

Request for Applications New Research Projects 2026

The goal of the Stichting ParkinsonFonds (SPF) is to identify the causes and elucidate the mechanisms of Parkinson's disease, as a way to the development of a cure for all people with this disease. Since 1998, the Stichting ParkinsonFonds has invested more than € 30 million on research.

With this **Request for Applications (RfA)** the Stichting ParkinsonFonds is looking for new high-quality research projects that aim to a better understanding of the causes, the pathogenetic mechanisms, and the pathophysiology of Parkinson's disease.

Applicants (Principal Investigators) must hold a tenure position of at least post-Doc or Assistant Professor level, at a Dutch University, Medical Center, or different Dutch non-profit research institution.

The Applicant is expected to hold her/his position for at least the entire duration of the project for which funding is asked.

Applicants may submit no more than one grant application as Principal Investigator or co-PI in the same grant call. However, the same person might participate as collaborator in another application.

Co-PI or Collaborators from other European countries might be included.

There is not a fixed nor a maximum **budget** value, however, applications usually supported by the SPF have a budget of about 200-300K EUR, distributed over 3-4 years.

Support for salary of research personnel (PhD students, post-Docs, technicians), consumables, small instrumentation, other (e.g.: travel, publication costs) might be requested. However, the salary of the Principal Investigator cannot be included. A detailed budget must be provided in the application. Overheads up to 10% of the total direct costs might be added.

All applications are first screened for compliance with the given guidelines and completeness.

Applications that fully comply and are considered as submitted in good order are then sent for evaluation to at least two members of the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) of the SPF, who might also request additional input from external anonymous ad-hoc reviewers.

Criteria for scoring include:

- Relevance for understanding the causes or mechanisms, or the pathophysiology of Parkinson's disease
- Quality of the project (clarity, originality, methodological rigor, feasibility, ethics, value for money)
- Quality of the CV of the Principal Investigator and other participants (including their publication and previous grants track-records in the field of PD research)

If a member of the SAB submits an application (as PI, co-PI or collaborator), she/he cannot take part in the evaluation of that application.

The SAB prepares a shortlist of high-ranking applications. In a joint meeting of the SAB and the Director of the SPF, the shortlisted applications are discussed again, and the best projects are awarded funding, compatibly with the available budget for that call.

Occasionally, applications might be considered as possibly eligible for funding but with a reduced budget. In these cases, the PIs will be contacted for negotiation about possible modifications of the project and budget.

All PIs will be informed by email about the final outcome of the selection procedure. The decisions of the Board regarding funding are final; appeals will not be considered.

Forms and instructions for the preparation of Applications are available on the website of the SPF. Applications and CVs should be written in English language.

Grantees are requested to acknowledge the support from the SPF in all the resulting publications not limited to scientific (also in abstract form), interviews, etc. and in all presentations related to the research supported by SPF.

Grantees will collaborate with SPF to interpret the results of their research and other parkinsonresearch, for instance in interviews in SPF communication to the public.

In all communication with SPF the given grant number should be mentioned.

All applications should be submitted to Lex Knobben, director of the SPF – lindavandervoort@parkinsonfonds.nl - by the 5 PM of the deadline date. Late submissions will not be considered.

Timeline – Call 2026

Deadline – submission of Applications: **9 March 2026**

Final decisions: expected begin June 2026

Expected start date of research: **before 5 October 2026**