



Nigel Gould  
Chair  
Tertiary Education Commission  
PO Box 27-048  
Wellington 6141

Dear Nigel,

**Determination of Design of Funding Mechanism: Wānanga Research Capability Fund**

I am writing to advise you of a determination of the design of a funding mechanism, under section 159L of the Education Act 1989 (the Act), for the Wānanga Research Capability Fund.

The new determination is set out in the appendix to this letter. The determination covers the Wānanga Research Capability Fund from 1 January 2020. The new funding determination extends the expiry date to 31 December 2022.

Under section 159O of the Act, it is the Commission's responsibility to develop the details needed to implement my determinations for the design of funding mechanisms.

I expect that the Commission will set appropriate measures as part of its Statement of Service Performance in order to report to me on its performance in giving effect to this determination.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'CHH'.

**Chris Hipkins**  
Minister of Education

# **DETERMINATION OF DESIGN OF FUNDING MECHANISM: WĀNANGA RESEARCH CAPABILITY FUND**

## **PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS**

### ***Statutory authority***

1. This determination, which is made under section 159L of the Education Act 1989 (the Act), specifies the design of the funding mechanism for the Wānanga Research Capability Fund (WRCF) (funding mechanism).

### ***Purpose***

2. The WRCF provides funding for building research capability within the wānanga sector, particularly within the area of wānanga specialisation (mātauranga Māori/Māori knowledge).

### ***On-plan funding***

3. The Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) must pay WRCF funding under section 159YA of the Act.

## **PART ONE: THE FUNDING MECHANISM**

### **General parameters**

#### ***Effective period dates***

4. This funding mechanism is effective from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2022.
5. The TEC may exercise any of its administrative functions as required to give effect to this funding mechanism outside those dates.

#### ***Available funding***

6. The total amount of Government funding that can be spent under this funding mechanism will be set through the Government's annual budget processes.

#### ***Tertiary education organisation (TEO) eligibility***

7. The TEC may only fund wānanga established under section 162 of the Act under this funding mechanism.

#### ***Allocation of funding***

8. The TEC must develop criteria for allocating funding from the WRCF, and notify wānanga of the criteria.

#### ***TEC administrative responsibilities in the case of under-funding***

9. If a wānanga receives funding under this funding mechanism that is less than it should have been, or that it was entitled to receive, the TEC must treat the amount of the under-funding as a credit and pay the amount of the under-funding as soon as reasonably practicable.

## **PART TWO: FUNDING CONDITIONS**

### **Conditions that the TEC must attach to funding**

10. The TEC must impose the following specific conditions on funding provided to each wānanga under this funding mechanism.

### ***TEO eligibility***

11. The TEC must attach to funding a condition that a TEO that receives funding under this funding mechanism must meet, and for the length of the funding period, continue to meet all the eligibility criteria specified in paragraph 7.

### ***Responsible use of funding***

12. A wānanga that receives funding under this funding mechanism must use the funding:
  - a. lawfully, responsibly, and for the purposes for which the funding is provided; and
  - b. in a manner consistent with the appropriate use of public funds.

### ***Recovery of over-funding***

13. If a wānanga receives funding under this funding mechanism that is greater than it should have been, or that it was not entitled to receive, the wānanga must treat the amount of the over-funding as a debt due to the Crown that:
  - a. is repayable on demand; and
  - b. may be set-off against all or any funding, or any sum of money payable by the TEC to the wānanga.
14. The TEC must provide the wānanga with reasonable notice before exercising its right to demand repayment or set-off the debt against any or all funding.

### ***Repayment of funding following revocation of funding approval***

15. The TEC must attach to funding a condition that if, in accordance with section 159YG of the Act, the TEC suspends or revokes some or all of a wānanga's funding paid under this funding mechanism before that funding has been used or contractually committed towards the purposes for which that funding was provided, the wānanga must treat the unexpended or uncommitted portion of the funding as a debt due to the Crown that is:
  - a. repayable on demand; and
  - b. may be set-off against all or any funding, or any sum of money payable by the TEC to the wānanga.