

Toloa Community Fund – Assessment guidance for applicants

This guide explains what your application will be assessed on and how scoring works. Use it to ensure your proposal addresses all criteria.

Assessment criteria and weightings

Your application will be evaluated against six key criteria:

1. **Strategic alignment and long-term outcomes (30%)** – how well does your initiative align with the Toloa Community Fund’s goals and deliver long-term benefits for Pacific communities and the STEM pipeline?
2. **STEM focus and relevance (15%)** – is your initiative clearly STEM-focused and relevant to Pacific youth aspirations?
3. **Community connection (15%)** – how strong are your relationships with Pacific communities? Is the initiative culturally grounded and community-led?
4. **Reach and impact (15%)** – will your initiative reach underserved regions or populations? Is there a clear impact and measurement plan?
5. **Organisational capability (15%)** – do you have the experience, systems, and ability to deliver effectively and manage risks?
6. **Budget and value (10%)** – is your budget appropriate, proportionate, and does it provide good value for money?

Scoring scale

Each criterion is scored **0–100** based on the following definitions:

Rating	Definition	Score Range
Excellent	Significantly exceeds the criterion; exceptional evidence and added value.	90–100
Good	Exceeds the criterion in some aspects; above average with minor benefits.	75–86
Acceptable	Meets the criterion in full at a minimal level; adequate evidence.	60–74
Minor reservations	Marginally deficient; some reservations about ability or evidence.	45–59
Serious reservations	Significant issues; major gaps in ability or evidence.	30–44
Unacceptable	Does not meet the criterion; insufficient information or non-compliance.	0–29