

Call 2023-2024

By submitting a request the submitter confirms the following.

1. Introduction

UitZicht is a cooperation of several Dutch funds for people with visual impairment. These funds finance -among other things- scientific research on the **origins, prevention and treatment** of diseases of the eye.

The aim of the cooperation is to provide a clearing house for grant applications with an independent review procedure. The LSBS manages the secretarial work.

You can request subsidies for the funding of scientific studies or smaller pre-study projects as further described in paragraph 2. Each of the participating funds of Uitzicht individually decides whether or not your request will be (partly) honoured, according to their own policy. The funds are entirely autonomous and free in their policy.

By signing the request form the applicant agrees with the definitions, preconditions, the described procedure and the possible conditions made by the funds. Please send your application or report only as a MS Word document because pdf-files are not as accessible for people with visual impairment and their computer devices.

UitZicht organizes a seventeenth subsidy round at the end of 2023/beginning of 2024. Completed request forms for the seventeenth subsidy round should be submitted before November 1st 2023, 11:59 PM CET.

2. Types of research financed via Uitzicht

UitZicht is a cooperation of several Dutch funds for people with visual impairment. These funds finance - among other things - scientific research on the **origins, prevention and treatment** of diseases of the eye.

You can ask for subsidy via the Uitzicht-application form for:

- Regular scientific studies with a maximum requested budget of € 250.000;
- Pilot studies (investigation of the 'problems') with a maximum of € 75.000.

You cannot ask subsidy via Uitzicht for:

- Scientific apprenticeship;
- Conference participation (only);
- Printing costs of dissertations;
- Applied research aimed at more independent functioning, participation in the society of people with visual impairment. Examples are general rehabilitation, education and work, parenting, study and development, auxiliary tools, technology and information processing for people with visual impairment. For the funding of this type of research we suggest Stichting InZicht ([InZicht - ZonMw](#))

3. Preconditions

Before grants are honoured

- No later than **November 1st 2023, 11.59 PM CET** submit your application digitally via the online application form on the website <https://uitzicht.nl/application-form>. Applications submitted after 1 November 11.59 PM will not be taken into consideration.
- The study must comply with the definitions mentioned in paragraph 2.
- Part A and C should be submitted in English. Part B should be submitted in Dutch.
- The maximum amount is €250.000, and €75.000 for a pilot-study.
- The applicant is a natural person, allied to a Dutch institution or university. The applicant is also the corresponding person.
- The study should basically start within 12 months after the subsidy is granted.

After grants are honoured

- You can only request the funds to start paying you, after you have informed them that the funding for the whole project is complete.
- Before the December 31st of the year in which the grant is awarded please inform the funds about the financial status of your study: Did you get the needed funding or are you still occupied with collecting them? When you do not inform before the 31st of December automatically all the granted subsidies are gone/cancelled.
- For research involving human or animal subjects you need approval of the METC/DEC. Otherwise the subsidy will be withdrawn.
- Each year before March 1st, progress- and final reports should spontaneously be e-mailed to the secretarial office of UitZicht (aanvraag@uitzicht.nl), by means of the Progress report form. Progress reports of projects started on and after July 1st should be e-mailed before March 1st of the next calendar year. For example when the project starts on July 1st 2024, the first progress report should not be e-mailed before March 1st of 2025 but before March 1st of 2026.
- A Progress Report should also be e-mailed before March 1st when the study ends for example one or two months later. A final report (including a financial statement) should be e-mailed to the secretarial office of UitZicht the next year before March 1st.
- When the project ends prematurely, because of the research itself, the part of the grant that has been paid by the fund but not spent by the researcher, has to be returned. For the part that has been spent, proper financial justifications should be given. When the reason is not directly research related (such as reorganizations and departure of employee(s)) the whole amount that has been paid – without any deductions - should be refunded.
- Applications for the same study can be submitted only twice through UitZicht.
- In publications based on studies funded via UitZicht please use the following text: *The author was supported by the following foundations: (names) that contributed through UitZicht. The funding organizations had no role in the design or conduct of this research. They provided unrestricted grants.*
- With regard to their research, the researchers conform to the Scientific Integrity Code of Conduct as much as possible and to the extent appropriate to the UitZicht procedure ([Netherlands Code of Conduct for Research Integrity | NWO](#)).
- By applying you agree that your name and the title of your application/research will be mentioned on the website of UitZicht when one or more of the participating funds has given you a grant/subsidy (see <https://uitzicht.nl/2018-2022>)

4. Procedure

Deadline: applications to be submitted before November 1st 2023, 23.59 (CET)

Step 0: **September 29th 2023 (between 9 AM and 5 PM) – Pitches**

Researchers who intend to submit an application have the opportunity to present and explain their plan to the Patient Panel (and Boardmembers of the funds). To apply for the pitch, please send an email to: paneluitzicht@oogvereniging.nl. For more information, please call Mirjam Boers 030-2006315 (Oogvereniging).

Step 1: **November 2nd until November 15th 2023 – Committee Criteria**

A committee to be appointed by UitZicht of three experts (Mrs. Prof. M.J. Jager, Mr. Prof. A. Kijlstra and Mr. Prof. R.O. Schlingemann) will decide whether your request for a subsidy meets the definitions and preconditions and thus qualifies for UitZicht. If this is not the case, the application will be returned.

Step 2: **November 2nd until November 20th 2023 – Sub-Panels ‘Scientific Quality’**

The Sub-Panels are appointed by the UitZicht Committee. These Sub-Panels Scientific Quality appoint scientific experts to review.

The Sub-Panels are appointed by the UitZicht Committee. These Sub-Panels Scientific Quality appoint scientific experts to review. It is the intention not to appoint reviewers who are also a member of the Sub-Panel. **NEW!!** Members of the Sub-Panels however are expected to review at least one application of another Sub-Panel in order to know the process.

Step 3: **November 16th 2023 until February 1st 2024 – Advice by the Patient Panel (Relevance)**

A group of about 10 - 15 patients will establish an advice to the applicant. The reviews are collected by the secretariat.

Step 4: **November 27th 2023 until January 25th 2024 – Scientific Reviews**

The reviewers are being approached and requested for a review. Reviews are collected by the secretariat.

Step 5: **February 15th until March 10th 2024 (before 9.00 AM CET) - Rebuttal**

Rebuttal by the applicant on the Scientific Quality Reviews and the Advice by the Patient Panel. **NEW!!** Together with the rebuttal, researchers are given the opportunity (no obligation) to send in a short video presentation (max. 5 minutes, before March 25th) to provide a verbal explanation of the planned project.

Step 6: **March 10th – March 23th 2024 – Final Ranking and Final Advice**

The Sub-Panels Scientific Quality give their final ranking and the Patient Panel gives its final advice.

Step 7: **March 25th 2024 – Meeting**

Meeting of the chairmen of the Sub-Panels ‘Scientific Quality’, two members of the Patient Panel and two members of the UitZicht Committee. This meeting will lead to a final ranking of scientific quality. The Procedure and Applications may be discussed.

Step 8: April 10th 2024 – Funds

Participating funds receive their subsidy requests, the reviews, the advice, the rebuttals, the video presentations and the ranking.

Step 9: April 21st until May 12th 2024 – Board meetings participation funds

The participating funds each have their own board meeting.

The funds announce their intended decisions to the secretariat of UitZicht.

Step 10: May 23rd 2024 – Coordination Meeting

The participating funds meet. The main goal of this meeting is to avoid overfunding.

Step 11: May 18th until May 25th 2024 (before 9.00 AM CET) – Final decisions

The funds announce their final decisions to the secretariat of UitZicht.

Step 12: Before July 1st 2024 – Funds inform the applicants about their decisions

P.S. Please consider the following dates:

March 31st and April 1st 2024 – Easter

April 9th 2024 – Eid al-Fitr/Sugar Feast

May 27th until 29th 2024 - ARVO congress

April 27nd 2024 – Kingsday

May 5th 2024 – Liberation Day

May 9th 2023 – Ascension Day

Parallel - previous awarded research

- Previous awarded researchers have to deliver their progress report before the March 1st 2024.
- By March 2nd 2024 these reports will be sent to the Progress Committee.
- Around April 20th 2024 the report of the Progress Committee is completed. The funds will be informed.