



Allocations for the 2016 Performance-Based Research Fund

In 2016, the Performance-Based Research Fund (PBRF) increased to \$300 million from \$287.5 million in 2015 and \$275 million in 2014.

The PBRF comprises three funding components with each component having a different percentage of the total PBRF funding. From 2015 to 2016 the percentage apportioned to two of the three components changed. Quality Evaluation (QE) decreased from 60% to 55% and External Research Income (ERI) increased from 15% to 20%. Research Degree Completions (RDC) remained the same at 20%.

The Tertiary Education Commission (the TEC) allocated:

- › \$291.8 million to 8 universities (97.3%)
- › \$6.95 million to 10 ITPs (2.3%)
- › \$556,589 to 8 PTEs (<1%)
- › \$664,020 to 1 wānanga (<1%)

Each sector's proportion of the total PBRF funding remained similar to 2015.

Quality Evaluation (QE) allocations decreased for all sectors

The Quality Evaluation component of the PBRF comes from an assessment of the research performance of staff at eligible TEOs. 2016 funding allocations for the QE measure were based on the results of the 2012 QE.

In 2016, the TEC allocated \$165 million in QE funding, a decrease of \$7 million from 2015. This decrease is directly attributed to the decreased percentage of the funding allocated to the QE component in 2016.

The Universities received \$159.5 million, ITPs \$4.9 million, wānanga \$145,070 and PTEs \$375,904, all less than 2015.

External Research Income (ERI) funding increased...

The external research income element of the PBRF is an annual measurement of the amount and type of income received by participating TEOs from external sources for research.

In 2016 the ERI component of the PBRF funding increased to \$60 million from \$43.1 million in 2015. All sectors received more ERI funding in 2016 than 2015.

The majority of ERI funding was allocated to Universities (\$59.4 million), followed by ITPs (\$400,430), wānanga (\$127,507) and PTEs (\$28,149).

Actual External Research Income earned in 2016 by each sector was Universities (\$474.5 million), ITPs (\$2.19 million), wānanga (\$185,647) and PTEs (\$464,522).

...but actual external research income earned marginally decreased in 2016 for both the ITP and wānanga sectors

The wānanga sector considerably increased its ERI earnings between 2014 and 2015 from \$37,593 to \$194,595 respectively and had a slight decline in 2016 to \$185,647.

The ITP sector increased its external research income earnings to \$2.4 million in 2015 up from \$1.9 million in 2014 and then had a marginal decrease to \$2.19 million in 2016.

...and the university sector's external research income earned is increasing

The university sector consistently increased its external research income earned for the years 2014, 2015 and 2016, at \$407.6 million, \$441.5 million and \$474.5 million respectively.

Research Degree Completion allocations increased...

The Research Degree Completions component of the PBRF is based on a yearly measurement of the number of PBRF-eligible postgraduate research-based degrees completed at participating TEOs. In 2016, the TEC allocated \$75 million in RDC funding. Universities received \$72.8 million, ITPs \$1.6 million, wānanga \$391,443 and PTEs \$152,537.

2016 RDC funding increased for universities by \$3 million, wānanga by \$74,500 and PTEs by \$46,400 and decreased for ITPs by \$82,000 compared to 2015.

...and the total number of RDCs continued to trend upwards

RDCs increased from 3,992 in 2015 to 4,096 in 2016. Between 2015 and 2016 Research Degree Completions for Maori and Pacific people increased by 12 (4.6%) and 10 (7.5%) respectively and for European and Asian people declined by 44 (-1.7%) and 51 (-4.7%) respectively.

In 2016, Society and Culture (878) and Natural Physical Sciences (840) continued to produce the highest numbers of RDCs.

Further information

More information on the PBRF can be found [here](#).

Other publications relevant to the PBRF, including previous allocations and annual reports, can be found [here](#).

Detailed allocations and completions information is available in the [2016 PBRF Allocation Tables](#) (Excel, 153Kb)



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