



Toloa Community Fund Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the Toloa Community Fund?

The Toloa Community Fund is an initiative that is funded by the Ministry for Pacific Peoples (formally known as Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs). The purpose of the fund is to encourage Pacific students to pursue studies in STEM subjects at secondary school, tertiary level and thereby increase the number of Pacific people employed in STEM careers.

2. What is STEM?

STEM is an internationally recognised acronym that refers to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) areas of learning.

3. Why focus on STEM?

Innovation is essential for a successful and productive economy. To help achieve this, we need more skilled people with creative and problem-solving skills, and more people study STEM subjects.

Many STEM occupations have high projections for future growth in New Zealand. These include information technology professionals, engineers, technicians, and natural and physical science professionals.

4. What are some examples of STEM fields of study?

STEM covers a vast array of study in the broader Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths areas. These include:

Food Science and Technology, Computer Programming, Computer Science, Digital Communication and Media/Multimedia, Animation, Interactive Technology, Video Graphics and Special Effects, Engineering, Bioengineering, Biology, Biophysics, Molecular Biochemistry, Botany, Molecular Biology, Microbiology, Chemical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Automotive Engineering, Applied Mathematics, Statistics, Physical Sciences, Physics and Chemistry. (This is by no means a comprehensive list!)

5. I want to apply for a Toloa Community Fund, how can I do this?

Applications are open now! Applications can be submitted online by Wednesday 14 November 2018.

6. What are the criteria to apply?

You must be a Pacific organisation working with and for Pacific communities in New Zealand.

7. Why does the Ministry for Pacific Peoples offer this fund?

The fund is designed to motivate, celebrate and inspire Pacific people to study STEM courses and gain a STEM career.



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8. How do I know my application has been accepted?

You will receive a confirmation email at the email address you provided on your application.

If you do not receive the confirmation email, please remember to check your spam folders. Otherwise, email us at pacificstem@mpp.govt.nz

9. Do I have to provide supporting documents for my application?

Yes. Please see application form requirements.

10. How can I remove my application?

You can write or email us with the subject 'Withdraw my application' if you wish to remove your application with your request, name and details and our project team will be in touch.

11. What is Dragons Den?

'Dragons Den' approach is to encourage applications for funding STEM activities delivered in the community to key influencers. Shortlisted applicants are to make a presentation in person, by SKYPE, or FaceTime etc.

Selection Panel will provide financial advice if successful directly at the end of the presentation.

12. Where can we make presentations?

All shortlisted applicants will be invited to present to a panel their project. A date and time will be sent out after applications close:

13. When are the successful applicants notified?

Recipients will be notified at the end of presentations.

14. When do the activities need to be delivered by?

All activities and reports need to be completed no later than 1 June 2019.

15. When does the report need to be done?

All activities and reports need to be completed no later than 14 June 2019.