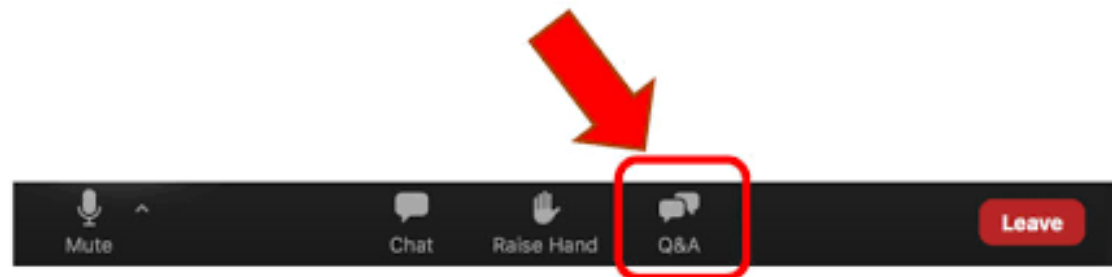# Access to High Performance Computing facilities – autumn 2024 opportunity

UKRI community webinar

7th November 2024

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Webinar process

- 20 min presentation on Access to HPC opportunity

- 30 min Q&A session
  - Pose questions using the Q&A feature
  - Will try to answer as many questions as possible today
  - Might need to take some offline
  - Summary of all Q&A will be placed on Funding Finder

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What is the Access to High Performance Computing opportunity?

- Open and flexible route to computational support
  - high quality projects
  - across the entire UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) remit.

- Purely for compute resource for up to 12 months
  - no funding is available to successful applicants.

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Access to High Performance Computing

Scope, including but not limited to:

- extended feasibility or proof of concept studies
- computational projects which may not warrant a full grant application
- computational projects aiding the preparation of a full grant or fellowship application
- collaborations with industrial and international partners

We particularly encourage applications that:

- involve early career researchers
- provide an opportunity to onboard and train new users
- significantly push the boundaries in computational research using HPC in your field

Who can apply?

- This opportunity is open to eligible researchers from across the UKRI remit

- Research technical professionals, including research software engineers, are eligible to be a project lead or co-lead

- Students looking to access the HPC resources through this application route must seek an eligible project lead to apply on their behalf

- You can only be a project lead or co-lead on a maximum of one proposal to each service

- Each proposal you are included for as a project lead or co-lead must be a unique and distinct project

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Compute resources available

- ARCHER2, Tier-1 national supercomputer service
    - EPSRC-remit research only, projects up to 12 months duration
    - NERC-remit research should follow the separate established process

- Tier-2 HPC service (UKRI-wide remit)
    - Isambard 3, projects up to 12 months duration

- A Technical Assessment from the service you are applying to will only be required should your application be successful

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How to apply

- We are running this funding opportunity on the new UKRI Funding Service (TFS)

- Your application must be received by 28 November 2024 at 4:00pm UK time

- Make sure you are aware of and follow any internal institutional deadlines

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Application questions

- Summary
- Core Team
- HPC service requested
- HPC resources requested
- High End Computing (HEC) consortia
- **Vision and Approach**
  - Page limit 2 or 3 depending on level of resources requested

- **Applicant and team capability to deliver**
- **Computing resources and justification**
- **Ethics and responsible research and innovation (RRI)**
- Genetic & biological risk, use of animals, research with animals overseas, human participation, human tissues or biological samples

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Assessment criteria

- Vision and Approach

- Applicant and team capability to deliver

- Computing resources and justification

- Ethics and responsible research and innovation (RRI)

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AC1: Vision and approach

Vision

- Excellent quality and importance
- Advance current understanding, generate new knowledge
- Timely given current trends, context and needs
- Impact on world-leading research, society, the economy or the environment.

Approach

- Effectiveness and appropriateness
- Feasibility and comprehensive risk identification and management
- Clear and transparent methodology
- Summary of previous work
- Maximise translation of outputs into outcomes and impacts

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AC2: Applicant and team capability to deliver

Evidence of how you, and if relevant your team, have:

- the relevant experience (appropriate to career stage) to deliver the proposed work

- the right balance of skills and expertise to cover the proposed work

- the appropriate leadership and management skills to deliver the work and your approach to develop others

- contributed to developing a positive research environment and wider community

Complete this section using the Résumé for Research and Innovation (R4RI) module headings listed. Use each heading once and include a response for the whole team, see the **UKRI guidance on R4RI**

AC3: Computing resources and justification

Assessors are looking for:

- full justification of the resources requested and why you are requesting the specific system

- justification of why the computing time requested is essential for the successful completion of the project

- assurance that the resources requested are appropriate and justified

Assessors are not looking for a line-by-line breakdown of all project resources.

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AC4: Ethics and RRI

Demonstrate that you have identified and evaluated:

- the relevant ethical or responsible research and innovation considerations
- how you will manage these considerations

If you are collecting or using data, identify:

- any legal and ethical considerations of collecting, releasing or storing the data including consent, confidentiality, anonymisation, security and other ethical considerations and, in particular, strategies to not preclude further reuse of data
- formal information standards with which your study will comply

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Assessment process

- Peer review
  - Reviewers from across the UKRI remit, provided by UKRI colleagues
  - Reviewers will score the proposals and thereby place them within bands

- Service assignment
  - Resources from the requested services will then be allocated to the highest band projects, using a partial randomisation pilot approach*
  - If all projects within the highest band receive resources, any remaining resources will then be allocated randomly to projects in the next band
  - Resources are allocated until the budget is exhausted

* Peer review remains key, as only applications over the quality threshold can receive compute resource

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Any questions?