Access to High Performance Computing facilities – Autumn 2025 opportunity
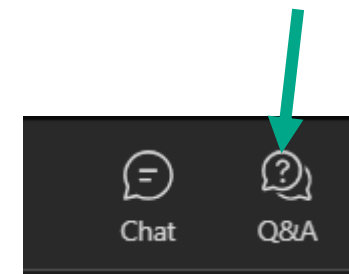
UKRI community webinar

2 October 2025

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Agenda

- 20 min presentation on Access to HPC opportunity

- 30 min Q&A session
    - Pose questions using the Q&A feature
    - Will try to answer as many questions as possible today
    - Might need to take some offline
    - Summary of all Q&A will be placed on Funding Finder

Chat

Q&A

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Opportunity Context

An open and flexible route to computational support for high quality projects across UKRI remit.

Extended feasibility or proof of concept studies.

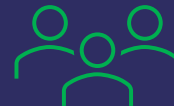Computational projects which may not warrant a full grant application

Computational projects linking consecutive grant applications

Large amounts of compute for ambitious, computationally intensive simulations and calculations

Collaborations with industrial and international partners

Increase the development of computational science skills

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Opportunity Context

| Involve early career researchers | Provide an opportunity to onboard and train new users | Significantly push the boundaries in computational research using HPC |

- This opportunity is open to eligible researchers from across the UKRI remit

- Research technical professionals, including research software engineers, are eligible to be a project lead or co-lead

- Students looking to access the HPC resources through this application route must seek an eligible project lead to apply on their behalf

- You can only be a project lead or co-lead on a maximum of one proposal to each service

- Each proposal you are included for as a project lead or co-lead must be a **unique** and **distinct** project

- Applicants may apply for up to **50%** of the resources available on any one system.

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Compute Resource Available

Service	Duration (months)	Remit
ARCHER2	9	EPSRC only
Baskerville	3	UKRI
Bede	3	UKRI
Cirrus	12	UKRI
CSD3	3	UKRI
Isambard3	6 or 12	UKRI
Jade	6	UKRI
NI-HPC (Kelvin2)	6	UKRI
Sulis	3	UKRI

Access to High Performance Computing facilities – autumn 2025 Service Specification

ARCHER2

Service details
Service Contact Details: support@archer2.ac.uk
Service Webpage: https://www.archer2.ac.uk/

Hardware and Technical specifications
System name: ARCHER2
Compute nodes: 5,860 compute nodes
Processors: Each node has dual AMD Rome 64 core CPUs at 2.2GHz, for 748,544 cores in total and 1.57 PBytes of total system memory
Interconnect: Cray Slingshot
Storage: 14.5 PBytes of Lustre work storage in 4 file systems

Software available:
Information on the HPE-provided software is on https://www.archer2.ac.uk/about/hardware.html
Information on software packages and libraries installed by the ARCHER2 team at EPCC can be found at https://docs.archer2.ac.uk

Additional information on hardware available
https://www.archer2.ac.uk/about/hardware.html

Use cases particularly suited to this service
Large scale jobs

Resources available through this call
Unit(s) of Allocation:
ARCHER2 allocates its compute resource in ARCHER2 Compute Units (CU). Please note 1 node hour on ARCHER2 costs 1 CU, unless jobs are submitted in low priority queues where a discount applies.

Indicative level of computational resource available through this call:
Up to 2.5 MCUs over 9 months, 10% of EPSRC's ARCHER2 compute.

Indicative sizes of previously successful applications (not a restriction)
From around 10,000 CUs to more than 1,000,000 CUs

Access to High Performance Computing facilities – autumn 2025 Service Specification   1

- A Technical Assessment from the service you are applying to will only be required should your application be successful

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How to Apply

- We are running this funding opportunity on the new UKRI Funding Service (TFS)

- Your application must be received by **6 November 2025** at 4:00pm UK time

- Make sure you are aware of and follow any internal institutional deadlines

Application Questions
- Summary
- Core Team
- Keywords
- HPC service requested
- HPC resources requested
- High End Computing (HEC) consortia

- **Vision and Approach**
- **Applicant and team capability to deliver**
- **Computing resources and justification**
- **Ethics and responsible research and innovation (RRI)**
- Genetic & biological risk, use of animals, research with animals overseas, human participation, human tissues or biological samples

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Vision and Approach

Vision
- Excellent quality and importance
- Advance current understanding, generate new knowledge
- Timely given current trends, context and needs
- Impact on world-leading research, society, the economy or the environment.

Approach
- Effectiveness and appropriateness
- Feasibility and comprehensive risk identification and management
- Clear and transparent methodology
- Summary of previous work
- Maximise translation of outputs into outcomes and impacts

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Applicants and Team Capability to Deliver

Evidence of how you, and if relevant your team, have:
- the relevant experience (appropriate to career stage) to deliver the proposed work
- the right balance of skills and expertise to cover the proposed work
- the appropriate leadership and management skills to deliver the work and your approach to develop others
- contributed to developing a positive research environment and wider community

Complete this section using the Résumé for Research and Innovation (R4RI) module headings listed. Use each heading once and include a response for the whole team, see the **UKRI guidance on R4RI**

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Computing Resource and Justification

Assessors are looking for:

- full justification of the resources requested and why you are requesting the specific system
- justification of why the computing time requested is essential for the successful completion of the project
- assurance that the resources requested are appropriate and justified

Assessors are not looking for a line-by-line breakdown of all project resources.

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Ethics and RRI

Demonstrate that you have identified and evaluated:
- the relevant ethical or responsible research and innovation considerations
- how you will manage these considerations

If you are collecting or using data, identify:
- any **legal** and **ethical considerations** of collecting, releasing or storing the data including consent, confidentiality, anonymisation, security and other ethical considerations and, in particular, strategies to not preclude further reuse of data

- formal information standards with which your study will comply

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Assessment Process

- **Assessment Panel**
  - A panel of reviewers will be constituted to review the applications
  - Peer review remains key, as only applications over the quality threshold set by the peer review panel can receive compute resource

- **Service Assignment**
  - Resources from the requested services will then be allocated following the rank order list from the assessment panel
  - Resources are allocated until the budget is exhausted

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Trusted Research and Innovation (TR&I)

- Our **TR&I Principles** set out UKRI's expectations of organisations funded by UKRI in relation to due diligence for international collaboration.

- As such, applicants for UKRI funding (including from the Access to HPC opportunity) may be asked to demonstrate how their proposed projects will comply with our approach and expectation towards TR&I, identifying potential risks and the relevant controls you will put in place to help proportionately reduce these risks.

- See **further guidance and information about TR&I**, including where applicants can find additional support

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Any questions?

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