



LNvH Advancing Women in Biology Grant 2026 – Rules and Conditions

The grant

The LNVH Advancing Women in Biology Grant is intended for PhD candidates in the field of biology, travelling to and staying at a research site abroad in order to cooperate with a senior researcher. The maximum amount for a grant is 2500 euro, to be spent in the academic year 2026/2027.

The Dutch Network of Women Professors (LNVH) has founded the fund upon the request and kind donations of prof. dr. Charlotte Hemelrijk, emeritus professor of self-organization in social systems at the Institute of GELIFES of the University of Groningen, to stimulate the career of women PhD students working in biology to the higher echelons of academia.

Eligibility

The PhD candidate is working in the field of biology and is affiliated with a Dutch university or research institution*. The grant is intended for researchers working in the field of biology focusing on the fundamental principles, processes and behaviour of living organisms, including research in the fields of self-organisation, collective behaviour, behavioural biology, endocrinology and behaviour, ecology, evolutionary biology, genetics, microbiology, botany, zoology, and related disciplines.

At the time of the planned journey, the candidate's PhD track should not exceed 4 years. This term can be extended by a period of 18 months per child, or by a period of at most 18 months to compensate for necessary care provided to family members. Other relevant circumstances for extending the 4-year term will be taken into consideration as well. Applicability of the extension clause is evaluated individually for each application.

Conditions

- The grant is intended for journeys relevant to the candidate's field of research, such as visiting a foreign scientific institution, conducting field or archive research, and collaborating with (a) senior colleague(s).
- The candidate can submit a budget for travel-related costs and costs for stay, up to a maximum of 2500 euro.
- All candidates must include a brief letter of intent from their 'host' - whether this is, for example, an institute, university, archive, or person - stating that if they receive the grant, they will be welcome at the institute, archive or person in question (this may be a concise email). This statement must be submitted as a separate attachment.
- The candidate is obliged to take out a travel insurance, at least covering cancellation. Costs of insurance should be included in the grant. If the situation arises, costs that are not covered by the insurance can be passed on to the candidate. This will be evaluated for each individual case.

* Please note: You are eligible to apply if your employment falls under the Collective Labour Agreement for Dutch Universities (Cao Nederlandse Universiteiten), the Collective Labour Agreement for University Medical Centres (Cao Universitair Medische Centra), or the Collective Labour Agreement for Research Institutions (Cao Onderzoekinstellingen).

- On return, candidates need to submit a short record of expenses made (i.e. plane tickets, lodgings etc.). Candidates are asked to provide a short testimonial to the LNVH, about the contents of their research and the specific outcome due to the grant.

Judging criteria

A selection committee assesses each application. It checks whether the application form has been completed correctly and in full and whether the candidate meets the eligibility criteria, and it considers the purpose of the research stay abroad and its relevance to the candidate's research. It evaluates whether the purpose of the trip is clear and the urgency is evident. By urgency we mean that it is explained why the trip cannot be paid for from other funds and why the goal (for example, collecting data and a particular collaboration) cannot be achieved in the Netherlands. In short, the trip must have genuine added value.

Please note: the grant is not intended for conference attendance. While attending a conference may form part of the trip's purpose, it must then be combined with a more substantial collaboration with colleagues abroad, a research institution, etc. Applications that only involve attending a conference - even if the candidate is giving a presentation there - will not be approved.

How to apply

Candidates can apply for a travel grant by filling in the application form. This form can be downloaded from the LNVH website (<https://www.lnvh.nl/advancing-women-in-biology>). If you have any questions, please contact the LNVH at info@lnvh.nl.

Timeline

Deadline for submitting applications: **September 15, 2026**

Announcement of allocations: **Beginning of October, 2026**