

Access to High Performance Computing facilities 2024 opportunity

UKRI community webinar (Q&A)
12th March 2024

Q: Would you be able to share the slides to refer later?

A: Yes, the slides from the webinar will be available on the Funding Finder as soon as possible.

Q: How many applicants will be successful?

A: The aim of the Access to High Performance Computing facilities 2024 call is to provide computing time to highest quality projects within the available computing time detailed in the Service Specification Document. The quality of the project is assessed and classed into bands based on a peer review process. Thus, the number of successful applications will be based on the quality and size of the projects and the available compute resources.

Q: What is the technical assessment that comes after successful application?

A: The Technical Assessment (TA) is a document provided by the service desk of the relevant HPC services. This document is expected to be completed and returned to the service desk upon the successful allocation of compute resource. The TA is aimed at determining the viability of the project on the allocated HPC service.

Q: What are the limits in terms of compute time? Say on Archer2

A: The available compute resource for the HPC services is detailed in the [Service Specification document](#)

Q: Is the 'EPSRC Service Specification' pdf up to date? e.g., CSD3 shows GPU A100 processors available, but wasn't the Wilkes-3 cluster shut down in January 2024?

A: The Service Specification document is as up to date as the information provided by the service desk of the HPC services.

Q: How tight is the time allocated? For example, if GPU units are used to train deep learning models, but sometimes it takes longer to train than expected. When the allotted time runs out, can I ask for an extension? Or does the HPC usage need to be managed within the allotted time with strict rules?

A: While we hope to continue to provide opportunities for access to HPC services, extensions beyond the allotted time on the HPC service is not guaranteed. Please note that the current remaining time available until the end of the Tier-2 systems under UKRI remit is 31st March 2025.

Q: Just to make sure, we can install software for computing? I work with Flow 3D, a casting process simulation.

A: The installation and/or porting of custom software on the HPC services will have to be discussed with the service desk of the HPC services. It is encouraged to have this discussion with them before submitting the proposal.

Q: The call says, 'This opportunity provides researchers with an open and flexible route to computational support for high-quality projects across UKRI's remit.'. So, is it only for EPSRC or for projects in other councils too?

A: The Access to High Performance Computing facilities 2024 call is open to all remits in all councils across UKRI.

Q: What email should we use to ask questions? thanks

A: All correspondence can be sent to researchinfrastructure@epsrc.ukri.org.