

2025

# Non-Animal Technologies Network (NAT-Net) Research Pillar Competitive Grant Scheme

## Expression of Interest Form

This form is for expression of interest due  
on **25 August 2025, 12PM AEST**.

Email your completed form to the NAT-Net Coordinator:  
[Esther.Pronker@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Esther.Pronker@health.nsw.gov.au)

The University of New South Wales is the administering organisation of NAT-Net.  
The NAT-Net Research Pillar Competitive Grant is made possible by funding from NSW Health.

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## Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Full
ANZSRC	The Australian and New Zealand Standard Research Classification
CIA	Chief Investigator A
EOI	Expression of Interest
EMCR	Early-Mid Career Researcher
FoR	Field of Research
NAT	Non-Animal Technologies
NAT-Net	Non-Animal Technologies Network
NHMCR	The National Health and Medical Research Council

## Instructions to Applicants

### Support Resources

It is strongly recommended that applicants read the *Non-Animal Technologies Network (NAT-Net) Research Pillar Competitive Grant Scheme Guidelines 2025* prior to developing their Expression of Interest.

The Guidelines provide information on the eligibility and selection criteria for applicants.

The Guidelines are available at: <https://www.medicalresearch.nsw.gov.au/nat-net/>.

### Completing the EXPRESSION OF INTEREST Form

All Expressions of Interest must be prepared using this form.

Each host organisation will administer their own selection process to choose up to two (2) proposals for submission as expression of interest using this form.

All sections of this form and attachments must conform to the following:

- left and right margins of at least 2cm;
- font no smaller than 11 point (preferred font is Calibri or Public Sans); and
- line spacing of 1.15.

When saving this form, please use the naming convention:

- EOI\_NATNet\_Host Organisation\_Chief Investigator A name  
(e.g. EOI\_NATNet\_CMRI\_AnaGonzalezCordero)

Information provided in this Expression of Interest will be provided in confidence to the NAT-Net Executive Committee, the NAT-Net Expression of Interest Independent Review Panel and advisors supporting the Panel for the purpose of assessment and identifying synergies between projects.

### Submitting the EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The final versions of the EOI form and attachments must be submitted to the NAT-Net Coordinator by **12pm AEST on 25 August, 2025**. Please use the following email: [Esther.Pronker@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Esther.Pronker@health.nsw.gov.au)

A complete EOI includes the following:

- Word version of this form (excluding the certification by the Chief Executive of the Host Organisation and partners);
- full PDF version of this form (including the certification by the Chief Executive of the Host Organisation and partners); and
- research proposal in PDF (max 2 pages).

## Section A – Administrative Information

### A.1 – Overview

Criteria	Response
<b>Chief Investigator A (applicant)</b> <i>Please include title/salutation, First name and Surname</i>	
<b>Host Organisation</b> <i>The organisation which will administer the NAT-Net funding. Also include the administering institution if applicable.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Host Organisation:</li> <li>• Administering Organisation (If applicable):</li> </ul>
<b>Project title</b> (Max 15 words)	
<b>Project summary</b> (300 words) <i>Summarise your research question(s) and methodology.</i>	
<b>Approach</b> <i>Multiple options can be selected.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> laboratory developed and engineered <i>in vitro</i> cellular models such as organoids, engineered tissues and organs on a chip. <input type="checkbox"/> computational methods, such as <i>in silico</i> simulation, machine learning, or artificial intelligence. <input type="checkbox"/> <i>in chemico</i> methods such as biochemical assays to assess potency. <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify:
<b>Please enter three Field of Research (FoR) field codes for the project based on The Australian and New Zealand Standard Research Classification (ANZSRC) 2020 codes <sup>1</sup></b> <i>Please consider the project's methodology when selecting codes.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keyword 1:</li> <li>• Keyword 2:</li> <li>• Keyword 3:</li> </ul>
<b>Please provide up to four additional key words that describe the research. Use key words from the NHMRC Research Keywords/Phrases list wherever possible <sup>2</sup>.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keyword 1:</li> <li>• Keyword 2:</li> <li>• Keyword 3:</li> <li>• Keyword 4:</li> </ul>
<b>List all sites in which the project will be conducted.</b>	
<b>Total amount requested (excluding GST)</b> <i>Not to exceed \$200,000</i>	\$
<b>Project duration</b> <i>24 months</i> <i>(March 2026-March 2028)</i>	

<sup>1</sup> The Australian and New Zealand Standard Research Classification (ANZSRC) 2020 codes, available at: <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/classifications/australian-and-new-zealand-standard-research-classification-anzsrc/latest-release>

<sup>2</sup> NHMRC Research Keywords/Phrases list is available at: <https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/sites/default/files/2019-03/research-keywords.pdf>

## A.2 – Host Organisation and Administering Organisation

Host organisations may choose to partner with an administering organisation to hold the grant funds for the period of the grant. Further information around which types of organisations are eligible to act as administering organisations can be found in the Guideline for Applicants.

Criteria	Response
<b>Host Organisation</b> <i>The organisation which will administer the NAT-Net funding.</i>	
<b>Host Organisation Contact Name</b>	
<b>Host Organisation Contact Email</b>	
<b>Host Organisation Contact Phone number</b>	
<b>Will an Administering Organisation administer the fund</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Name of the Administering Organisation (If Applicable)</b>	
<b>Administering Organisation Contact Name (If Applicable)</b>	
<b>Administering Organisation Contact Email (If Applicable)</b>	
<b>Administering Organisation Contact Phone number (If Applicable)</b>	

## Section B – Eligibility Criteria

### B.1 – Eligibility checklist

Please check off the items below to confirm that:

- ☐ The research project includes a minimum of two eligible research institutions, at least one of which is based in NSW, along with other team members and partners.
- ☐ Each collaboration includes one NSW-based Early-Mid Career Researcher (EMCR) as Chief Investigator (CI).
- ☐ The CIA is an Australian citizen, a permanent resident of Australia, or has an appropriate working visa for the full term of the Grant.
- ☐ The host organisation is in NSW, conducts health and medical research, and is one of the following; a university, an independent medical research institute, a not-for-profit organisation, a local health district or other public health organisation.
- ☐ All Chief Investigators have been engaged in the development of the proposal.
- ☐ The proposed research project is in the field of non-animal technologies and complies with the eligible areas of research as defined in the *Non-Animal Technologies Network (NAT-Net) Research Pillar Competitive Grant Scheme Guidelines 2025*.

## Section C – Research Team

### C.1 – Chief Investigator A Details

The Chief Investigator A (applicant) must be employed by the Host Organisation.

Criteria	Response
<b>Full Name (applicant)</b> <i>Please include title/salutation.</i>	
<b>Position / Job Title</b>	
<b>Host Organisation</b>	
<b>Host Organisation Address</b>	
<b>Contact phone number</b>	
<b>Email</b>	
<b>Gender of Chief Investigator</b> <b>How do you describe your gender?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Man or male <input type="checkbox"/> Woman or female <input type="checkbox"/> Non-binary <input type="checkbox"/> I use different terms, please specify; <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to answer
<b>Chief Investigator's preferred pronouns (optional)</b>	
<b>Does the Chief Investigator identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/> Torres Strait Islander <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander <input type="checkbox"/> Neither

### C.2 – Chief Investigators

List essential Chief Investigators required for successful conduct of the project and implementation of the outcomes (Maximum 7).

**Note:**

- The research project includes a minimum of two eligible research institutions, at least one of which is based in NSW, along with other team members and partners.
- Each collaboration includes one NSW-based Early-Mid Career Researcher (EMCR) as Chief Investigator (CI).

Chief Investigator	Full Name *	Position	Organisation	Contribution to Project	EMCR (Yes/No)
B					
C					
D					
E					
F					
G					
H					

*\* By including this person in this table, you agree that this person was consulted in development of the proposal and has consented to be part of the research team, should the application be funded.*

## Section D – Selection Criteria

Please provide a research proposal that is no longer than 2 pages.

### D.1 – Research Plan Feasibility (50%)

- Provide a high-level overview of the research plan, including objectives, research question, methodology, study design and data analysis plan.

### D.2 – Impact and Innovation (25%)

- Demonstrate how the project will advance the field of Non-Animal Technologies beyond current state-of-the-art methods.
- Outline the potential to build impact in non-animal technology research in NSW through the collaboration in relation to the NAT-Net Mission Statement.

### D.3 – Collaboration (25%)

- Outline how the expertise and skills of all Chief Investigators and key team members align with the project activities.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of collaboration, the governance and partnership structures and the demonstrated or projected impact on health practice, policy, or technology adoption consistent with NAT-Net mission statement.

## Section E – Certification

I certify that:

- to the best of my knowledge and belief, information contained in this application is complete, true and correct and I understand that the provision of false or misleading information will render me ineligible for funding.
- this application eligible in accordance with the eligibility criteria (Section B.1).
- NAT-Net Research Pillar Competitive Grant must not be spent on capital works, general maintenance costs, organisational infrastructure or overheads (including administrative and other general costs of the recipient that are not directly associated with the performance of the Project), telephone/communication systems, basic office equipment, such as desks and chairs, rent and the cost of utilities.
- I note that this Expression of Interest will be reviewed by the NAT-Net EOI Review Panel, sub-committee and other advisors to the assessment process.

Signed by Chief Investigator A

<b>Name</b>	
<b>Position</b>	
<b>Host Organisation</b>	
<b>Date</b>	
<b>Signature</b>	

Signed by Administering Director of the Host Organisation:

<b>Name</b>	
<b>Position</b>	
<b>Host Organisation</b>	
<b>Date</b>	
<b>Signature</b>	

Signed by Administering Director of the Administering Organisation, if applicable:

<b>Name</b>	
<b>Position</b>	
<b>Host Organisation</b>	
<b>Date</b>	
<b>Signature</b>	

Co-Host or Collaborating Organisation, if applicable:

*(Add multiple sign offs as required)*

<b>Name</b>	
<b>Position</b>	
<b>Host Organisation</b>	
<b>Date</b>	
<b>Signature</b>	

***If this certification is not signed by the Chief Executive of the Host Organisation, or the administering institution if applicable, the Chief Executive of collaborating host organisations, or other authorised signatory, for all sites where the project will be conducted, the Expression of Interest is not valid and will not be reviewed.***