

Open Call Building Talent for experienced designers and makers



**creative industries
fund NL**

**design
architecture
digital culture**

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The Creative Industries Fund NL invites experienced designers and makers within the creative industry to submit proposals for a design task, research question or experiment, which can be worked on jointly with a starting designer or maker. The collaborative programme offers experienced designers and makers in the creative industry the opportunity to connect with a talented starter over a period of four months and create room for in-depth research and experimentation.

With Building Talent, the Fund wants to stimulate the exchange of ideas and knowledge between established and starting designers and makers within the creative industry, and to strengthen the connection of starters to the professional field. In order to bring about the partnerships, the Fund is launching two open calls. This first call selects experienced designers or makers with a design task, research question or experiment that they have formulated themselves. Interested starters can respond directly to these proposals in the second call, which will be issued in November 2022. In the selection process, an external advisory committee looks for the best partnerships.

Open Call Building Talent for experienced designers and makers in the creative industry

- Deadline for submission: 27 July 2022 at the latest
- Number of grants: 20 work places, € 9,250 each
- Duration of collaborative programme: four months (starting from March 2023 and within 2 months)
- The application is relatively quick and easy to prepare.
- A second open call will follow in November 2022, allowing interested starting designers and makers to respond specifically to one of the selected proposals.

who is this open call for?

This open call is intended for experienced designers and makers who have had their own practice for at least four years within the fields of digital culture, architecture or design and the crossovers between these fields. This includes design studios, architectural firms, collectives, game developers, fashion labels, platforms, or other forms of professional design practices.

N.B.:

- The applicant is based in the Netherlands.
- There must be at least one experienced designer or maker involved in the supervision of the starter. This means that the supervisor involved has been professionally active in the field of design, architecture or digital culture for at least four years.

for which proposals can a grant application be submitted?

In this first call, the experienced designer or maker submits a proposal for a topical design task, research question or experiment, which can be worked on with a starter for four months. The proposal can take as starting point a self-chosen theme, a fascination, a social task or an otherwise relevant topic. In addition, the proposal leaves a role open for a starting designer or maker and describes the proposed collaboration. It is important that there are clear frameworks and expectations with regard to the starter.

N.B.:

- Within this round, an applicant can submit a maximum of one proposal.
- If the applicant has been successfully supported in a previous edition of this open call, the plan should be clearly distinguishable from the previously submitted

proposal. Applicants can only submit a proposal if the collaborative programme from a previous edition has been completed.

For inspiration, [you can see here](#) the selected collaborative programmes from 2021.

how is the collaborative programme set up?

The collaboration concerns a part-time working period of four months and can start from March 2023 (or in the period up to two months afterwards). The Fund expects a weekly commitment from both the experienced designer or maker and the starter, so that a research project can be started or experiments can be carried out in a constructive and substantive way. Prior to the collaboration, a collaboration agreement and planned approach are drawn up jointly.

The Fund makes a subsidy of up to € 18,500 available per collaboration. Of this, an amount of € 9,250 is earmarked for both parties for the hours worked during the collaboration period. For the experienced designer or maker, this is based on a commitment of one day per week. For the starter, a commitment of two days per week is assumed. In addition, it is expected that the starter will be offered a physical workplace during the collaboration. After matching has taken place, there is a possibility to apply for an additional grant of up to € 2,000. This contribution can be used to cover any material and travel costs.

how are the two parties matched?

This first call selects experienced designers or makers with a design task, research question or experiment that they have formulated themselves. A second open call will follow in November 2022, allowing interested starting designers and makers to respond specifically to one of these proposals. Building Talent provides room for starting makers and designers based in the Netherlands with a maximum of four years' work experience in the disciplines of design, architecture or digital culture. They may have graduated from a relevant design course of study, but may also have developed professionally in the field without having completed a design course.

In the selection process, an external advisory committee looks for the best partnerships. Based on the profile of the starter, their motivation, and the fit with the selected proposal, a match is made between both parties. An introductory meeting will then take place to concretize and formalize the collaboration. Please note that these interviews take place in early February 2023.

In the event of a successful match, the Fund will provide a grant to both parties, subject to a collaboration agreement and a joint planned approach being drawn up.

After a positive assessment of the starting documents, the decision will be finalized and the collaborative programme can begin.

submitting the application

Proposals can be submitted until 27 July 2022 at the latest via the Creative Industries Fund NL's [online application environment](#). Select the grant scheme 'Open Call' and then the round 'Building Talent 2022 – for experienced designers and makers in the creative industry'.

The proposal consists of:

1. A fully completed project canvas (1 A3, download the [Building Talent project canvas + explanation](#)), which includes:
 - the project

- own positioning and mission
 - proposed collaboration
 - sought expertise and expected added value
- 2** A CV of the supervising experienced designer or maker (maximum 2 pages A4, as PDF);
 - 3** A concise portfolio of recent and relevant work (max. 10 pages A4, as PDF);
 - 4** A digitally authenticated extract from the register of the Dutch Chamber of Commerce (max. 1 year old).
 - 5** A representative image for communication purposes.

If the submission does not comply with the above, no assessment of the proposal can take place.

N.B.:

- Create an account for the [online application environment](#) in good time. Validation of a new user account can take up to one working day.

what are the assessment criteria?

Grant applications are submitted for assessment to at least three external, independent advisers. This committee assesses the plans based on the following three criteria:

- 1** the relevance of the chosen design task;
- 2** the extent to which the design task and the chosen approach are in line with the expertise and the portfolio of the applicant; and
- 3** the way the collaboration with a starting maker or designer is proposed. The expected added value of this collaborative programme for both parties is also taken into account.

The positively assessed applications are ranked on the basis of the average scores for the assessment criteria. The committee uses a five-point scale: 1. unsatisfactory; 2. moderate; 3. satisfactory; 4. good; 5. very good. From the plans submitted, and depending on sufficient quality, the committee selects a maximum of 20 proposals.

grant procedure

The assessment of this open call takes the form of a tender: this means that, within the available budget, a number of proposals are prioritized over other submissions. Only projects with a positive assessment can be supported. The processing and assessment of the proposals submitted is carried out within the framework of the [Fund's Open Call Grant Scheme](#). For each application, the committee issues a recommendation to the Board of the Fund. Any subsidy is awarded on the basis of this grant scheme.

The following articles in those regulations do **not** apply to this open call:

- Article 4, paragraph 1, under e; f; g; j;
- Article 8, paragraph 3;
- Article 18, paragraph 2.

In this open call, applicants with a positively assessed proposal will receive a conditional positive decision. The decision will be made final only in the event of successful matching with a starting designer or maker, and on the condition that there is a collaboration agreement and a joint planned approach.

confirmation of receipt and selection announcement

You will receive confirmation of receipt by e-mail at the latest two weeks after the closing date. The selection will be announced to applicants via the application environment no later than 28 September 2022. The Fund will only communicate publicly about the selected proposals.

contact

For questions about the open call and the procedure, please contact Carlijn Limburg and Hyun Vin Kaspers at bouwenaantalent@stimuleringsfonds.nl or via 010 436 1600. For this open call you may not submit a draft proposal to the Fund for advice.