

**To begin your application:**

- Go to [ncmas.nci.org.au](https://ncmas.nci.org.au)
- Click 'Log in' – top right of screen



National Computational Merit Allocation Scheme 2022

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### NCMAS 2022 - Important Dates

Dates	Milestone
18 August 2021	Applications open
5 October 2021	Applications close at 8:00pm AEDT (5:00pm AWST)
1-2-3 December 2021	Allocation Committee meeting
21 December 2021	Allocations announced
1 Jan 2022	Access to allocations commences

- Click 'My application' from the list on the left



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### NCMAS 2022 - Important Dates

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### Participating Facilities

The following facilities are making resources available in the NCMAS 2022 call.

- NCI - Gadi
- Pawsey - Setonix
- MASSIVE

### Online Information Sessions

Online zoom information sessions are running to provide background information about NCMAS.

Register for the sessions here – <https://bit.ly/NCMAS2022Info>

### Online Information Course

Videos and content from the online information sessions will be available through an [online information course](#) closer to the opening of the call.

This [course](#) provides an overview of NCMAS and the merit-based allocation process, and information about the changes in the NCMAS 2022 call. It also provides information on best practices and general recommendations for all applicants.

Register for the course here – <https://learning.hpc-australia.org.au/p/ncmas-2022-call>

### Supporting Documentation

- [Information for Applicants](#)
- [ORCID User Guide](#)
- [Anonymisation Guide](#)
- [Sample Proposal with A3P Comments](#)
- [Sample Computational Details with A3P Comments](#)

### Anonymisation

NCMAS is continuing its participation in a [National Trial of Anonymising Grant Proposals](#) from the Office of the Women in STEM Ambassador. This Trial aims to assess whether the anonymised review of allocation proposals reduces unconscious bias in STEM grant programs.

As in the 2021 round, applications for NCMAS2022 are required to be written in an anonymous third-person style (A3P).

### Getting Assistance

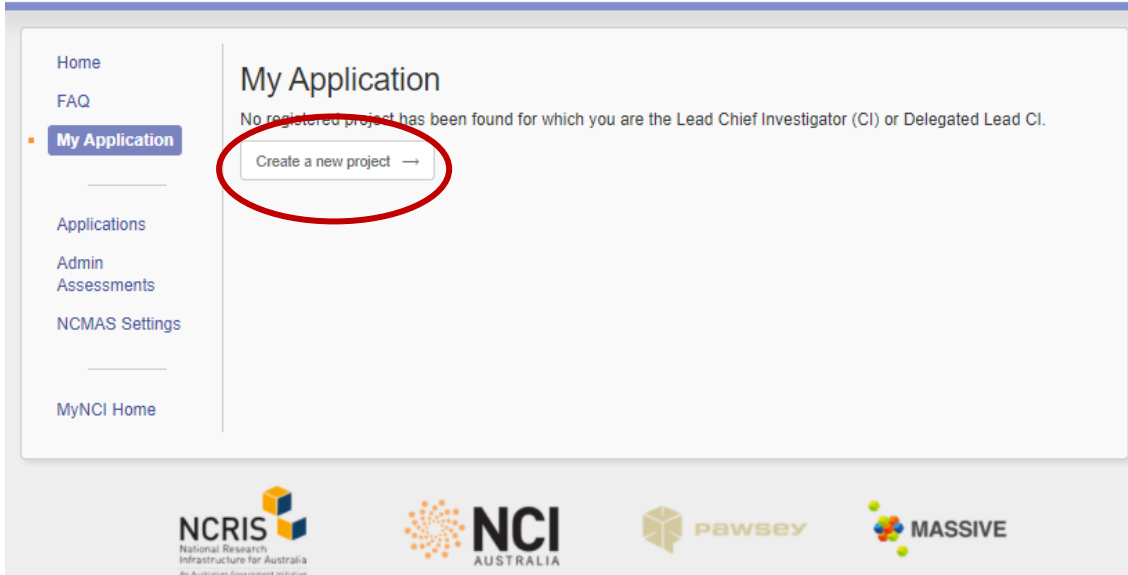
You can request help by sending an email to [ncmas@nci.org.au](mailto:ncmas@nci.org.au).

- If you do not have an existing NCMAS project at NCI (Gadi), then you will need to register your project
  - 'Create a new project'
- If you want to apply under a new project, you can also 'Create a new project'



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## My Application

No registered project has been found for which you are the Lead Chief Investigator (CI) or Delegated Lead CI.

Create a new project →

**NCRIS**  
National Research  
Infrastructure for Australia  
An Australian Government Initiative

**NCI**  
AUSTRALIA

**pawsey**

**MASSIVE**

- Project Overview - fill in the details for your project
  - The 'Title' and 'Abstract' you provide at this step are just part of the preliminary registration process for a new project
    - 'Abstract' is **NOT** the place to provide content from your Proposal
  - The 'Title' will appear in both the anonymised and identifiable views of your application
  - The 'Abstract' will only appear in the identifiable view of your application



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
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## Project Overview

**Title:**

**Abstract:**  
Summarise the aims, methodologies and expected outcomes in a few paragraphs. This is primarily an elevator pitch used in MyNCI after the merit scheme round has concluded.

Format

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- If you do have an existing NCI (Gadi) project, it will auto-fill and you can 'Start application'
  - If you have more than one, select the project you want to apply under

( Your name [Log out](#)

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## My Application

You can submit an NCMAS application for any project for which you are the Lead Chief Investigator (CI) or Delegated Lead CI.

Project	Lead CI	Action
<b>Your proposal details</b> <a href="#">Create a new project</a> →	Your name <a href="#">Request A3P compliance check</a> →	<a href="#">Start application</a>

\* Available until 6 Sep 2021

Please note that submitting an application for an existing project is preferred as it will have a history of compute resource usage that facilitates assessment.

[Restore a deleted application](#)



- If you are creating a new project, fill in all the details
  - Research Classification
  - Research Classification Weights
  - Investigators
  - Terms and Conditions of Use



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## Research Classification

Use the search boxes below to find and select all research classification codes that apply to your project. FoR codes will be used to match projects with appropriate assessors.

**ANZSRC Field Of Research:**  
Search   
Search FOR codes by code or title words, then choose your code(s) from the available checkboxes.

**ANZSRC Socio-Economic Objective:**  
Search   
Search SEO codes by code or title words, then choose your code(s) from the available checkboxes.

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## Research Classification Weights

Adjust the percentage weights to reflect each classification's relevance to the project. The weights for each classification group must sum to 100%.

	Weight (%)
<b>ANZSRC Field Of Research</b>	
FOR 120100 Architecture	<input type="text" value="100"/>
<b>ANZSRC Socio-Economic Objective</b>	
SEO 810106 Logistics	<input type="text" value="50"/>
SEO 820304 Sugar	<input type="text" value="50"/>

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## Investigators

Use the search controls below to find and add existing NCI users to your project. You can search by surname, email address or username.

While project and application investigators can be changed any time prior to application submission it is advised that you have any chief investigators who are not already NCI users sign up and then add them here before you proceed.

Lead chief investigator:  Your name

Other chief investigators: (optional)





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## Terms and Conditions of Use

All users of NCI infrastructure and services agree that they will keep themselves informed of and comply with all relevant legislation and The Australian National University policies and rules, including but not limited to

- The Australian National University's Acceptable Use of Information Technology Policy
- The Autonomous Sanctions Act (2011, Cth)
- The Defence Trade Controls Act (2012, Cth)

and both acknowledge and understand that a breach of these will result in not only a loss of access to NCI resources but the user may be subject to Federal criminal prosecution resulting in fines and/or gaol legislated under the Acts listed above.

☐ I certify that this project application does not involve any collaborators accessing the supercomputing facilities from locations outside of Australia and its territories.

☐ I certify that this project may involve collaborators accessing the supercomputing facilities from overseas but have received advice that the use of the supercomputing facilities proposed in this project application does not require a DTCA Permit.

☐ I certify that I have been advised that the use of the supercomputing facilities proposed in this project application may require a DTCA Permit.

- You will then be able to 'Start application'
- You can also select 'Request A3P compliance check' until 6 September

Your name | [Log out](#)

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## My Application

You can submit an NCMAS application for any project for which you are the Lead Chief Investigator (CI) or Delegated Lead CI.

Project	Lead CI	Action
proposal-13502: Testing	Your name	<a href="#">Start application</a>

[Create a new project →](#)  
[Request A3P compliance check →](#)  
\* Available until 6 Sep 2021

Please note that submitting an application for an existing project is preferred as it will have a history of compute resource usage that facilitates assessment.



- Select the 'Project requesting for'
- 'Choose file' and upload draft document – 5MB file size limit
- Add any extra questions
- Select 'Request compliance check'

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## Anonymous Third-person Compliance Check

Request a check of your application's compliance with the anonymous third-person writing style by uploading a draft of your *Proposal* and *Computational Details* document. You will receive back an annotated copy of your draft with feedback and advice on achieving compliance within one week.

You can request **one compliance check per application** up to **6 Sep 2021**.

Please ensure you have applied the anonymous third-person writing style to the best of your ability before requesting a compliance check.

- Do not include author names or affiliations anywhere in the *Proposal* or *Computational Details*.
  - This includes but is not limited to, page headers, footers, diagrams, titles, figures, or watermarks.
- Referencing is an essential part of demonstrating knowledge of the field and progress. When citing references within the proposal, use third person neutral wording.
  - **This especially applies to self-referencing.**
  - For example, replace phrases like "as we have shown in our previous work (Doe et al. 2010)" with "as Doe et al. (2010) showed..."
- Do not refer to previous projects using NCI/Pawsey/Massive/Flashlite or other HPC/D resources in an identifying fashion.
  - For instance, rather than write "We utilised 5 MSU on Gadi to determine under NCI project XXXX," instead write "Previous research has determined"
- Do not include acknowledgements, or the source of any grant funding in the proposal document itself.

Project requesting for:

### Draft File:

Your draft of the *Proposal* and *Computational Details*.










No file chosen



### Additional Information: (optional)



Specific questions or instructions, or information that might assist the compliance check.

Format

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- After the Optional compliance check has been submitted, or after 6 September, the button will no longer be visible
- Select 'Start application'

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## My Application

You can submit an NCMAS application for any project for which you are the Lead Chief Investigator (CI) or Delegated Lead CI.

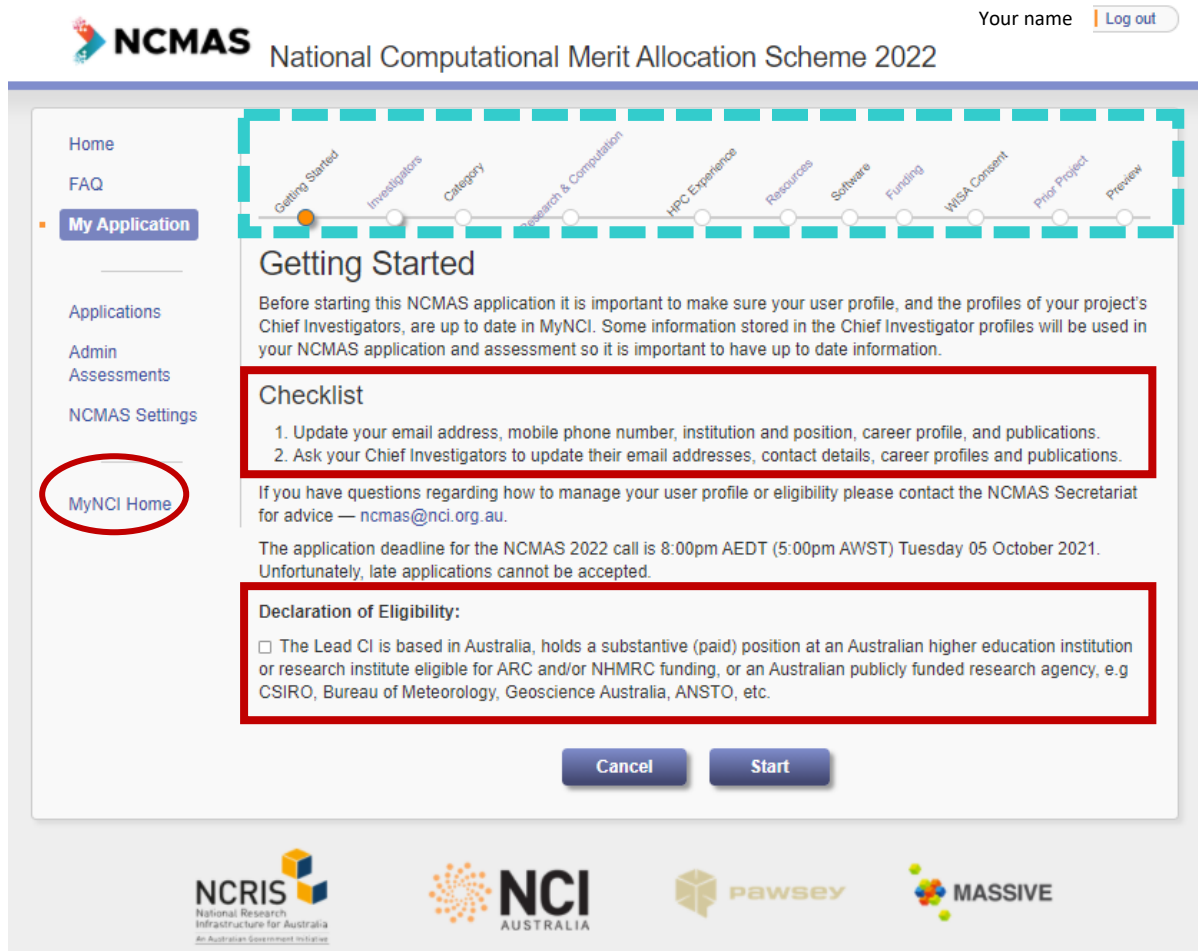
Project	Lead CI	Action
proposal-13502: Testing	Your name	<a href="#">Start application</a>

Create a new project →

Please note that submitting an application for an existing project is preferred as it will have a history of compute resource usage that facilitates assessment.



- Go to [my.nci.org.au](https://my.nci.org.au)
  - Update your details as described in Checklist
    - Ask your Chief Investigators to update their details at [my.nci.org.au](https://my.nci.org.au)
- Checkbox – Declaration of Eligibility
- Your progress through the application form can be tracked through the stages at the top of the screen (dashed box below)



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Getting Started   Investigators   Category   Research & Computation   HPC Experience   Resources   Software   Funding   WISA Consent   Prior Project   Preview

## Getting Started

Before starting this NCMAS application it is important to make sure your user profile, and the profiles of your project's Chief Investigators, are up to date in MyNCI. Some information stored in the Chief Investigator profiles will be used in your NCMAS application and assessment so it is important to have up to date information.

### Checklist

1. Update your email address, mobile phone number, institution and position, career profile, and publications.
2. Ask your Chief Investigators to update their email addresses, contact details, career profiles and publications.

If you have questions regarding how to manage your user profile or eligibility please contact the NCMAS Secretariat for advice — [ncmas@nci.org.au](mailto:ncmas@nci.org.au).

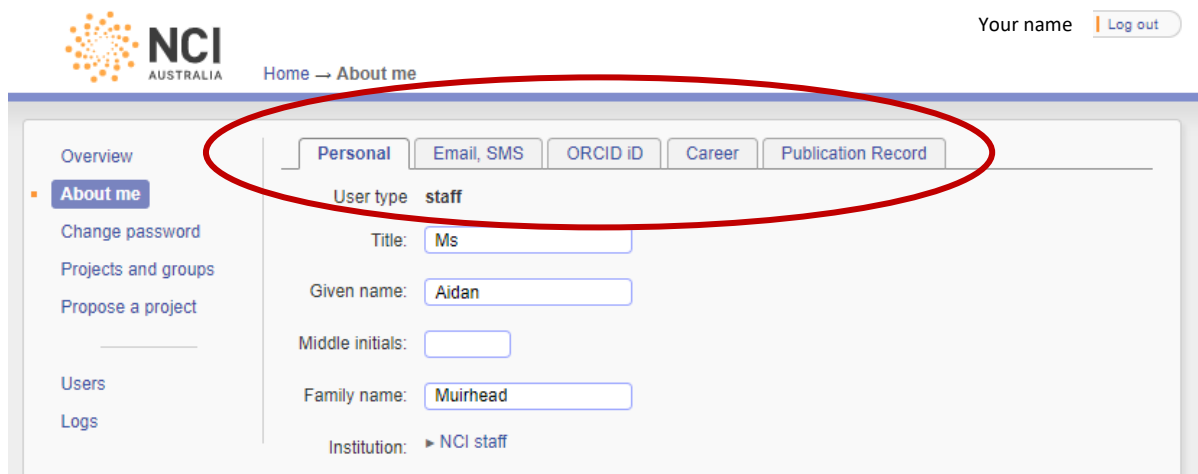
The application deadline for the NCMAS 2022 call is 8:00pm AEDT (5:00pm AWST) Tuesday 05 October 2021. Unfortunately, late applications cannot be accepted.

### Declaration of Eligibility:

☐ The Lead CI is based in Australia, holds a substantive (paid) position at an Australian higher education institution or research institute eligible for ARC and/or NHMRC funding, or an Australian publicly funded research agency, e.g. CSIRO, Bureau of Meteorology, Geoscience Australia, ANSTO, etc.

**Cancel**   **Start**

NCRIS   NCI AUSTRALIA   pawsey   MASSIVE



Home → About me

Overview   **About me**   Change password   Projects and groups   Propose a project   Users   Logs

**Personal**   Email, SMS   ORCID iD   Career   Publication Record

User type: **staff**

Title:

Given name:

Middle initials:

Family name:

Institution: ▶ NCI staff

NCI AUSTRALIA   pawsey

- Manage the membership of your project
  - It is important to finalise the Chief Investigators (and their career profiles) on your project as soon as possible
  - Please follow up with your Chief Investigators to ensure they have populated career profile information in [MyNCI](#)
    - The track records of the Lead Chief Investigator (i.e. the applicant) and all Chief Investigators on the application will be used to construct a research performance summary for the project
- Enter the number of active users

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Software

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Prior Project


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## Investigators

While the Chief Investigators may be changed any time before the application is submitted, it is better to confirm them early to avoid last minute complications with breaches of the one-application-per-CI rule.

The current Chief Investigators for the project are:

Role	Name	Email	Position
Lead CI	Ms Aidan Muirhead	aidan.muirhead@anu.edu.au	Communications and Outreach Officer NCI staff NCI
CI	Mr Adam Huttner-Koros	u5014663@anu.edu.au	Communication Officer NCI staff NCI

 Manage memberships

Refresh to make membership changes visible.

### Number of Active Users:

The total number of active people in the research group, to help assess the capacity of the group to use the requested resources.

Examples of group members considered inactive:

- members no longer using resources but with papers under review
- members no longer working on the project but with potential for future collaboration.

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National Research  
Infrastructure for Australia  
An Australian Government Initiative **NCI**  
AUSTRALIA **pawsey** **MASSIVE**

- Select the application category you want to apply under
  - Note the conditions for ECR and Special Consideration



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## Application Category

Select the category to apply in. Please ensure that you have read the application instructions and eligibility criteria for each category in the *NCMAS 2022 Information for Applicants*.

☒ Open  
☐ Special Consideration  
☐ Early Career Researcher (ECR)





**Open**

Resource requests are not restricted. Applicants are expected to demonstrate successful utilisation of national HPC facilities at scale and have a track record of research outcomes and independent funding.

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- Open
- ☒ **Special Consideration**
- Early Career Researcher (ECR)

### Special Consideration

A limited number of special allocations are available to other applicants who may otherwise not be competitive in the NCMAS. For example, an individual who has returned to a research role following a significant career interruption.

*Special Consideration requests must **only be made on one HPC facility**.*

*e.g. Special Consideration applicants **cannot** request resources on **both** MASSIVE and Setonix*




*The Special Consideration allocation is the minimum allocation of the requested facility.*







Facility-System	Minimum Allocation (kSU/year)
NCI: Gadi	500
Pawsey: Setonix 1 <sup>st</sup> Request	250
Pawsey: Setonix 2 <sup>nd</sup> Request	1000 (pro rata)
MASSIVE	50



Explain why your application requires special consideration.




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- ☐ Open
- ☐ Special Consideration
- ☒ Early Career Researcher (ECR)

#### Early Career Researcher (ECR)

The ECR category provides an opportunity for researchers who have been awarded a PhD within the last five (5) years (relative to opportunity). Early Career Researcher applications are highly competitive. Applicants are expected to demonstrate a record of independent research funding, such as an ARC DECRA, NHMRC CDA, or similar award.

*ECR requests must **only be made on one** HPC facility.*

*e.g. ECR applicants **cannot** request resources on **both** Gadi and Setonix.*

*The ECR allocation is the minimum allocation of the requested facility.*

Facility-System	Minimum Allocation (kSU/year)
NCI: Gadi	500
Pawsey: Setonix 1 <sup>st</sup> Request	250
Pawsey: Setonix 2 <sup>nd</sup> Request	1000 (pro rata)
MASSIVE	50

- Upload your single file for the Proposal and Computational Details
  - Size limit = 5MB



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## Research Proposal & Computational Details

Upload a *single* PDF that details the proposed research, its significance, innovation and impact; and the compute jobs that will be run.

This document **must** follow the Anonymous Third-Person (A3P) Writing Style.

No file chosen

PDF files must be less than 5 MB in size and have a filename of 50 characters or less.

▼ Anonymous Third-Person Writing Style


▼ Research Proposal


▼ Computational Details


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An Australian Government Initiative

**NCI**  
AUSTRALIA

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 **MASSIVE**

- (Optional) – enter details of previous HPC experience
  - If you have not worked with Pawsey/MASSIVE/NCI before, it is recommended you provide details of experience at other HPC facilities



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## HPC Experience

If you did *not* receive an NCMAS grant for 2021, describe your previous experience with HPC, including:

1. a general overview of your experience,
2. systems used, and
3. application codes, algorithms and workflows.

Experience with a NCMAS 2021 grant will be captured later in the application.

A3P Writing Style is not required.


Format


**B** *I* U ~~X~~ ~~X~~  
[List Bulleted] [List Numbered] [Table] [Link] [Image] [Code] [Quote] [Unquote] [Indent] [Outdent] [Undo] [Redo] [Source] [Help]


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An Australian Government Initiative

**NCI**  
AUSTRALIA

 **pawsey**

 **MASSIVE**

- Enter details of the systems and resources you are requesting
  - Use the 'Add' button to add more systems



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## Resources

HPC allocations are provided in "service units" (SU) which reflect a normalised view of computing time used, priority of execution, and hardware capabilities. The baseline definition of a service unit is usage of one processor for one hour of elapsed time, at the nominal standard priority on a given system. Note that resource requests for NCMAS are quantised to kSU, that is, 1 kSU = 1000 SU.

NCMAS allocations are awarded for a calendar year and provided by the facilities in equal quarterly instalments on their target HPC systems. Non-uniform installation of an NCMAS allocation across a calendar year may be negotiated with a facility. The unused component of a quarterly allocation will not be rolled over to following quarters. NCMAS facilities are generally not able to accommodate requests for supplemental allocations due to oversubscription of resources.

System	Total Time	Min Request
Gadi	280,000 kSU	500 kSU
Setonix 2nd Request	155,000 kSU	1,000 kSU
Setonix 1st Request	100,000 kSU	250 kSU
MASSIVE	2,500 kSU	50 kSU

Please ensure that you have read the application instructions, eligibility criteria, and the lower and upper bound of the resource requests for each category in the [NCMAS 2022 Information for Applicants](#).

Requested system:

Requested resource amount (kSU/year):

Delete?

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+

Add

**Justification for Increased Request:** (optional)  
 Provide an explanation for any increase compared to your current NCMAS allocation or previous request. [A3P](#)  
 Writing Style is not required.

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**Utilisation of Current Allocation:** (optional)  
 If you currently have a compute grant, NCMAS or otherwise, assess how well you have utilised the grant, discussing any impediments, including natural disasters and pandemics, that have prevented you from fully consuming the grant.

Utilisation below 90% must be justified. Assessment of NCMAS 2021 grant utilisation will be based on utilisation in Q1-Q3.

[A3P](#) Writing Style is not required.

Format

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- Error warnings
  - If you neglect to complete a mandatory part of the application form, you will receive a warning



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## Resources

Please correct the errors below.

HPC allocations are provided in “service units” (SU) which reflect a normalised view of computing time used, priority of execution, and hardware capabilities. The baseline definition of a service unit is usage of one processor for one hour of elapsed time, at the nominal standard priority on a given system. Note that resource requests for NCMAS are quantised to kSU, that is, 1 kSU = 1000 SU.

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MASSIVE	2,500 kSU	50 kSU

Please ensure that you have read the application instructions, eligibility criteria, and the lower and upper bound of the resource requests for each category in the *NCMAS 2022 Information for Applicants*.

Please submit 1 or more forms.

Requested system:

Requested resource amount (kSU/year):


Delete?

'Requested system' field is required.

'Requested resource amount (kSU/year)' field is required.

Add

- (Optional) Add software requirements for your project

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## Software

List any software packages that are essential to your project and indicate what licence you intend to use it under.


Name & Version	Vendor
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>


What licence do you plan to use?


Delete (optional)  
☐


[Add](#)

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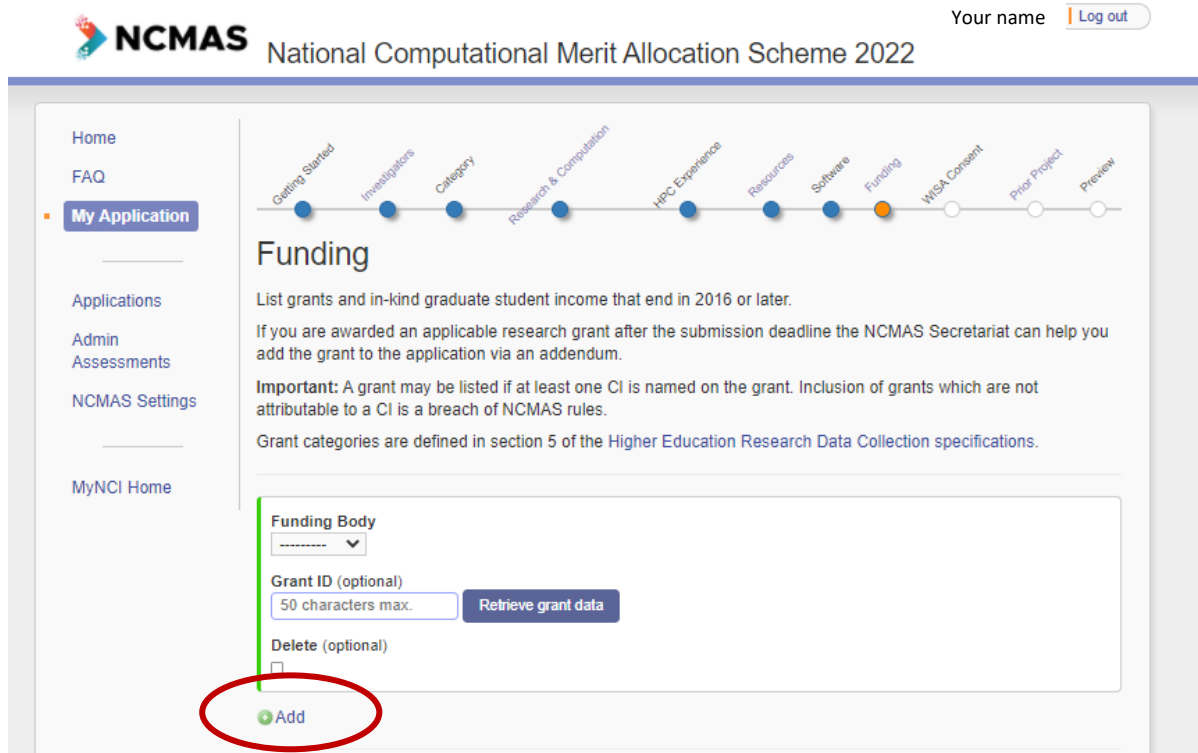
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- Add details of your funding
  - For ARC or NHMRC funding – you can add the grant ID and ‘Retrieve grant data’
- Use the ‘Add’ button to add more rows of funding



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## Funding

List grants and in-kind graduate student income that end in 2016 or later.

If you are awarded an applicable research grant after the submission deadline the NCMAS Secretariat can help you add the grant to the application via an addendum.

**Important:** A grant may be listed if at least one CI is named on the grant. Inclusion of grants which are not attributable to a CI is a breach of NCMAS rules.

Grant categories are defined in section 5 of the [Higher Education Research Data Collection specifications](#).

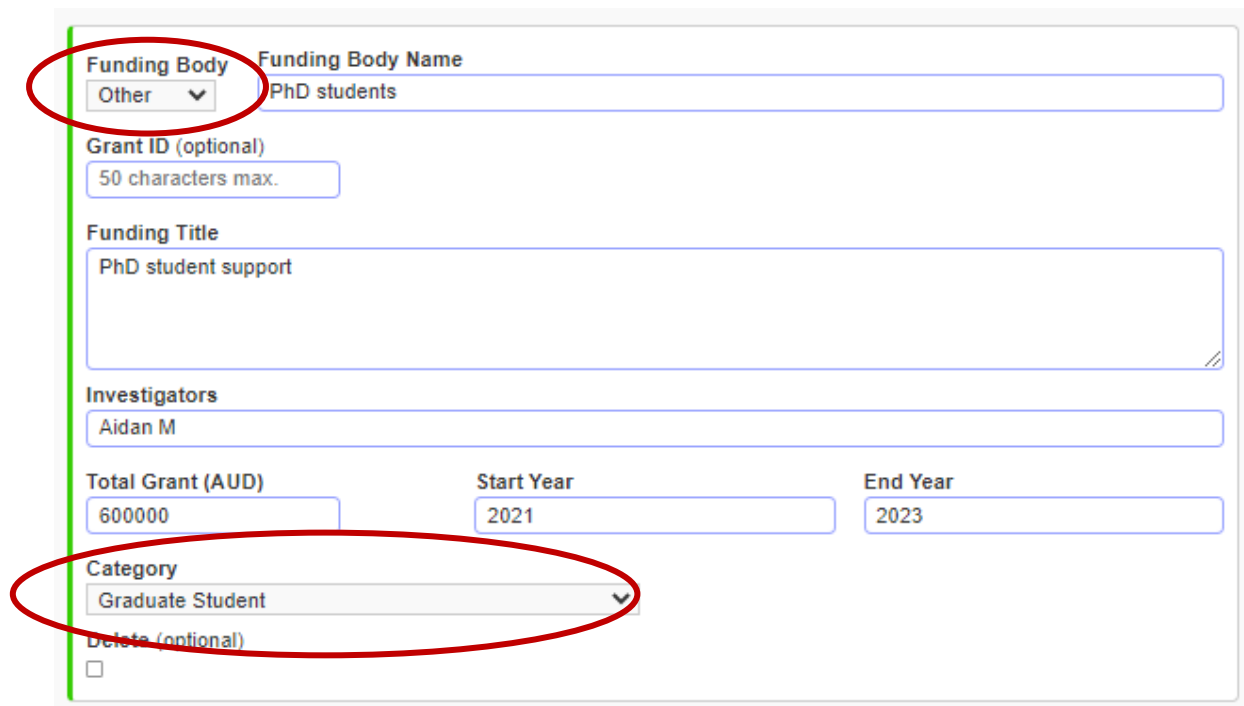
Funding Body  
-----

Grant ID (optional)  
50 characters max. [Retrieve grant data](#)

Delete (optional)  
☐

[Add](#)

- A new ‘Category’ has been added to the ‘Other’ funding body to allow you to add details of Graduate students that the project supports as a funding type



Funding Body **Funding Body Name**  
Other PhD students

Grant ID (optional)  
50 characters max.

Funding Title  
PhD student support

Investigators  
Aidan M

Total Grant (AUD) Start Year End Year  
600000 2021 2023

Category  
Graduate Student

Delete (optional)  
☐

- Confirm whether you consent to participate in the WISA trial
  - Anonymous third-person style is mandatory for compliance for all applications
  - Your consent re participation is about your data being included in the trial

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## WISA National Trial of Anonymising Research Funding Proposals Consent

In 2022, the NCMAS is taking part in the Women in STEM Ambassador [National Trial of Anonymising Research Funding Proposals](#). The trial's aim is to assess whether the anonymised review of proposals reduces unconscious bias in STEM grant programs.

A3P style is mandatory for compliance. Your consent is sought regarding the use of your anonymised data in the UNSW/WISA study.

Anonymised data about you and your grant outcome will be provided to the trial at the conclusion of NCMAS 2022 only if you provide consent below. You may change your mind any time before grant decisions have been finalised.

Please read the following participant information statement carefully.

### 11. Consent

By checking the 'I agree to participate' button, you consent to the research team collecting and using information about the lead CI for the research study. Please ensure that:

- You have read the Participant Information Sheet, or someone has read it to you in a language that you understand;
- You understand the purposes, study tasks and risks of the research described in the study;
- You consent for the information collected about the lead CI to be used for the purpose of this research study only.
- You have asked any questions and are satisfied with the answers you have received;
- You freely agree to participate in this research study as described and understand that you are free to withdraw at any time during the study until the data has been de-identified and withdrawal will not affect your relationship with any of the named organisations and/or research team members;
- You have ticked the box indicating that you would like to receive a copy of the study results via email (if you want to receive the results only);
- You understand that the results of the research will be made available publicly.


Confirm whether you consent to participate.


☐ I agree to participate


☐ I DO NOT agree to participate


I would like the study results emailed to the Lead CI: ☐

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- If you are applying again with an existing project that has an NCMAS allocation, this section will prefill
- If you are applying under a new project, but you were successful in the NCMAS 2021 round, please select the 'Prior project'



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### NCMAS 2021 Project


Select your successful NCMAS 2021 project if you have one. Utilisation of the project's NCMAS allocation will be included in the National Computational Merit Allocation Committee assessment.

Prior project: (optional)

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- Review all your details before submission
  - Any sections of the application that need your attention will be highlighted

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**Final Review and Submission**  
Review your application. Corrections can be made by returning to previous steps via the round buttons in the progress bar at the top.  

 Some sections of the application need your attention. Scroll down for more information.

**Project** [Edit](#)

**Project Code**  
proposal-13502

**Project Title**  
Testing

**Project Summary**  
ABCDE

**Project FOR Code**

FOR code	Research field	Weight
120100	Architecture	100

- When you are satisfied with your application
  - Read through the notes
    - Check the box 'I understand and want to submit'
    - Then click 'Submit Application'


Please note:


- Application submission is final.
- If you requested a **compliance check** you must upload the updated *Proposal* and *Computational Details* document to your application before submitting.
- Changes to CIs' career and publication record in MyNCI after submission will not be reflected in the application.
- Changes or corrections can be made by supplying an **addendum**. Refer to the *NCMAS 2022 Information for Applicants* for instructions.


**I understand and want to submit** ☐


**Submit Application**

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