

# Getting Access

The Pawsey Supercomputing Centre is supported by \$160 million funding as part of the Australian Government's measures to support national research infrastructure under the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy and related programs through the Department of Education. The National Innovation Roadmap explicitly states that "access focuses on the merit of the research to be undertaken as the primary determinant for access".

There are three access mechanisms, driven by the Access Principles of the National Innovation Roadmap.

1. Merit. The bulk of supercomputer access at Pawsey is through competitive merit.
2. National Interest. At Pawsey, some infrastructure is reserved for the Square Kilometre Array radio telescope, and the two precursor telescopes ASKAP and MWA.
3. Commercial. Businesses may purchase access to Pawsey infrastructure and staff at commercial rates.

Proposals for competitive merit projects may be submitted through one of a number of schemes (detailed in [Allocation Schemes](#)) that Pawsey operates or participates in. Through these merit allocation schemes, Pawsey strives to:

- maximise the research impact of Pawsey supercomputing resources;
- promote scientific advantage in priority domains, such as radio astronomy and geosciences;
- provide leading-edge, supercomputing resources for researchers in Pawsey Partner institutions;
- enable wider adoption of and benefit from supercomputing across Australia.

Please note that this documentation about getting access is for commencing new projects at Pawsey. If you wish to join an existing project, you do not need to apply for access. Instead, the project leader can invite you to their project, and you should contact them in the first instance. Project leaders, see [Project Management](#) for details.

When requesting access, prospective users should consider the range of resources available and the access mechanisms that we offer to gain access. Pawsey staff are available to assist with any queries, which should be directed to the helpdesk.

## The process for gaining access to Pawsey supercomputers is:

1. Register on the allocation portal for the particular Allocation Scheme
2. Complete the form to apply for an allocation
3. Application is assessed
4. Project Leader is notified of allocation result
5. Accounts are created and access granted

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For more information, please refer to the following pages.

## Pages in this section: