



# Specialist Earthquake Advice Fund

## INFORMATION SHEET

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### How this funding has become available

The Specialist Earthquake Advice Fund has been established to assist in the facilitation of expert professional specialist advice ("Specialist Advice") to Maori homeowners with damaged properties as a result of the Canterbury earthquakes in order that informed decisions are able to be made by the homeowner. The funds and application process are being administered by He Oranga Pounamu.

### Specialist Advice Funds

In order to support the facilitation of reputable specialist advice to Maori homeowners who require expertise, otherwise not available via other avenues of assistance, He Oranga Pounamu is inviting applications for assistance.

The purpose of the fund is to assist whānau affected by the earthquakes to have access to "Specialist Advice" that has a cost associated to that service.

Up to a maximum of \$1000 per household will be available to a Maori homeowner who meets all criteria outlined below, and in the Specialist Advice application form.

Successful applications can be paid directly to the Specialist Advisor on production of an invoice or via reimbursement to the homeowner on provision of a paid invoice for services for Specialist Advice between 03 September 2010 and 31 June 2012;

- i. Specialist Advice includes but is not restricted to the following areas of expertise; Insurance, Quantity Surveying, Structural, Financial, Legal, Construction Geotechnical and Engineering (Note that any capital costs will not be covered by this fund). Specialist Advice must be from a recognised licensed/registered/qualified or certified (as relevant) provider.

Applicants must have exhausted other avenues of assistance they may be entitled to, (e.g; From their local council, insurance advisor or government agencies) before completing this application.

Please note: Receipt of assistance from other sources will not affect your eligibility to receive assistance from this Specialist Earthquake Advice fund.

If you wish to apply for funding please complete and return this form to: He Oranga Pounamu, P O Box 13713 Christchurch 8141.

### Criteria

In order to be eligible for this grant the applicant must:

- i. be of Maori descent;
- ii. be a homeowner (evidence of homeownership between 3 Sept 2010 & 31 December 2011 must be supplied);

- iii. have exhausted all other avenues of support from a range of existing pathways (evidence must be supplied);
- iv. supply an itemised invoice from the Specialist Advisor showing the total cost of specialist advice (must be supplied).

These criteria may be amended by the funder at any time.

Only one application will be considered per homeowner and the grant is given on a one-off basis.

Please provide material supporting the application and demonstrating that your circumstances are due to the earthquake. Your name, address and supporting information must be clearly legible.

### **Amounts**

Where an application is deemed successful, the amount of the grant will be up to \$1,000 per homeowner.

Successful applications will be paid directly to the Specialist Advisor on production of an invoice or via direct reimbursement to the applicant subject to provision of appropriate documentation. Apart from the cap of \$1000, the amount of the grant will depend on individual circumstances, and the dollar amount stated above is a guideline only.

All grants are subject to the availability of the funding. No more than one grant will be paid per household. Please note the funder's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into in relation to any decision by the funder.

### **Process**

In order to apply for financial support to engage an expert, you must call 0800 KAI TAHU (0800 524 8248) and speak to the Kaiwhiri (Ru Whenua) who will discuss the Specialist Advise Earthquake Fund application with you, or visit [www.hop.org.nz](http://www.hop.org.nz) to download an application form..

Please complete **all** of the questions on the application form and attach supporting documentation.

Applications can be lodged by:

Post: P O Box 13713, Christchurch 8141

Delivered to: 50 Corsair Drive, Wigram

### **Enquiries for assistance**

If you have any questions relating to the grant, please contact the 0800 KAI TAHU (0800 524 8248) call centre and ask to speak to the Kaiwhiri (Ru Whenua) who will be able to assist you with your enquiries or contact a Kaitoko Whanau.