



High-Value Nutrition National Science Challenge

Ko Ngā Kai Whai Painga

Funding is available for Māori food and beverage businesses

The High Value Nutrition (HVN) National Science Challenge has funding from a \$13.7M contestable fund available over the next four years, including a specific fund for Māori Food and Beverage (F&B) businesses and a specific fund for Emerging F&B businesses. We are investing in science that can be used by industry to differentiate F&B products in local and international markets based on their proven health benefits. We know that validating the health and wellness benefits of a F&B product leads to increased consumer interest, and increased market value. We are also investing in developing the innovation capacity of F&B businesses in New Zealand.

We have designed some new structures around our fund, making it easier for businesses to engage with us and access support. We are proactively seeking to identify Māori F&B businesses who may benefit from HVN investment. If you would like to know more, please contact us and we will describe the opportunities in more detail and discuss potential next steps with you.

Are you developing a food or beverage product that will offer consumers a health solution?

Do you wish to undertake scientific research to explore the health benefits of your product?

Do you have an early-stage idea for a new food or beverage product that offers a health or wellness solution, and need some help to develop and test your idea further?

If so, we can help you. We offer two types of contestable funding: Development Grants and Research Grants. There are four different tiers of Research Grants available, which offer multiple entry points to the fund for projects that are at different stages of development.

Development Grants enable you to undertake preliminary research to inform an eventual Research Grant Proposal. Examples of eligible activities include studies exploring food composition and digestibility, regulatory reviews, consumer insights research, and work to develop an industry cluster. Our maximum Development Grant is \$50,000 over a 12-month period.

Research Grants enable a range of early through to late stage clinical studies, including Feasibility Studies and Pilot Studies. A Research Grant application needs to be developed and submitted in partnership with a research organisation who will undertake the science/research. We can help to connect you with an appropriate research organisation. Our Research Grants can range from \$100,000 (for projects up to 12 months) to \$1M (for projects up to 36 months), depending on your needs.

HVN also supports Māori researcher capacity building through **internship** and **student scholarship** opportunities.

Talk to us about your needs. We can fund various proportions of your total project costs, depending on your project size and scope.

In addition to the contestable fund pathway, HVN works with industry to conduct clinical trials exploring the health effects of F&B products across four priority research areas: **Digestive Health, Metabolic Health, Immune Health, and Infant Health.**

Our Priority Research Programmes are supported by Science of Food and Consumer Insights platforms. The Priority Research Programmes have significant investments and are designed to provide a research platform that businesses can access to scientifically validate the health effects of their products. Talk to us if you would like more information on our Priority Research Programme investments.

FAQ: Frequently Asked Questions

How do I apply? Talk to us first. Connect with us via our website or email. Alternatively, you can submit an initial Expression of Interest form and we will give you some feedback before you submit a Full Proposal. We will tell you early on if we think your project will not meet our criteria. Full details and forms are on our website. Contact us and we can talk you through next steps.

Will you help me write my application? No, but we will guide you through the process, and can put you in touch with consultants who can write it with you, if you need additional help.

When can I apply? You can apply at any time. Our Assessment Panel meets quarterly.

What can't we fund? We can't fund any research on foods that are explicitly excluded from nutrition claims and health claims under Standard 1.2.7 (e.g. infant formula, foods that contain more than 1.15% alcohol by volume). We do not fund any research relating to Dietary supplements, as defined in the Dietary Supplements Regulations 1985. Talk to us about your idea and we can clarify very quickly whether it is eligible for support.



The High Value Nutrition Framework

Information and Support

For more information and support to participate in the Contestable Fund or otherwise collaborate with us, please contact the High-Value Nutrition National Science Challenge team:

Visit our website at
www.highvaluenutrition.co.nz

Email the team at
hvn@auckland.ac.nz

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