

The 2025 Kiwi Innovation Network Research Commercialisation Awards

**Commercialisation Professional Award   
ENTRY FORM**

The Commercialisation Professional Award is presented to a commercialisation professional making a significant impact in the commercialisation of publicly funded research.

This year entries will be submitted via email. **Please complete this entry form and when you are ready to submit, email to:** [**admin@kiwinet.org.nz**](mailto:admin@kiwinet.org.nz)

**Entry deadline: 5pm, Thursday 17th April 2025**

For assistance in completing your entry, please contact Kate Webby at KiwiNet: phone 021 0845 2975 or email [**admin@kiwinet.org.nz**](mailto:admin@kiwinet.org.nz)

**CATEGORY**

**The Commercialisation Professional Award is presented to a commercialisation professional making a significant impact in the commercialisation of publicly funded research.**

This award recognises an outstanding commercialisation professional working within a New Zealand research organisation who has played a pivotal role in transforming publicly funded research into commercial success.

**Eligibility**

* Entry is open to experienced research commercialisation professionals across the board —whether Commercialisation Managers, IP Professionals, Business Development Managers, Contracts Managers, Portfolio Managers, Partnerships Managers, Project Engineers or Programme Managers etc.—working within a New Zealand research organisation to commercialise publicly funded research.
* The research underpinning the entry **does not** need to have received PreSeed Accelerator Funding.

**Entry Instructions:**

**In no more than 750 words tell us about the impact the nominee has had on the commercialisation of New Zealand science, through their work with their colleagues, the researchers in their institution, and other key players in the commercialisation ecosystem in New Zealand.**

* Please provide evidence or examples to support your claims.
* In the Summary section, include 3 reasons why you think this entrant deserves to win. You can include a supporting stakeholder quote.

**Please consider the following when writing your entry**, as these are key considerations for the judges when assessing submissions. *Not all points will be applicable to every entry; focus on those that best showcase the nominee’s achievements.*

* How the commercialisation professional has successfully transformed IP from a public research organisation into a new service or product.
* How the nominee champions commercialisation within their organisation, including how they inspire others through their enthusiasm for creating impact from science.
* The nominee’s contribution to the growth of commercialisation capability within NZ’s publicly funded research organisation(s); for example, training researchers in aspects of commercialisation, developing student entrepreneurship, or building strong business relationships.
* How the nominee demonstrates best practice research commercialisation and a focus on delivering maximum benefit for New Zealand. For example, this may be shown through a high level of business acumen, strategic thinking and results, stakeholder and industry engagement, IP management, deal negotiation for technology licensing or start-up creation, communication and influence, project or programme management, and perseverance in overcoming setbacks.
* How the nominee’s efforts have clear potential to generate significant impact for New Zealand, including job creation and direct or indirect impact on export earnings.

**ENTRANT DETAILS**

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| **ENTRY DETAILS – Content in this table will be provided to media in the event that the entry becomes a finalist.** | |
| **Nominee’s name, job title and organisation:** |  |
| **Strapline highlighting the focus and benefit of their work:**  *A short, memorable description or phrase (approx. 8 words).*  *Plain English please!* |  |
| **Short summary description of the entry:** *150-200 words succinctly describing the impact of the nominee’s work. (Plain English please!)* |  |

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| **ENTRY – Content provided in this table will remain confidential to the KiwiNet judging panel, KiwiNet management staff, and *should the entry become a finalist*, to KiwiNet PR person Sandra Lukey as background information for content that she creates on behalf of KiwiNet.** | |
| **In no more than 750 words tell us about the impact the nominee has had on the commercialisation of New Zealand science, through their work with their colleagues, the researchers in their institution, and other key players in the commercialisation ecosystem in New Zealand?** |  |
| **Please include up to 3 bullet points/sentences summarising why the nominee deserves to win, including a supporting stakeholder quote or comment if appropriate.** |  |

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| **Nominee DETAILS (for KiwiNet use)** | |
| **Email address:** |  |
| **Mobile number:** |  |
| **Organisation:** |  |
| **Physical Address:** |  |
| **Location - Town/City:** |  |
| **details of the Nominator with whom KiwiNet will liaise (for KiwiNet use)** | |
| **Nominator name:** |  |
| **Email address:** |  |
| **Mobile number:** |  |
| **Organisation:** |  |
| **Address:** |  |
| **Town/City:** |  |

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

**GENERAL**

The Kiwi Innovation Network Limited’s Research Commercialisation Awards 2023 Evening Reception (the "Awards") will be **held in-person** **at Shed 10, Auckland, on 22nd October 2025.** Winners will be announced at this event.

**Two weeks prior to this day (exact date TBC)** finalists will be asked to attend a 10-minute Q&A session with judges via Zoom.

**ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

# The following eligibility criteria will be applied to the Awards:

### These awards are open to any New Zealand research organisation, crown research institute or tertiary education institute, business, scientist, researcher or professional who works to commercialise New Zealand’s publicly funded research.

**ENTRY CONDITIONS**

# The Awards are open for entry commencing on 26 February 2025 and close at 5.00pm on 17 April 2025. An entry received after this time will not be eligible for consideration.

# The finalists for each category will be announced publicly on or soon after 7 August 2024 by means of kiwinet.org.nz, social media and a press release. The winners of each category of the Awards will be announced at the Awards evening to be held on 22 October 2025**.**

# An entry to the Awards may be in respect of one or more of the following categories:

### Breakthrough Innovator Award

### Researcher Entrepreneur Award

### Commercialisation Professional Award

### Breakthrough Project Award

### Commercialisation Impact Award

# KiwiNet reserves the right to change the timeline outlined in clauses 2 and 3 of these terms and conditions and KEY DATES, including the announcement of finalists and the Awards reception date.

# Where a proposal is created by more than one person, the entry form requires the nomination of one of these people to be the entrant for the purposes of the Awards, and all communication in respect of the Awards will be to this person elected, who KiwiNet will assume is empowered to act and respond on behalf of the group.

# Finalists and the key contacts for Finalist Award entries must be available for filming with KiwiNet’s videographer to create promotional content for the Awards evening and KiwiNet marketing, for one day (maximum) between 4 May and 12 June 2025.

# KiwiNet reserves the right to cancel the Awards programme or individual award categories within the programme.

**JUDGING**

# The judging panel for the Awards will comprise of five judges and will include renowned members of the research, innovation and business communities.

# Full confidentiality of all entries received will be maintained.

# The judges’ decision is final, and no correspondence will be entered into.

**CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**

# All entry information is held on a commercial-in-confidence basis. KiwiNet appreciates the sensitive nature of entries and will not disclose commercially sensitive information in its publicity relating to any project entered.

**PUBLICITY**

# All finalists and winners agree to KiwiNet generating publicity around each entry, including but not limited to media coverage and participating in the making of a short video for promotional purposes.

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

# Entrants must have the rights to disclose to KiwiNet the intellectual property rights, including the copyright, or have permission to use any materials submitted for the competition.

# KiwiNet will not be responsible for breach of any third-party intellectual property and proprietary rights by the entrants, including any third party’s copyright works.

**RIGHTS AND LICENSES**

# By entering an application, each entrant warrants that they are the original author of the submission and that the submission does not or will not infringe any third party's intellectual property and proprietary rights, including their copyright, patent, trade mark, trade secret, design, or other proprietary rights or rights of publicity or privacy.

**ACCEPTANCE BY ENTRANTS**

# By entering, entrants accept these Terms and Conditions and agree to be bound by them.

# By entering, entrants warrant they are eligible to participate in the competition and agree to release, indemnify and hold harmless KiwiNet and all associated partners in the competition and their respective directors and employees from and against any and all losses, claims, liability and damages of any kind, brought against any of them, as a result of participation in this promotion or acceptance or usage of the award, including for third party claims for breach its intellectual property rights.

# By entering, entrants confirm and agree to abide by these terms and conditions and confirm that, should they be chosen as a finalist, they are available and willing to:

# · **supply a pre-recorded 5-minute pitch** by 20 Sept 2025 for judging

# participate in a 10 min Q&A session with judges **virtually**, around the week of 6 October 2025 (date TBC)

# · attend the Awards Evening Reception **in person,** on 22 October 2025

**KEY DATES** (some dates may be subject to change)

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| --- | --- |
| **26 February 2025** | Entries open |
| **17 April 2025** | Entries close |
| **~4 May to 12 June 2025** | Filming of finalists’ videos |
| **~23 April 2025** | Stage One Judging |
| **7 August 2025** | Finalists announced |
| **20 September 2025** | Finalists’ Stage Two 5 min pre-recorded pitch supplied to KiwiNet for judging |
| **~ Week of 6 October (date TBC)** | KiwiNetAwards Finalists’ Q&A Day (virtual event)– finalists meet virtually with judging panel for 10 mins Q&A. |
| **22 October 2025** | **KiwiNet Awards Evening Reception** (in-person event) – winners are announced and celebrated |
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