

UKRI Access to High Performance Computing facilities: autumn 2025

Community Webinar Question and Answer (QnA). 2 October 2025, 11AM

Q1: There is a wealth of Tier 2 services available, most with limited run time for jobs. As my task does not allow for breakpoints, which service should I apply for to maximise wall time and number of cpu cores?

A: Kindly refer to the service specification document in the “addition info” heading of the opportunity page for the technical details of individual HPC service. Feel free to contact the service desk of the HPC service should you require any further information.

Q2: Do you know if this scheme will run again next year/ in the future?

A: We hope to run a similar opportunity in the future, subject to the available UKRI compute services.

Q3: The specs are not helpful. Do I need to enquire with individual services directly? Or is there any expert available that has sufficient overview?

A: Feel free to contact the service desk of the HPC service should you require any further technical information.

Q4: Is there any guidance on what constitutes a feasibility study or proof of concept study? These can be quite subjective. What will assessors be looking for in regards to these?

A: In general, a feasibility study and a proof-of-concept study are both early-stage evaluations used to assess the viability of a project. Assessors are asked to grade individual applications, regardless of the type of application, on the strength of their:

- vision and approach
- applicants and team capability to deliver
- justification of computing resource requested
- ethics and responsible research and innovation

Q5: In the slide titled "Compute Resource Available", can you help me understand what exactly is "EPSRC Remit"? Does it mean only the projects supported by EPSRC?

A: Kindly find information on what constitutes [EPSRC Remit](#).

Q6: The info states that projects start 1 January 2026 - I presume there is flexibility as to when to start? Given that the panel is in December, when would we know of success.

A: Yes, there is flexibility for the start date. However, please do bear the end date of UKRI support for each HPC service in mind when planning your application.

Q7: Is Sulis available for this call?

A: Yes, Sulis is available for this round of the opportunity.

Q7: So, I am working on a project, that needs simulation of fluids, and I am modelling it in COMSOL multiphysics. My question is, Is comsol Multiphysics available in the HPC, and how exactly does the simulation work, like do I have to ask for approval every time I need to run a simulation?

A: For more technical or project specific projects please get in touch with us or the providers of the facilities directly.

Q8: Thank you. Please tell me how to get in touch with you. I am working on a project at the University of Edinburgh, if that helps.

A: You can contact us at researchinfrastructure@epsrc.ukri.org

Q9: I have a 4-year project that started this year for which we were allocated ARCHER2 resources. With the impending demise of ARCHER2 we'd like to explore alternative Tier2 HPC resources as a large gap in HPC availability would severely impact the project. What approach to obtaining HPC resource and which computing facility would you recommend?

A: There is ongoing work within UKRI to provide alternative HPC service recommendation for projects with allocation on ARCHER2 beyond November 2026.

Q10: Are there any available resources or guidelines we can use to enhance the chances of our applications being selected?

A: All relevant guidelines can be found on the opportunity page on the UKRI funding finder. We'd be happy to discuss more broadly about your application, however, we are unable to provide feedback for improvement for an impending application.