



## 2018 Expression of Interest (EOI) Information Document

We're here to make a difference to the lives of New Zealanders, through the law. Our 2018 Expressions of Interest (EOI) for grant funding round is a call for great project ideas that contribute to our vision for Aotearoa New Zealand.

The criminal justice system and family law are our initial strategic focus areas. But they aren't the only areas we are interested in. We are casting our net wide and want to hear about any ideas and initiatives that align with our vision, mission and guiding principles. Make sure you understand what we're about and what we're looking for.

### **BORRIN FOUNDATION'S VISION & MISSION**

The Michael and Suzanne Borrin Foundation's vision lies at the heart of why we're here and everything that we do.

***Vision:** We believe law is essential to a flourishing society – one that is just, inclusive, tolerant and free. Our vision is of an Aotearoa New Zealand where everyone understands the role and value of the law, and everyone enjoys the protection and opportunity that it provides.*

***Mission:** We support legal research, education and scholarship that contributes to our vision for Aotearoa New Zealand.*

### **HOW THE BORRIN FOUNDATION FUNDS**

We want to move beyond transactional grant-making. As an independent philanthropic organisation, we plan to do a mix of both 'proactive grant-making' and also openly solicited grant applications.

We will actively seek out high-performing individuals and organisations who can contribute to our vision. We will also periodically run an open Expressions of Interest process for grants. We plan to continue to experiment and improve on our grant-making as we go.

Whether 'proactive' or 'reactive' grant-making, we consider the same elements when deciding who and what to fund. Read these sections carefully:

- Eligibility
- Guiding principles for grant funding
- Exclusions list

To understand the thinking behind how we do 'grant-making' read '[Our approach to philanthropy](#)' and check out who we've been inspired by.

If we fund your project, expect us to remain interested and engaged – in a helpful way. We will meet with you as regularly as is appropriate, depending on the size and complexity of the grant. This ensures open communication on progress and any issues that you might want to raise with us. We will contribute where we have value to add. Where we don't have value to add, we will stay out of the way so you can focus on the work.

We also aim to minimise bureaucracy or paperwork. We fund on the basis of agreed milestones, not on the production of receipts.



We view grant-making as a partnership between us as the 'Grantor' and you as the 'doer'. The Borrin Foundation needs talented, high-performing people as much as you may need us. We both contribute to the vision of Aotearoa New Zealand in different ways. Our relationship with you is key to the achievement of our shared goals.

## ELIGIBILITY

The Borrin Foundation's trust deed governs our grant-making. Our grants can fund work in the following areas:

- **Legal research:** this may include socio-legal research, multi-disciplinary research, applied research, action research, evaluation work or dissemination of research. It may also include pulling together existing research, or research in preparation for a larger project or service.
- **Legal writing:** this may include a wide variety of writing about any topic related to the law or the legal system.
- **Legal education:** this may include providing information about legal matters, rights or obligations; providing workshops and seminars for the public or practitioners; or providing education to a variety of age groups about legal or constitutional matters.
- **Legal lectures:** this may include presentations, conferences or symposium.
- We can also fund work that 'promotes the undertaking' of any of the above.

To be eligible for grant funding your proposal must:

- fit into one or more of the above areas
- benefit New Zealand.

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR GRANT FUNDING

Our guiding principles for grant funding help the Grants and Scholarships Committee to make decisions about which projects should receive funding. Make sure you understand the guiding principles when considering whether your project idea is a good fit for Borrin Foundation funding. Our guiding principles for grant funding are:

We aim to fund high-performing people and organisations whose knowledge, skills, commitment and passion will contribute long-term to the achievement of our vision.

Our funding, through grants, will take into account the potential of a proposal to:

- have a significant and enduring practical impact on the lives of New Zealanders
- be a catalyst for change
- address systemic issues
- build capacity
- engage the broader legal community including practitioners, policymakers, judges and academics
- develop insights into our legal system through inter-disciplinary collaboration
- target areas that are either under-resourced or under-developed and where there is a clear need for external support.



## EXCLUSIONS

Generally, we do not fund:

- existing mainstream academic activities or facilities in schools, universities or other educational institutions, unless they are innovative in terms of delivery or access
- activities where our funding is likely to be viewed as a substitute for public funding
- government organisations (with the exception of independent statutory bodies, if public funding for the relevant project would not otherwise be available)
- profit-making projects – however, we may fund a repayable subsidy, which requires repayments to be made to offset the cost of the original grant
- international projects that do not benefit the people of New Zealand – funding may be contributed to an international project if a component benefits New Zealanders, or if there is a demonstrable benefit to New Zealand from the wider project
- retrospective grants – to cover spending incurred before an application.

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

A grant from the Borrin Foundation is a donation/gift, but it does come with terms and conditions. Be sure to read our standard grant letter and grant agreement, which outlines our standard conditions for Borrin Foundation grants. Make sure you understand these terms and conditions before submitting an Expression of Interest or progressing your proposal. The full PDF of this document is available at this section of our website: <https://www.borrinfoundation.nz/grants#Terms-and-conditions>

[Template -Terms and Conditions - Borrin Foundation Grant Letter and Grant Agreement.pdf \(520KB\)](#)

### Intellectual property

We are committed to maximising the impact of the work we fund. We will share and build upon the work we support to advance collective knowledge.

The Borrin Foundation does not become the owner of any intellectual property created through grant projects. However, we do ask our grantees to commit to making some form of the work freely and publicly available for the 'public good'. This is discussed with each grantee and varies with each grant project.

Making important work freely and publicly available adds to the 'Global Commons'. We encourage the use, where practicable, of [Creative Commons Licenses](#).

We acknowledge and accept that many grantees, in particular academics, will also wish to publish a different form of the funded work in peer-reviewed journals or other copyright-restricted forms.



## University overheads

As a small not-for-profit organisation, our grants do not cover 'university overheads'. We apply this consistently across all universities. However, our grants will cover university staff salaries and teaching 'buy-outs'.

## 2018 EOI AND PROPOSAL PROCESS

The Borrin Foundation's first round of open and contestable funding involves a two-stage process:

- you submit a brief EOI
- if shortlisted, you are invited to provide a more extensive proposal, and you may be asked to meet with us in person.

We are conscious of the time and effort that people put in to completing detailed grant applications. And only a very few actually receive funding. We've designed our EOI process to save your time and our time. Your initial brief EOI submission will enable us to identify whether your initiative aligns with our vision and guiding principles. Only those selected for the second stage will be asked to submit a fuller proposal. The proposal will also be commensurate with the size of your project.

## DATES AND TIMELINE: 2018 EOI & PROPOSAL PROCESS

2018 is our first year of running an EOI and proposal process. We don't know how many EOIs we will receive. Because of this uncertainty, all time-frames after 30 April are indicative only. We will update our timeline as the year progresses.

**Wednesday 14 March:** EOIs open via the online form on our website.

We encourage early submission of EOIs.

We also encourage early questions and contact if you wish to discuss your ideas.

**Tuesday 10 April:** Deadline for any questions or enquiries about your potential EOI. Questions and enquiries should be submitted via the online contact form during the first weeks of the EOI period.

We will publish and share all generic questions and answers on our Frequently Asked Questions page. We will not share private information or information that is specific to your EOI without your consent.

**Monday 30 April, 12 noon:** EOIs close (see important note below about closing date).

June: Shortlisted EOIs informed, unsuccessful EOIs informed.

July: Full proposals due.

August: Possible opportunity to present and discuss your proposal with the Grants and Scholarships Committee.

October/November: Successful and unsuccessful proposals advised.



*Important note about the EOI deadline of 30 April 2018, noon NZ Time:*

- Please get your EOI in early. This is the first time we are using our online EOI form, and you may experience technical difficulties.
- Get your EOI in at least 3-7 days before the closing time in case there are technical problems. (It is a Google Form).
- We accept no responsibility for technical problems with the online process.
- EOI deadline is in New Zealand Time. EOIs close at midday (NZ Time), not midnight.

We also strongly encourage early submission of EOIs in case we see something missing or not quite right in your EOI. In this case we can contact you for more information or to correct the problem before the deadline.

## **PREPARING YOUR EOI**

You should prepare well for your EOI. Although it is short, it will require some thought and 'homework'.

### **Getting started:**

- Before you begin your EOI, read this information document and our website carefully.
- Make sure you understand our vision and mission, eligibility, guiding principles for grant funding, and our exclusions list.
- Check out our inaugural grantees to get an idea of the variety of projects that can span the eligible categories of 'legal research', 'legal education', 'legal writing' and 'legal lectures'.
- Read about how we fund and our approach to philanthropy. Grant-makers come in all shapes and sizes, with different values and attitudes. Do your due diligence to make sure our ethos is compatible with yours.

### **Completing your EOI**

- We suggest you 'preview' the EOI form by clicking on the APPLY ONLINE button.
- We suggest you use the Word Doc template to draft your answers. This has the main sections and questions to answer. (This template is available on our website).
- Please do a 'word count' and keep within the word limits.

### **Enquiries or testing out EOI ideas**

The Borrin Foundation is a very lean organisation. Due to our limited personnel, we do not generally accept unsolicited requests to meet or for you to pitch your idea to us in person. However, we are happy to have a brief telephone conversation.

If you have questions about your EOI initiative and its suitability for Borrin funding, or you want to test out your EOI idea, please use the Enquiry form on the website, within the Contact section. The Philanthropic Advisor will call to discuss.

Please also note that our capacity to respond to requests to discuss EOI ideas will be limited. To avoid disappointment, make sure you submit any requests for phone discussions early.



## **MANAGING EXPECTATIONS**

We are likely to receive many more applications for funding than we can possibly grant. The hard part for foundations like ours is that we cannot fund everything we want to fund.

Your EOI or proposal may not be accepted for all sorts of reasons. If you are not shortlisted, it is not a reflection of the quality or the effectiveness of what you do. Please bear in mind that the need for funding will always far outweigh the available grant funds.

The amount available for funding each year will vary according to the performance of our investments. At this stage, we envisage around \$1 million to \$1.5 million will be available each year.

## **EOI ONLINE FORM**

Our online Expression of Interest form is a Google form. It is open 14 March 2018 to midday 30 April 2018.

Access the online form on our website. It is a red 'Apply online' button at the end of the EOI section.

**Thank you for your interest in working with the Borrin Foundation to make a difference to the lives of New Zealanders, through the law.**