PostDoc-VO 2022

Practice-oriented research by PhD-educated science and technology teachers in secondary education and vocational education

Call for proposals

Netherlands Initiative for Education Research (NRO)
## Contents

1 **Introduction**  
   1.1 Background  
   1.2 Available budget  
   1.3 Submission deadline(s)  

2 **Aim**  

3 **Conditions for applicants**  
   3.1 Who can apply  
   3.2 What can be applied for  
   3.3 Preparing an application  
   3.4 Conditions for submission  
   3.5 Conditions on granting  

4 **Assessment procedure**  
   4.1 The San Francisco Declaration (DORA)  
   4.2 Procedure  
   4.3 Criteria  

5 **Obligations for grant recipients**  

6 **Contact and other information**  
   6.1 Contact  
   6.2 Other information
1 Introduction

In this Call for proposals information is provided about the application procedure for the ‘PostDoc-VO 2022’ funding round.

This Call for proposals falls under the responsibility of the Netherlands Initiative for Education Research (NRO). NRO is part of the Dutch Research Council (NWO). The NRO coordinates the programming and funding of research into education and promotes the link between academic research and education practice. In this way, NRO contributes to innovation and improvements in education.

In this Call for proposals you will find information about the aim of this programme (Chapter 2), the conditions for the grant application (Chapter 3) and how your proposal will be assessed (Chapter 4). This is the information you need to submit a grant application. Chapter 5 states the obligations for grant recipients in the event you are awarded funding, and Chapter 6 contains the contact details.

1.1 Background

PostDoc-VO enables teachers to combine teaching with postdoctoral research within the context of their work environment. The programme focuses on PhD-educated teachers in the secondary education (vo) and post-secondary vocational education (mbo) who want to conduct research on a topic which is closely linked to the science and/or technology curriculum.

NRO collaborates with the founders of the PostDoc-VO programme at the Freudenthal Institute at Utrecht University. The Freudenthal Institute provides the cohort of PostDoc-VO grant holders with extra training and support activities, in addition to the individual guidance by their supervisors.

1.2 Available budget

The available budget for this Call for proposals is €1,046,803,-. Within this Call for proposals it is expected that between 9 and 15 proposals can be awarded funding.

1.3 Submission deadline(s)

The deadline for submitting statements of intent is December 13, 2022, at 14:00:00 hours CET. The deadline for submitting full proposals is January 10, 2023, at 14:00:00 hours CET.

When you submit your application in ISAAC, you will also need to enter some details online. Therefore please start submitting your application at least one day before the deadline of this Call for proposals. Applications that are submitted after the deadline will not be taken into consideration.
Chapter 2: Aim / PostDoc-VO

2 Aim

The PostDoc-VO programme seeks to increase the number of teachers who conduct research. PostDoc-VO contributes to this goal in conjunction with other funding programmes for teachers, i.e. Doctoral Grant for Teachers (‘Promotiebeurs voor Leraren’), Dudoc-Alfa, Dudoc-Bêta, and PromoDoc. PostDoc-VO funds PhD-educated teachers in the secondary (special) education and vocational education sector who want to conduct research on a topic which is closely linked to the science and/or technology curriculum.

PostDoc-VO aims to strengthen connections between the fields of scientific research and educational practice by enabling teachers to conduct practice-oriented research for two days a week. The school of the grant holder has to endorse the relevance of the proposed research topic. It is therefore of vital importance that the postdoc-teacher looks into a topic that bears relevance within the context of their school, and it is equally important that their school is motivated to put insights from their research into practice. As a result, the PostDoc-VO programme contributes to evidence-informed working practices in the secondary education and vocational education sectors, and to practice-oriented (subject didactic) research on the science and technology curriculum.
Chapter 3: Conditions for applicants

This chapter contains the conditions that are applicable to your grant application. Firstly it describes who can apply for funding (section 3.1) and what you can request funding for (section 3.2). Subsequently, you will find the conditions for preparing and submitting the application (sections 3.3 and 3.4) and the specific funding conditions (section 3.5).

3.1 Who can apply

You can apply for a PostDoc-VO grant if you fulfil the following criteria at the time of the deadline for submitting grant proposals:

− You have a permanent contract of at least 0.6 fte as a teacher with a secondary (special) education school (v(s)o) or school for post-secondary vocational education (mbo) which is funded by the Dutch government;
− You have a teaching qualification for secondary (special) education (v(s)o) or post-secondary vocational education (mbo);
− At least half of your working week, as stipulated in your employment contract, consists of teaching responsibilities (defined below);
− You have completed your PhD;
− Your employer has signed a declaration in support of your application.
− Your intended academic supervisor has signed a declaration in support of your research proposal. This supervisor has to work for one of the following institutions: EUR, RUG, RUN, TUD, TUE, OU, UL, UM, UT, UU, UVA, UvH, UvT, VU, WUR, PThU, TUA, TU, Nyenrode or Naturalis.

‘Teaching responsibilities’ are defined here as: actual teaching in the classroom as well as associated tasks, including the lesson preparations, meetings with colleagues about teaching practices or lesson content, correcting tests, assignments or homework, or supervising students in their assignments or internships. Teachers who engage in research activities as part of their employment contract (whether funded by their own school or another organisation) should note that research engagements cannot be counted towards teaching responsibilities in the light of this call for proposals. NRO can ask for additional information about an applicant’s official tasks as defined in their employment contract based on the information provided in the grant proposal. An applicant has to retain at least 0.2 fte of their teaching responsibilities for the duration of the grant.

It is not necessary for candidates to have completed their PhD in the science and/or technology field, as long as they hold a PhD that is relevant for their proposed research in the science and technology field. There are no requirements for how long ago a candidate needs to have obtained their PhD.

3.2 What can be applied for

Teachers can apply for postdoc funding for either two or three years of funding. The grant is to be used to pay for a substitute teacher for 0.4 fte for the duration of the project, i.e. either two or three years.

A grant holder’s employer will receive the personnel budget of the grant’s funding. The employer will receive one of the following standardised budget per year to pay for a substitute teacher, as based on the average wage rates for 0.4 fte:

− for teachers in special secondary education (vso): €30,900 per year;
− for teachers in secondary education (vo): €33,000 per year;
− for teachers in post-secondary vocational education (mbo): €33,800 per year.
The grant also includes a budget of a maximum of €2,000 per grant holder per year to be used for research expenses. This budget can be used for trainings, conference fees, travel expenses, and the purchase of academic sources or other materials which are directly related to the proposed research itself. NRO will transfer this part of the grant to the university of the grant holder’s supervisor. The grant holder consults their supervisor vis-à-vis the use of the budget for research expenses.

In summary, this call for proposals allows for the following PostDoc-VO grant funding options.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Educational Sector</th>
<th>Duration of the project</th>
<th>Sum personnel budget</th>
<th>Sum material budget</th>
<th>Project budget total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>vso-teacher</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>61.800 euro</td>
<td>4.000 euro</td>
<td>65.800 euro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>92.700 euro</td>
<td>6.000 euro</td>
<td>98.700 euro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vo-teacher</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>66.000 euro</td>
<td>4.000 euro</td>
<td>70.000 euro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>99.000 euro</td>
<td>6.000 euro</td>
<td>105.000 euro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mbo-teacher</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>67.600 euro</td>
<td>4.000 euro</td>
<td>71.600 euro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>101.400 euro</td>
<td>6.000 euro</td>
<td>107.400 euro</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 3.3 Preparing an application

The steps involved in writing your application are:
- download the application form from the NWO web application ISAAC or from the NWO web page (on the grant page of the funding instrument concerned);
- complete the application form;
- save the application form in ISAAC as a PDF file and upload it with any compulsory annexes;
- fill in the requested information online in ISAAC.

An application consists of inter alia the following elements:
- A clearly described problem statement and the proposed research plan;
- A curriculum vitae (CV) of the applicant;
- A statement completed by the applicant’s intended supervisor;
- A statement completed by the applicant’s employer.

This call for proposals provides the main point of reference in preparing your application.

Compulsory annexes: budget, employer’s statement.

NWO has made a template available, the annexes should be drawn up according to the NWO template. Annexes must be uploaded in ISAAC separately from the application. All of the annexes, except for the budget, must be submitted as PDF files (without encryption). The budget must be submitted in ISAAC as an Excel file. Any annexes other than those above-mentioned are not permitted.

You must write your application in Dutch or in English.

An application can only be submitted via the web application ISAAC. Applications that are not submitted via ISAAC will not be taken into consideration. As the main applicant, you are required to submit the application via your own personal ISAAC account.

It is important to start with your application in ISAAC on time:
- if you do not yet have an ISAAC account, then you should create this on time to prevent any possible registration problems;
- any new organisations must also be added to ISAAC by NWO;
- you also need to submit other details online.
Applications submitted after the deadline will not be taken into consideration by NWO. For technical questions, please contact the ISAAC helpdesk, see contact (Chapter 6).

Do you work at an organisation that is not included in the ISAAC database? You can report this via relatiebeheer@nwo.nl so that the organisation can be added. This will take several days. It is therefore important that you report this at least one week before the deadline.

The applicant must inform the organisation where she/he works about the submission of the application, and the organisation must accept the granting conditions of this Call for proposals.

3.4 Conditions for submission

3.4.1 Formal conditions for submission

NWO will assess your application against the conditions listed below. Your application will only be admitted to the assessment procedure if it meets these conditions. After submitting your application, NWO requests you to be available to implement any possible administrative corrections so that you can (still) meet the conditions for submission.

These conditions are:
− the applicant the conditions stated in Section 3.1;
− the application form is, after a possible request to make additions or changes, complete and filled out according to the instructions;
− the application is submitted via the main applicant’s ISAAC account;
− the application is received at or before the deadline set;
− the application is written in Dutch/English;
− the application budget is drawn up in accordance with the conditions for this Call for proposals;
− the proposed project has a duration of at least 2 and at most 3 years;
− All of the required annexes are, after a possible request to make additions or changes, complete and filled out according to the instructions.

3.4.2 Parental leave

For instruments in which no co-applicants can be entered, NWO offers applicants who take parental leave during the assessment period due to the arrival of a child, the possibility to make use of the 'Compensation scheme for parental leave'. This scheme applies to this Call for proposals. For more information, please see www.nwo.nl/en/compensation-scheme-parental-leave.

If an applicant wants to make use of this compensations scheme, then a written request for this, supported by reasons, should be submitted to NWO via the contact person for this funding round. With this request, the applicant should provide all information that NWO needs to take a decision, including information from which it is clear that the applicant is hindered from providing input due to childcare leave.

3.5 Conditions on granting

The NWO Grant Rules 2017 and the Agreement on the Payment of Costs for Scientific Research are applicable to all applications.
3.5.1 Data management
The results of scientific research must be replicable, verifiable and falsifiable. In the digital age, this means that, in addition to publications, research data must also be publicly accessible insofar as this is possible. NWO expects that research data resulting from NWO-funded projects will be made publicly available, as much as possible, for reuse by other researchers. “As open as possible, as closed as necessary” is the applicable principle in this respect. Researchers are at least expected to make the data and/or non-numerical results that underlie the conclusions of work published within the project publicly available at the same time as the work’s publication. Any costs incurred for this can be included in the project budget. Researchers should explain how data emerging from the project will be dealt with based on the data management section in the proposal and the data management plan that is drawn up after funding is awarded.

Data management section
The data management section is part of the proposal. Researchers are asked before the start of the research to consider how the data collected will be ordered and categorised so that this can be made publicly available. Measures will often already need to be taken, during the creation of data and analysis of the data, to make its later storage and dissemination possible. If it is not possible to make all data from the project publicly available, for example due to reasons of privacy, ethics or valorisation, then the applicant is obliged to list the reasons for this in the data management section.

The data management section in the proposal is not evaluated and will therefore not be weighed in the decision whether to award funding. However, both the referees and the committee can issue advice with respect to the data management section.

3.5.2 Scientific integrity
In accordance with the NWO Grant Rules 2017, the project that NWO funds must be carried out in accordance with the nationally and internationally accepted standards for scientific conduct as stated in the Netherlands Code of Conduct for Research Integrity (2018). By submitting the proposal, the applicant commits to this code. In the case of a (possible) violation of these standards during a project funded by NWO, the applicant should immediately inform NWO of this and should submit all relevant documents to NWO. More information about the code of conduct and the policy regarding research integrity can be found on the website: www.nwo.nl/en/scientific-integrity.

3.5.3 Ethical statement or licence
The applicant is responsible for determining whether an ethical statement or licence is needed for the realisation of the proposed project. The applicant should ensure that this is obtained from the relevant institution or ethics committee on time. If the project is awarded funding, then the grant is issued under the condition that the necessary ethical statement or licence is obtained before the latest start date for the project. The project cannot start until NWO has received a copy of the ethical statement or licence.

3.5.4 Nagoya Protocol
The Nagoya Protocol ensures an honest and reasonable distribution of benefits emerging from the use of genetic resources (Access and Benefit Sharing; ABS). Researchers who make use of genetic sources from the Netherlands or abroad for their research should familiarise themselves with the Nagoya Protocol (www.absfocalpoint.nl). NWO assumes that researchers will take all necessary actions with respect to the Nagoya Protocol.

3.5.5 Additional conditions on granting
The project must start on the 1st of September 2023. The applicant can apply for an extension of the project to finish the research in their own time and/or at their own expense, if the research is not finished within this timeframe. The grant holder can request this at the NRO.

A grant holder must retain 0,2 fte worth of teaching responsibilities for the duration of the project.
A grant holder is required to participate in the programme of cohort and supervision activities provided by the Freudenthal Institute at Utrecht University, which takes place in addition to any supervision activities by the grant holder’s supervisor.

Given the aims of the PostDoc-VO programme as stated in this call for proposals, NRO urges grant holders to keep teaching at a school funded by the Dutch government for at least two years after finishing their funded project.
4 Assessment procedure

This chapter first of all describes the course of the assessment procedure (Section 4.2). It then states the criteria that the assessment committee will use to assess your application (Section 4.3).

The NWO Code for Dealing with Personal Interests applies to all persons and NWO employees involved in the assessment and/or decision-taking process (www.nwo.nl/en/code-dealing-personal-interests).

NWO strives to achieve an inclusive culture in which there is no place for conscious or unconscious barriers due to cultural, ethnic or religious background, gender, sexual orientation, health or age (www.nwo.nl/en/diversity-and-inclusion). NWO encourages referees and members of an assessment committee or jury to be actively aware of implicit associations and to try to minimise these. NWO will provide them with information about concrete ways of improving the assessment of an application.

4.1 The San Francisco Declaration (DORA)

NWO is a signatory to the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA). DORA is a worldwide initiative that aims to improve the way research and researchers are assessed. DORA contains recommendations for research funders, research institutions, scientific journals and other parties.

DORA aims to reduce the uncritical use of bibliometric indicators and obviate unconscious bias in the assessment of research and researchers. DORA’s overarching philosophy is that research should be evaluated on its own merits rather than on the basis of surrogate measures, such as the journal in which the research is published.

When assessing the scientific track record of applicants, NWO makes use of a broad definition of scientific output.

NWO requests committee members and referees not to rely on indicators such as the Journal Impact Factor or the h-index when assessing applications. Applicants are not allowed to mention these in their applications. You are, however, allowed to list other scientific products besides publications, such as datasets, patents, software and code, et cetera.

For more information on how NWO is implementing the principles of DORA, see www.nwo.nl/en/dora.

4.2 Procedure

The application procedure consists of the following steps:
- Submission of the statement of intent
- Submission of the proposal
- Consideration of the proposal
- Initial advice from the assessment committee
- Interview with the assessment committee
- Assessment committee meeting
- Decision-making

Due to the expertise present in the assessment committee, NWO has decided for the assessment of the applications to make use of the possibility given in Article 2.2.4, paragraph 2, of the NWO Grant Rules 2017, to realise the assessment procedure without involving referees.
4.2.1 Submission of the statement of intent
With a statement of intent, you indicate that you intend to submit an application for this Call for proposals. Submitting a statement of intent isn’t compulsory if you want to submit an application in a later phase. The statement of intent is meant to inform NWO about the expected number of applications. If you want to submit your statement of intent, you must do so before the deadline by sending an email to programmaraad@nro.nl containing your name and the name of your intended supervisor.
You may withdraw a statement of intent. You can do this by sending an email to programmaraad@nro.nl.

4.2.2 Submission of a proposal
For the submission of the proposal, a standard form is available on the funding page of this Call for proposals on the NWO website. When you write your proposal, you must adhere to the questions stated on this form and the procedure given in the explanatory notes. You must also adhere to the conditions for the maximum number of words and pages.
Your complete application form must have been received before the deadline via ISAAC (see paragraph 1.3). After this deadline, you can no longer submit a proposal. After submitting the proposal, the main applicant will receive a confirmation of receipt.

4.2.3 Consideration of the proposal
As soon as possible after you have submitted your proposal, you will hear from NWO whether or not your proposal will be taken into consideration. NWO will determine this based on several administrative-technical criteria (see the formal conditions for submission, Section 3.4). NWO can only take your proposal into consideration if it meets these conditions.
Please bear in mind that within two weeks after the submission deadline, NWO may approach you with any possible administrative corrections that need to be made so that your proposal can (still) meet the conditions for submission. Therefore, you have to make sure you are available to make these changes if necessary. You will be given one opportunity to make the corrections, and you will be given five working days to do this.

4.2.4 Pre-advice assessment committee
After this, your proposal will be submitted for comments to several members of the assessment committee (the pre-advisers). The pre-advisers will provide a written substantive and reasoned response to the proposal. They will formulate these comments based on the substantive assessment criteria (see Section 4.3.1) and will give the proposal a numerical score per assessment criterion. For this, the NWO score table will be used (on a scale of 1 to 9, where “1” is excellent and “9” unsatisfactory).

4.2.5 Interview
The proposal will be submitted to the assessment committee. The assessment committee will make its own assessment based on these.

As an applicant you will receive the preliminary assessment report at least five days before your scheduled interview with the assessment committee. The feedback and questions in the report will be anonymous. The interview provides applicants with the opportunity for rebuttal of the preliminary assessment. If the preliminary assessment report shows an overall negative assessment by the committee, you can withdraw your application from consideration. In general, chances of changing an overall low score to an overall positive score are small. If you do decide do withdraw your application from consideration, you are to inform NRO as soon as possible by email and by withdrawing your application in ISAAC.

During the interview, the assessment committee has the opportunity to pose questions, including new questions that the pre-advisers have not yet asked. During the interview, the applicant can respond to these in the discussion with the committee. In this manner, the principle of hearing and rebuttal is applied. The interview is an important part of the assessment and can lead to an adjustment of the assessment and the score of the proposal.
4.2.6 Meeting of the assessment committee

The pre-advice for each proposal is the starting point for the plenary discussion of the proposals by the assessment committee. The committee will make its own assessment based on the application, the pre-advice reports and the rebuttal given during the interview. The committee will consider whether the rebuttal given during the interview contains a well-formulated response to the critical comments from the pre-advice reports and whether the questions posed by the committee are properly addressed during the interview.

Following the discussion, the committee draws up a written recommendation addressed to the NRO Programmaraad voor Onderwijsonderzoek (Prowo) about the quality and ranking of the proposals. This recommendation is based on the assessment criteria. The proposal must receive an overall qualification of at least “good” to be eligible for the funding. The proposal must also receive at least the qualification “good” for main criterium 3 “Applicant’s motivation and CV”. For more information about the qualifications, see www.nwo.nl/en/apply-funding-how-does-it-work.

If, after the discussion of the proposals, it transpires that two or more of the proposals based on their weighted total score cannot be distinguished from each other, then there is an ex aequo situation (see the paragraph about ex aequo).

4.2.7 Ex aequo

NWO understands ex aequo to be a situation in which two or more proposals based on their weighted score cannot be distinguished from each other. An ex aequo situation is relevant with respect to the boundary of the available budget or the selection boundary. The existence of an ex aequo situation is determined as follows. The starting point is the ranking drawn up by the assessment committee, with the final scores rounded down to two decimal points. The reference score is the score of the lowest-ranked proposal within the boundary of the available budget or the selection boundary. All proposals with a score that is within 0.05 or less of the reference score will be considered. In this way, the proposals that are equal within a score of 0.1 will be selected. If an ex aequo situation occurs at the boundary of available budget or the selection boundary, then the proposal with a higher score pertaining to the criterion Quality of the proposal will end as the highest. If the ex aequo situation is not resolved with this, then the proposal with the highest score for the criterion Relevance of the proposal will end highest. If the proposals subsequently in a tie, the assessment committee, with the help of an (anonymous) majority vote, will determine the ranking (in accordance with Article 2.2.7, third paragraph, sub a, part iv of the NWO Grant Rules 2017). If this vote provides no resolution either, or is not desirable to vote, the ex aequo situation will be send on to the decision-making body.

4.2.8 Decision-taking

Finally, the Prowo will assess the procedure followed and the advice from the assessment committee. It will subsequently determine the final qualifications and take a decision about awarding or rejecting the proposals.

4.2.9 Timetable

Below, you will find the timetable for this Call for proposals. During the current procedure, NWO might find it necessary to make further changes to the timetable for this Call for proposals. You will, of course, be informed about this in time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statements of intent</th>
<th>Deadline statements of intent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13th of December 2022</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposals</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th of January 2023</td>
<td>Deadline proposals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2023</td>
<td>Assessment committee meeting including interviews</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter 4: Assessment procedure / PostDoc-VO

April 2023

Decision by the Prowo

4.3 Criteria

4.3.1 Substantive assessment criteria

The applications submitted within this Call for proposals will be substantially assessed on the basis of the following criteria:

1. Quality of the proposal (40%)
2. Relevance of the proposal (40%)
3. Applicant’s motivation and CV (20%)

The criteria have the following subcriteria.

1. Quality of the proposal (40%)
   a. Problem statement and research questions
      - Is the central problem statement described in a clear manner and is the problem statement connected to the science and/or technology curriculum?
      - Is the central problem statement clearly substantiated into research questions, and - if relevant - a conceptual model and/or hypotheses?
   b. Feasibility
      - Is the expertise of the intended supervisor relevant given the research proposal? Can the applicant be embedded in a relevant research group?
      - Is the requested duration of the project (two or three years) suitable and feasible given the research plan?
      - Does the applicant cover potential risks in the execution of the research plan?
      - Does the research plan account for the combination of teaching responsibilities and research responsibilities?
      - Does the research plan account for the applicants training needs?
   c. Research plan and methods
      - Are the proposed methods and techniques suitable and effective to answer the research questions mentioned (in the light of the applicant’s current training and research experiences)?
      - Is the proposed research plan and project planning adequately substantiated?

2. Relevance of the proposal (40%)
   a. Practical relevance
      - Is the proposed research relevant in the light of the questions and issues that educational professionals in secondary education and post-secondary vocational education are confronted with in practice?
      - To what extent does the proposal show that the proposed research is deemed relevant by the applicant’s colleagues and/or school leader?
      - Does the proposal show how the intended results will be used in the applicant’s work environment?
      - Does the proposal explain how the intended results can be used by other teachers and by other education professionals in the applicant’s and supervisors professional networks?
   b. Academic relevance
      - Are the analysis of problem statement and/or the theoretical approach and/or the methodology original and innovative?
      - To what extent and in which ways is the proposed research theoretically and/or methodologically and/or in descriptive ways of importance?

3. Applicant’s motivation and CV (20%)
   - Does the applicant have a suitable motivation to conduct practice-oriented research?
   - Does the applicant have an academic attitude?
Chapter 4: Assessment procedure / PostDoc-VO

- Does the applicant have a suitable motivation to combine research with teaching responsibilities?
- Does the applicant have a relevant academic profile in their CV (in e.g. their PhD research, training and courses, participation in research projects, prizes, and previous grants)?
- Does the applicant have any (other) experiences that are relevant for the proposed research?

Only applications that receive the at least the qualification "good" will be eligible for funding. Separately criterium 3 (Applicant's motivation and CV) also needs to receive at least the qualification “good“.
5 Obligations for grant recipients

This chapter details the various obligations that - in addition to the conditions stated in Section 3.5 - apply after funds have been awarded.

5.1.1 Conditions on granting

Latest start date

Grants start by September 1, 2023. If the project starts too late, NRO may revoke the decision to award funding.

Furthermore, before the start of the project you need to register the project using a signed projectmeldingsformulier (PMF). You can download all the required documents from www.nro.nl/projectbeheer.

Grant holders must submit a progress report one year after the start of their grant. NRO will assess this progress report to check whether both the grant holder and their supervisor expect that the project can be finished successfully within the remaining time.

NARCIS

When a grant holder starts a funded research project, they are obliged to submit this project at NARCIS (available from www.narcis.nl). NARCIS is the Dutch research database of the Data Archiving and Networked Services (DANS) of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW). By submitting your research project to NARCIS, a research description becomes available to search in the NARCIS database. It takes up to five days for a submitted project to be visible in the database. Every project has a unique research number (OND) in the database. This number enables other researchers to find your project more easily.

Reporting interim changes

As the applicant, you are required to report any changes in the planning or execution of the research immediately. You should provide NRO with a substantiated motivation for the changes in your research project.

Any budget shifts between staff costs and material costs and budget shifts within staff costs must always be discussed with NRO. You only have to discuss a shift in the material budget if:

- the shift has consequences for the content, schedule and/or intended research results;
- the budget shift exceeds 20% of the total material budget.

Research progress

Halfway through the research period, the main applicant must report on the progress of research conducted up that point. You must also indicate how the research will be carried out in the remaining project period. You should submit a final report after the project has been completed; see further on in this section.

NRO monitors and supports progress and evaluates the results of the research. We base this on the planning and intended output as specified in your application. In case of a substantial deviation from the application without NRO’s prior consent, NRO may (temporarily or permanently) stop the payment of instalments and withdraw the grant in part or in full, and recover it where necessary. The applicant will receive a more detailed review and evaluation procedure in the decision regarding the grant.
Furthermore, NRO asks that you register any publication or other form of output in ISAAC during the term of the project and for up to two years after the project has been completed. You are expected to follow the Standard Evaluation Protocol (SEP) in this regard. You can find a comprehensive description of the steps to take when registering products in ISAAC at www.isaac.nwo.nl.

Knowledge utilisation

It is important to NRO that the knowledge generated by NRO-funded research is also available to and can be used by society. To enhance the potential for social impact of the research, demonstrable involvement of key users is required from the formation of the consortium up to and including project completion.

During the research, NRO asks candidates to reflect on the impact of the research and to consider how its output can be used, disseminated and maintained amongst end users and other stakeholders. This is also reflected in the monitoring of the research progress.

Final report and Factsheet

No later than three months after finishing the research project the NRO expects you to submit a final report, fact sheet and financial accountability in ISAAC. The fact sheet is intended to provide a concise, point-by-point description of the main features of the publication. This information helps knowledge users to determine whether the publication meets their information needs. The applicant should submit all documents in ISAAC.

In addition to the final report, grant holders are required to submit the project’s output that has been developed up until that point in ISAAC. The Prowo will assess the final report, if the report is approved the NRO will determine the definitive grant and close the grant term.

Assessment of output

The research will only be considered successfully completed if the output specified in the proposal has been delivered, and (if necessary) the output has been peer-reviewed by the Prowo. After your project has been successfully completed, NRO will publish the final report and fact sheet on its website.

Presentation projects

NRO will regularly hold meetings for the presentation of research projects that have been awarded funding. With these meetings, NRO aims to contribute to improvements and innovations in education. NRO can invite researchers carrying out this project to contribute to the meetings.

5.1.2 Data management

After a proposal has been awarded funding, the researcher should elaborate the data management section into a data management plan. For this, applicants can make use of the advice from the referees and committee. The applicant describes in the plan whether use will be made of existing data, whether new data will be collected or generated, and how the data will be made FAIR: Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable. Before submission, the data management plan should be checked by a data steward or similar officer of the organisation where the project will be realised. The plan should be submitted to NWO via ISAAC within 4 months after the proposal has been awarded funding. NWO will check the plan as quickly as possible. Approval of the data management plan by NWO is a condition for disbursement of the funding. The plan can be adjusted during the research. More information about the data management protocol of NWO can be found at: www.nwo.nl/en/research-data-management.

5.1.3 Intellectual property

With respect to intellectual property (IP), the NWO IP policy applies. This can be found in Chapter 4 of the NWO Grant Rules 2017.
Applicants must carry out a project funded by NWO during the time that they work for the knowledge institution. If an applicant or a researcher funded by NWO is appointed by more than one employer, then the other employer should relinquish any possible IP rights that emerge from the project of the applicant.

5.1.4 Socially responsible licensing
The knowledge that emerges from the project could be suitable for use in society. When agreements about licensing and/or the transfer of research results developed under this Call for proposals are made, due consideration should be given to the ten principles for socially responsible licensing, as stated in the NFU factsheet “Socially Responsible Licensing Toolkit for knowledge institutions”

5.1.5 Open Access
As a signatory to the Berlin Declaration (2003) and a member of cOAlitie S (2018), NWO is committed to making the results of the research it funds openly accessible via the internet (Open Access). By doing this, NWO gives substance to the ambitions of the Dutch government to make all publicly funded research available in Open Access form. Scientific publications arising from projects awarded on the basis of this Call for proposals must therefore be made available in Open Access form in accordance with the Open Access Policy.

Scientific articles
Scientific articles must be made available in Open Access form immediately at the time of publication (without embargo) via one of the following routes:

- publication in a fully Open Access journal or platform registered in the DOAJ;
- publication in a subscription journal and the immediate deposition of at least the author accepted manuscript of the article in an Open Access repository registered in Open DOAR;
- publication in a journal for which a transformative Open Access agreement exists between UNL and a publisher. For further information, see www.openaccess.nl/en.

Books

CC BY licence
To ensure the widest possible dissemination of publications, at least a Creative Commons (CC BY) licence must be applied. Alternatively – in case of substantial interest – the author may request to publish under a CC BY-ND licence. For books, book chapters and collected volumes, all CC BY licence options are allowed.

Costs
Costs for publication in fully Open Access journals can be budgeted in the application using the budget module for “material costs”. Costs for publications in hybrid journals are not eligible for reimbursement by NWO. For Open Access books, a separate NWO Open Access Books Fund is available.

For more detailed information about NWO’s Open Access policy, see www.nwo.nl/en/open-science.

Other types of publications
NWO encourages non-scientific publications to be made available under an Open Access open license at the earliest convenience. Examples of non-scientific publications are: reports, working papers, posters, protocols, prototypes, presentations and project websites. To guarantee findability, reuse and long-term availability, it is advisable to:

- apply a DOI (Digital Object Identifier) or a different persistent identifier;
- use an open license, preferably a Creative Commons License;
- store the material in a trusted repository that guarantees long term accessibility.
NWO advises the use of Zenodo, which offers free storage and automated services on these three domains.

For a further explanation of the Open Access policy of NWO see: https://www.nwo.nl/en/open-science.
6  Contact and other information

6.1  Contact

6.1.1  Specific questions
For specific questions about PostDoc-VO 2022 and this Call for proposals, please contact:

Programme officers
Sophie Brolsma
T: 070 349 43 64, E: programmaraad@nro.nl

Wannes Sanderse
T: 070 344 07 19, E: programmaraad@nro.nl

Programme assistants
Suzanne de Vrij
T: 070 344 05 14, E: programmaraad@nro.nl

6.1.2  Technical questions about the web application ISAAC
For technical questions about the use of ISAAC, please contact the ISAAC helpdesk. Please read the manual first before consulting the helpdesk. The ISAAC helpdesk can be contacted from Monday to Friday between 10:00 and 17:00 hours on +31 70 34 40 600. However, you can also submit your question by email to isaac.helpdesk@nwo.nl. You will then receive an answer within two working days.

6.2  Other information
The whole text of this Call for proposals has been published in both Dutch and English. The Dutch version is deemed authentic. For legal interpretation the text of the Dutch version will be decisive.

NWO processes data from applicants received in the context of this call in accordance with the NWO Privacy Statement, www.nwo.nl/en/privacyverklaring.

NWO might approach applicants for an evaluation of the procedure and/or research programme.