

## Call Small Projects NWA Routes 21/22 NeuroLabNL



Within this [call for proposals](#), early career researchers in the domain of NeuroLabNL can apply for funding for a small research project (100 kEuro per project). Early career researchers who experienced a large impact of Covid-19, for example because of having small children (ages 0-12) at home during the pandemic or other limiting circumstances are specifically invited to apply. The projects should be fundamental research in line with the NeuroLabNL goals and ambitions. Three proposals will be selected and submitted by the NeuroLabNL management team to NWO, as part of the NWO 'small projects for NWA routes 21/22' (see [this webpage](#) for the overarching NWO call). The call from NeuroLabNL can be found [here](#).

### Purpose

The project should contribute to topics relevant to the NeuroLabNL route and align with the route's knowledge agenda (see attachment, only in Dutch). New and innovative connections should also be made for example between disciplines, organizations and research fields. The research should be fundamental and currently or in the future connect to a practical issue associated with one of the NeuroLabNL themes (Health, Education or Safety). The research should be realizable within a maximum of two years.

### Who can apply

- The call is open for early career researchers (postdoc, tenure-track, assistant professor level, or a comparable career phase in case of Universities of Applied Science)
- Individuals who experienced a large impact of Covid-19 because of having small children (ages 0-12) at home during the pandemic or other substantial Covid-19 related challenges are specifically encouraged to apply. A report by The Young Academy and The Dutch Network of Female Professors shows that these researchers reported a large impact of Covid-19 on their work experiences, and were less able to apply for grants during the pandemic (see attachment).
- Applicants can participate in maximally two applications in this call
- Applicants should not have a zero-hours contractual arrangement
- Applicants should be linked to one of the organizations (or the organization should meet the requirements) mentioned [in the overarching NWO-call](#) for this funding instrument.

### What to apply for

NeuroLabNL will select three projects of €100,000. The maximum duration of the projects is 2 years. Please [refer to section 3](#) of the [overarching NWO call](#) for requirements for the projects and budget.

For the project-type a choice can be made out of these three categories:

- **Innovative:** explore a new, out-of-the-box idea or;
- **Synthesis:** merging of existing knowledge to arrive at new insights which contribute to the knowledge agenda, ambitions and/or game changers of the route;
- **Knowledge utilization:** (research into or for the purpose of) knowledge utilization, valorization and implementation of existing knowledge.

### When to apply

Deadline for application of a project to NeuroLabNL is **February 21, 2022**. Submission by sending an email with the form (see attachment) to [info@neurolab.nl](mailto:info@neurolab.nl).

## Assessment procedure

Selection process:

- Conformity initial check of short research idea by NeuroLabNL route management, based on above mentioned criteria (see 'purpose' and 'who can apply' sections).
- A total of 15 research ideas will be selected based on drawing by lot.
- The 15 applicants of these selected research ideas have to submit a full proposal (1 A4 description of project).
- Pitch of selected proposals during a pitch day (date: 18 March, 2022)  
Applicants of the 15 selected proposals will peer-review each other.
- Based on the peer review ranking and input from the NeuroLabNL route management, three projects will be selected. The role of the NeuroLabNL route management in this part of the process is primarily to reach a balanced combination of topics of the three projects
- NeuroLabNL proposes the three selected projects to NWO (this overall proposal will be finalized in collaboration with applicants of the three projects)

Proposals will be assessed by NWO based on the following criteria:

1. Connected with the NeuroLabNL community
2. Connection with society and formation of novel and unforeseen connections
3. Relevance for the Research Agenda NeuroLabNL
4. Project design and realizability

The peer review phase will only make use of criteria 2, 3 and 4. For more information on the criteria, please refer to the [overarching NWO call for proposals](#) for this instrument.

## Timeline of the procedure

Application deadline research idea	February 21, 2022
Announcement of selected full proposals	February 28, 2022
Deadline submission full proposal	March 15, 2022
Pitch day	March 18, 2022
Finalizing proposal by NeuroLabNL in collaboration with applicants	March 18 – April 5, 2022
Submit proposal to NWO	April 5, 2022

## Application

Please fill out the attached application form and submit to NeuroLabNL, with a research idea of maximum 200 words. See the application form for more instructions.

## Appendix (available on the [NeuroLabNL website](#))

- Research Agenda NeuroLabNL
- Report of The Young Academics and Dutch Network of Female Professors on the impact of Covid-19 pandemic on well-being of academics in The Netherlands
- Application form

More information: Loes Ottink, [info@neurolab.nl](mailto:info@neurolab.nl)