New Zealand University, Public Research Organisation or an independent research institution (IRANZ members) for direct project-related costs.
8. Funding is provided on a competitive basis, subject to the availability of funds.
9. NZPA decisions on funding allocation is at the sole discretion of NZPA.
10. Each researcher can receive the Industry Collaboration Fund only once.
11. The funding is not intended to cover primary researchers' salary or overheads.
12. The primary researcher should be intending to pursue an academic career.
13. The researcher should be affiliated with the New Zealand Universities, Public Research Organisations (PROs) or an independent research institution (IRANZ members).

### Early-Career Researcher (ECR) Definition

**\*Early-career researcher (ECR):** A researcher in the first 5–10 years after completing their PhD, developing independence and building their research profile.

### IP Management Statement

**\* The NZ Product Accelerator does not manage intellectual property (IP); all IP arrangements must be agreed directly between the institution and the industry partner.**

## New Zealand Product Accelerator Industry Collaboration Funding Application Form

- This form can be modified but the application should be a maximum of 4 pages in total.
- Submitted information will remain confidential to the application panel.
- Submit their completed applications via the following link: [Apply Here](#), by 5pm Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> November 2025.

| Business Information  |  |
|---|--|
| Business Name   |  |
| Registered Business Number<br>(if applicable)                         |  |
| Primary Contact Name & Position                                       |  |
| Email   |  |
| Phone   |  |
| Business Address  |  |
| Industry Sector   |  |
| Business Sign off   |  |
| Project Overview  |  |
| Project Title   |  |
| Brief Description of the Industry<br>Challenge <i>(Max 250 words)</i> |  |
| Objective of the Project  |  |
| Expected Industry Impact &<br>Benefits                                |  |

| Project Details  |   |
|--|---|
| Proposed Start Date  |   |
| Estimated Duration   |   |
| Key Milestones & Deliverables  |   |
| Industry Involvement<br>(e.g., contribution of materials,<br>testing facilities, co-funding, etc.) |   |
| IP arrangements  | <p>Have discussions taken place regarding intellectual property (IP) arrangements with your industry partner where IP outcomes are anticipated?</p> <p><b>Response Options:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• No <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul> |

| Budget and Funding Request |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| Total Project Budget (NZD) | <i>Please provide budget as line items</i> |

|                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Funding Amount Requested (NZD)</b> |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|

### Expected Outcomes

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>How will this project contribute to industry growth or innovation?</b> |  |
| <b>Potential for commercialization and scalability:</b>                   |  |
| <b>Value Capture and Researcher Involvement</b>                           |  |

### Declaration & Agreement

I declare that the information provided in this application is accurate:

**Name:**

**Position:**

**Institution**

**Signature:**

**Date:**