

# Open Call Platforms for design-based learning



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**The Open Call Platforms for design-based learning is aimed at organizations that encourage young people to gain practical and strategic design skills or to further develop these skills. Do you represent a makers' platform, like a workshop, a lab or another platform that develops a relevant choice for young people or starting professionals? And do you work with professional makers who can offer new skills to and possibilities for young people? Then submit a grant application for financial support for your programme and the further development of your organization by 15 September 2023.**

With this open call, the Fund wants to stimulate initiatives that familiarize those groups of young people and starting designers with the Dutch creative and design culture. For example, product design, textile and fashion design, *spatial design*, *creative coding* or *visual storytelling*. The Fund is aiming at *grassroots initiatives*, for example, which know the ins and outs of the living environment and the needs of the intended target group. These initiatives reach new prospective makers with diverse cultural and socio-economic backgrounds.

The open call is open to programmes for young people who want to take a step towards professional practice. Programmes for self-taught makers and/or young people who, as yet, have no experience but do want to develop design skills, are also eligible for the grant. Applicants select the target group and age category for the proposal themselves. Target groups can vary from primary school children up to those who are 28 years old.

## **Open Call Platforms for design-based learning**

- Submission deadline: 15 September 2023 at the latest
- There are two options when applying for support:
  - Proposals for a maximum of € 25,000 for parties that are going through the incorporation process and smaller initiatives.
  - Proposals for a minimum of € 50,000 up to a maximum of € 100,000.
- Total available budget: € 900,000, with a maximum of six proposals being supported with a maximum grant of € 25,000.
- Period: one year at most, from January to December 2024

During the programme period, the Fund will form a *community of practice* with the parties that are supported within this open call. This community will share knowledge and investigate how each initiative can work towards a sustainable future perspective. For this you will need to include a total of four half days in hours, for a maximum of two people, in the budget.

### **who can apply?**

Platforms, organizations or institutions with a programme aimed at the design field or the creative culture can submit an application. Parties that are still going through incorporation are welcome to submit an application as well. These parties and smaller initiatives can also apply for a maximum grant amount of € 25,000. If you apply for this lower grant amount you have to submit a short project plan and you can also add a video pitch if you want.

Within this open call, a maximum of five institutions that are already receiving support from the Dutch government or one of the national cultural funds can be supported.

### **for which activities can you apply?**

- One-year programmes at most, that will take place in 2024, with one or more professional designers being involved and that focus on one or more of the following activities:

- extracurricular education, developing or transferring knowledge in the form of technical, artistic or practical skills;
- developing design strategies;
- supporting young, starting makers in building a portfolio, consolidating networks and/or starting their own practices within the creative industry.
- Other activities aimed (up to a maximum of 35% of the grant amount to be applied for):
  - the professionalization of one's own organization;
  - consolidating the organization's own positioning.

## when can you not apply?

*Please note:* in addition to Article 5 of the [Open Call Grant Scheme](#), a grant application within this open call will not be processed if:

- A grant has already been awarded for the same activities:
  - under the Grant Scheme for the specific cultural policy (Infrastructure Basis);
  - through another grant scheme from one of the other national cultural funds.
- The application is submitted by an educational institution.

Interaction with education or a collaboration with educational institutions may form part of the proposal, as long as the activities take place outside the regular teaching practice and school hours. A summer school programme, for example, is possible.

Parties that submit an application within this open call will not be able to apply for a grant for the same activities within the [1- and 2-year Activities Programme Grant Scheme](#).

## What is assessed?

An independent committee assesses the proposals based on the following criteria:

- **The programme's set-up**

What is the programme about? What is being offered? How will young people be coached? Which facilities are available? Is there room for personal ideas?

- **The role and quality of the designers involved**

Which knowledge from the design field will be used? What is the quality of the work of the designers and coaches who are involved?

- **The accessibility of the programme**

Who can participate in the programme and how will prospective participants be reached? Is there a selection or is the programme open to everyone? How will any possible barriers for young people be removed so that they register?

- **The positioning within the existing infrastructure**

How does the programme position and distinguish itself compared to existing initiatives within the region? Is the programme sufficiently aimed at target groups who have even less knowledge of the professional design field?

Assessment criterion that is only applicable to proposals of a minimum of € 50,000 and a maximum of € 100,000.

- **The sustainability of the programme**

Which activities will be carried out to further develop the organization and realize future financing or embedding in a local context? Will connections be sought with municipalities and/or other initiatives?

This open call fits in with the Fund's aspirations for a more inclusive design sector. We support initiatives that stimulate young people to gain practical and strategic design skills or further develop these skills. In doing so, we want to increase accessibility to the sector for new, prospective makers. In drawing up the final selection, we will look for an as good

as possible representation of target groups, disciplines and regional spread. If, on the basis of the above criteria, proposals score the same, priority will be given to the proposal that compared of the selected proposals contributes the most to enhancing diversity and inclusivity within the design field.

## submission

Parties can submit an application up to and including 15 September 2023 via the Fund's [online application environment](#). Select the Open Call Platforms for design-based learning.

*Please note:* different criteria apply to:

- proposals for a maximum of € 25,000
- proposals for € 50,000 - € 100,000.

### Proposals for a maximum of € 25,000

The proposal should consist of:

A project plan (no more than 5 A4 pages and not larger than 8 MB, in PDF format), containing:

- the set-up of the programme;
- a description of the professional designers who will be involved;
- a description of the target group, how they will be reached and the manner of participation;
- a description of the programme's positioning;
- optional: it is possible to add a link to a video pitch of no more than 5 minutes to the project plan.
- Plan and budget. An example of a budget can be found on page 6 of the Grant Application Guidelines. Additional financing (co-financing) is not compulsory.
- Concise CVs or biographies of the designers and coaches who will be involved.
- Portfolios of the designers who will be involved (15 pages at most, A4 in PDF format).
- Letters of intent from partners who will be involved (not compulsory).
- An extract from the register of the Chamber of Commerce issued no more than one year ago.

*Please note:* if the entry does not meet the above requirements, no substantive assessment can take place. Make sure that you request login details for the online application environment on time. It takes one working day to activate a new applicant's account.

### Proposals for a minimum of € 50,000 and a maximum of € 100,000

The proposal should consist of:

- A project plan (no more than 10 A4 pages and not larger than 8 MB, in PDF format), containing:
  - the set-up of the programme;
  - a description of the professional designers who will be involved;
  - a description of the target group, how they will be reached and the manner of participation;
  - a description of the programme's positioning;
  - a description of the activities to enhance the programme's sustainability.

For platforms that received support from the Open Call Platform for design-based learning in 2022, there is a supplementary requirement for the project plan to reflect on how the grant applied for follows on from the 2023 programme and the organization's professionalization.

- Plan and budget. An example of a budget can be found on page 6 of the [Grant Application Guidelines](#). Additional financing (co-financing) of at least 20% by parties other than the Fund is compulsory;
- Concise CVs or biographies of the designers and coaches who will be involved;
- Portfolios of the designers who will be involved (15 pages at most, A4 in PDF format);

- Letters of intent from partners who will be involved (not compulsory);
- An extract from the register of the Chamber of Commerce issued no more than one year ago.

*Please note:* if the entry does not meet the above requirements, no substantive assessment can take place. Make sure that you request login details for the online application environment on time. It takes one working day to activate a new applicant's account.

## **procedure**

The assessment of an open call is similar to a tender - this means that within the budget available, a number of proposals will be preferred over other ones. Only positively assessed projects will be supported.

The submitted proposals will be processed and assessed on the basis of the [Fund's Open Call Grant Scheme](#). Any grants will be awarded on the basis of this grant scheme.

## **selection**

You will be sent an acknowledgement of receipt by email no later than one week after the closing date. All applicants will be informed about the results of the open call, which will also be sent by email. The Fund will only issue communications about the selected proposals. The rejected proposals will receive a negative decision. The Fund aims to announce the selection before 24 November 2023.

## **monitoring**

The Fund holds meetings with each of the supported parties during and at the end of the programme. An introduction with the Fund and the other supported parties will take place during the meetings as part of the *community of practice*.

## **policy framework**

With this open call, the Fund implements the following policy objectives of the Creative Industries Fund NL:

- stimulating experiment and research;
- promoting talent development;
- promoting a healthy and innovative design infrastructure.

## **contact**

For questions about the open call and the procedure, please contact: Anouk Laverge or Anselm van Sintfiet via [ontwerpendleren@stimuleringsfonds.nl](mailto:ontwerpendleren@stimuleringsfonds.nl) or call [+31\(0\)10-4361600](tel:+31(0)10-4361600).