

Research Charter for Aotearoa New Zealand

**Ki te kotahi te kākaho ka whati
ki te kāpuia e kore e whati
Alone we can be broken
Standing together, we are invincible**

Kīngi Tāwhiao

Expectations

Responsible and high-quality research practice occurs when researchers act well and are supported and encouraged by research organisations and funders that share a commitment to world-class professional standards and to supporting the public interest. In such a context, researchers should:

1. Behave with honesty and professionalism, and undertake their research diligently and carefully using appropriate methods;
2. Actively seek research excellence, demonstrate the highest standards of behaviour and foster a culture of integrity;
3. Be respectful to other people, including acting with cultural intelligence and intellectual rigour (pūkenga), and appreciating diverse values and communities (manaakitanga);
4. Endeavour to identify and engage with stakeholders and/or affected communities (whakapapa), recognise their rights (mana), and respect their interests (tika), including intergenerational interests;
5. Where practicable, partner with mana whenua, tangata whenua, iwi, hapū or other communities for who there are reasonably foreseeable direct impacts, which may include using appropriate methodologies such as kaupapa Māori, rangahau or collaborative pathways that are co-designed and co-delivered with those partners;
6. Meet all ethical and regulatory requirements, and implement relevant practice standards;
7. Safeguard the health, safety, well-being and rights of people involved in or affected by the conduct of their research;
8. Responsibly manage artefacts, data, samples and records they have created or collected;
9. Be mindful of the environmental effects of their research and research practices (kaitiakitanga);
10. Disclose and manage conflicts of interest;
11. Only claim competence commensurate with their expertise, knowledge and skills;
12. Correctly attribute those who have contributed to, or funded the research, and appropriately acknowledge relevant work by others;
13. Contribute to the public interest by being mindful of their obligations to society, reflecting on what the consequences of their research might be, disseminating results and findings as soon as it is appropriate to do so, and engaging responsibly with the public.

Research organisations contribute further when they:

14. Establish and maintain good governance and management practices to support and encourage responsible research practice;
15. Provide appropriate amenities, support systems, and ongoing training, education or mentoring for researchers and others in relevant roles within their auspices;
16. Provide for the safe and secure storage, management and access for future use of research artefacts, data, samples and records;
17. Use good practice processes to receive concerns or complaints about matters of potentially poor research conduct, investigate and determine such matters, and undertake any necessary follow-through actions.

Funders contribute further when they:

18. Use good practice processes to provide assurance that, if the requested funding is provided and properly managed, sufficiently knowledgeable people will conduct the research and ethical and regulatory requirements will be met;
19. Champion equity, diversity and inclusion, seeking to increase the participation and recognition of under-represented groups in the research community of Aotearoa New Zealand;
20. Share good practice, and if a public funder, seek to harmonise requirements with other public funders to reduce the burden on funding recipients and applicants.



View full version and explanatory notes at
royalsociety.org.nz/research-charter-aotearoa-new-zealand