CRAG CARE FUND

Criteria and guidelines for applicants

Grant application form

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These criteria and guidelines are designed to help applicants complete the *Grant application form* section of this document.

Crag Care Fund purpose

The Crag Care Fund (CCF), incorporating the Kimi Worrell Fund, supports projects that:

- Improve climbing safety by replacing or repairing unsafe hardware or installing safety-related infrastructure.

- Protect and enhance access by funding infrastructure and conservation projects at climbing areas.

The CCF continues to honour the Kimi Worrell Fund's legacy of reducing risks from unsafe fixed equipment, while also supporting broader access-related work that keeps Aotearoa's climbing areas open, safe, and sustainable.

What we cover

The CCF supports projects that fall within the following categories:

A. Safety improvements

Projects that make climbing safer by replacing or repairing unsafe equipment or installing new safety-related infrastructure, for example:

- Installing or replacing unsafe or end-of-life fixed lines (ropes, slings, cables, or steps/platforms in hazardous areas).

- Improving or replacing bolts, anchors, or rappel stations that are compromised or do not meet modern safety standards.

Other infrastructure improvements that contribute to safety, such as training anchors at the base of cliffs.

B. Access Improvements

Projects that protect or enhance long-term access to climbing areas, for example:

- Signage (safety, wayfinding, environmental protection).

- Toilets and waste facilities suited to visitor numbers.

- Car parking layout, surfacing, or expansion.

- Walking tracks and approaches, including erosion control.

- Fences, gates, and stiles to manage access.

- Planting, pest, or weed control that supports access and conservation.

Projects should have a clear and direct access or safety outcome.

What we do not cover

- New-route development – apply instead to the NZAC Bolting Fund, Tūpiki Trust, or self-fund.

- Retro-bolting (adding or rearranging bolts on established routes) unless appropriate community consultation and support is demonstrated.

- Large-scale re-bolting of entire crags or sectors without co-funding or additional fundraising.

- Payment for applicant labour, travel costs, or tools (direct project costs such as hardware, materials, or consumables may be supported).

- Non-physical outcomes such as education, training, or research.

Assessment principles

Applications are assessed individually against the following factors:

- **Safety or access need** – urgency, severity, and likelihood of accident or closure.

- **Public benefit** – level of crag use, and community significance.

- **Effectiveness** – durability, technical standards, and suitability of the proposed solution.

- **Value for money** – realism of budget, proportionality, and co-funding for larger projects.

- **Community alignment** – evidence of consultation and support, particularly for bolt additions or changes to existing climbs.

- **Landowner relationships** – whether permission is required, has been granted, or is being sought.

- **Funds available** – impact of a grant on the CCF given funding levels at the time of application.

How to apply

Before you apply:

- Check eligibility: ensure your project fits within the CCF's scope (see *What we cover / do not cover*).

- Apply before work begins: projects already completed will not be funded retrospectively.

- Engage early: if you have questions about project eligibility or design, contact **manager@acat.org.nz**

You can make an application even if you are unable to fix or address the issue yourself. We may be able to find someone else who can help implement a solution.

Completing the application form

Follow the instructions for each section of the application form (see page 5). Provide a level of detail appropriate for the scale of your project.

Send the completed application form section and attachments to **manager@acat.org.nz**

After you apply

- ACAT may contact you for clarification or further information.

- Decisions are made by the ACAT Board or under delegation.

- You will be notified of the outcome in writing.

- If approved, you will receive confirmation of the grant and instructions for payment.

Reporting and support

At project completion, you must provide:

- A short written report describing the work undertaken.

- Photographs of the completed work.

- Confirmation that the intended outcomes were achieved.

Beyond funding, ACAT may:

- Provide advice on hardware, conservation, or landowner engagement.

- Connect you with mentors or experienced project managers.

- Support communications and fundraising for larger projects.

- Source hardware from known suppliers at discounted prices where beneficial.

Transparency and acknowledgement

ACAT may publish details of funded projects, including total amounts granted, project descriptions, updates, and photos, and use these to promote the CCF and its work.

ACAT may also request acknowledgement of CCF funding and other project support provided in your communications about the project or on signage. Tagging ACAT's social media accounts (@aotearoaclimbingaccess) in any relevant posts is appreciated.

Contact

Email **manager@acat.org.nz** with any questions or to discuss your project before applying.

Grant application form

Before completing this form, please read the *Criteria and guidelines for applicants* earlier in this document carefully. Ensure your project is eligible and that you have all the required supporting information.

Please complete all sections, providing a level of detail appropriate for the project scale.

1. Applicant details

If applying on behalf of a club, group, or organisation, include the organisation name.
The applicant will be treated as the project owner and manager unless otherwise stated.

Name _____

Email _____

Contact number _____

Project Manager (if different from above) _____

Project Manager phone _____

2. Project information

Provide a concise title and a clear location (name of crag, relevant sectors or routes).
Tick whether your project relates to safety improvements, access improvements, or both.

Project title _____

Location (be as specific as possible _____

_____

Type of project (tick all that apply):

☐ **Safety improvements (eg bolts, anchors, fixed lines)**

☐ **Access improvements (e.g. signage, toilets, tracks, planting)**

3. Project description

State your objectives and describe the issue or opportunity. Attach photos or supporting documents. Describe how the issue will be addressed, including materials, methods, and any relevant standards.

Project objectives (summary) _____

_____

Description and evidence of hazard/access Issue (attach photos/statements) _____

_____

_____

Proposed solution (methods, materials, hardware specifications) _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

4. Budget

Attach an itemised budget with supporting quotes or estimates.

Total project cost (incl GST) _____

Amount requested from CCF (incl GST) _____

Other funding sources (if any) _____

_____

_____

_____

5. Experience and volunteers

List relevant experience and qualifications of volunteers or contractors.
For technical work (e.g. bolting, fixed lines), note relevant experience or training.

Experience/qualifications of applicant and key project volunteers _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

6. Land type and relationships

Identify the land type (e.g., council reserve, DOC land, Māori land, private farm.)
Include landowner or manager details and any partner or stakeholder groups (mana whenua, ecological groups, etc.).

Type of land (e.g. Council reserve, DOC, Māori land, private farm) _____

_____

Landowner and/or Manager name (if relevant) _____

Partners or stakeholders if any (e.g. mana whenua, ecological groups _____

_____

_____

Describe the current relationship with landowner/manager and any communication regarding this project

_____

_____

_____

7. Climbing community consultation

Projects involving retro-bolting or modifications to existing climbs must show evidence of consultation with route developers and/or the local climbing community as appropriate. Attach written endorsements or survey results where relevant.

Describe the nature of any proposed modifications to established routes. Will the work change the experience of climbing the route(s)? _____

_____

_____

If yes to the above, describe any consultation undertaken (e.g. with original route developers of affected climbs and/or the wider community) _____

_____

_____

_____

8. Applicant declaration

By signing below, I confirm that:

- I have read and understood the *Criteria and guidelines for applicants* section of this document.

- The information provided in this application is true and correct.

- I agree to comply with any Conditions of Grant, including reporting and acknowledgement.

Signature _____

Date _____

Send the completed application form section and attachments to **manager@acat.org.nz**