

# Netsafe Online Safety Grant: Proposals for Research Studies

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# Proposals for research studies

The information in this document is provided as additional guidance for research study proposals.

## Research topic

Netsafe is interested in receiving proposals to research the relationship between digital technology, people and society in the context of the risk and impact of harmful digital communications.

The ten communications principles in the Harmful Digital Communications Act broadly describe the types of communication that are in scope for this grant.

Other information relevant to the development of research proposals includes:-

- Netsafe's published research on the online experiences of New Zealand teenagers and adults (see References below); **and**
- Other research related to identified issues of risk and harm mediated by digital communications in the New Zealand context.

## Research approach

Netsafe welcomes a range of research methodologies and paradigms. Proposals can apply quantitative (e.g. survey), qualitative (e.g., focus groups) or mixed (e.g. case study) methods. The use of other approaches is supported e.g., experimental research, design science or the use of digital research methods.

## Selection criteria and research proposals

The selection criteria apply to all grant applications, including research proposals. However, applicants should consider the additional information - below - when developing their research proposals.

Netsafe is interested in research proposals that:-

- Are aligned with the Act and are informed by prior evidence-based research;
- Identify the contribution the study will make to the body of New Zealand research about issues related to harmful digital communications;
- Explain the potential impact or implications for policy, practice, or future research;
- Present a feasible and rigorous methodology;
- Demonstrate the researchers' capability to successfully deliver the project (e.g., previous publications, supporting references);
- Demonstrate openness to innovative approaches to presenting and disseminating findings in collaboration with Netsafe and other organisations;
- Clearly and succinctly describe the research question, justification, objectives, methodology, methods, resources and timeline, and ethics.

## Submitting a research proposal application

All grant applications, including research proposals, will be submitted using the grant application form. The guiding questions are generic, but provide the scope required to address all required aspects of a research proposal.

## References

- Ministry for Women. (2017). Insights into digital harm: The online lives of New Zealand girls and boys. Wellington, New Zealand. Retrieved from <http://women.govt.nz/documents/insights-digital-harm-online-lives-new-zealand-girls-and-boys>
- Netsafe. (2017). Teens and “sexting” in New Zealand: Prevalence and attitudes. Retrieved from <https://www.netsafe.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/SEXTING-NZ-Report-Dec-7-2017.pdf>
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- Netsafe. (2018b). New Zealand teens’ digital profile: A Factsheet. Retrieved from <https://www.netsafe.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/NZ-teens-digital-profile-factsheet-Feb-2018-1.pdf>