



Open call Grensverlegger Travel Grant 2026

Grensverlegger travel grant for international development of artists and designers

With the Grensverlegger travel grant, we support you as an artist or designer from the province of Utrecht in your artistic development by helping to fund international travel. We focus on the transformative impact this experience can have on your creative practice. This grant covers up to 50% of your total costs, with the remaining 50% funded through other sources.

For whom?

This program is intended for you as a professional visual artist or designer in all disciplines and at all stages of your career. One requirement is that you live and/or work in the province of Utrecht. The program is open to individual artists or designers, but not to duos or groups. As a bachelor's student at an art academy, you are also not eligible to apply for the grant.

For what?

You can apply for the grant for various types of projects: from residencies to study trips and retreats. The Grensverlegger travel grant prioritizes creative development over public presentation. Your journey should focus on personal growth and artistic deepening rather than producing new work, executing a specific project, or organizing an exhibition. Your proposal must clearly outline the developmental step you wish to take. Applications that specifically concern the execution of a project are not eligible. The grant is intended to cover travel and accommodation costs, but not for your own hours worked.

Assessment

Submissions are accepted from September 3 through October 18, 2026. The K.F. Hein Fonds arts committee will then evaluate the submissions based on the following criteria:

- You are a professional artist or designer (not a bachelor's student).
- You live and/or work in the province of Utrecht.
- You provide a clear explanation of why the trip is important for your artistic development at this specific moment. Your plan also clearly outlines the next step in your artistic development that you will take during the trip.
- The involvement of an external partner in your plan may be an advantage but is not required.
- You have a comprehensive budget and a funding plan for travel and accommodation. This plan also outlines how you will finance the remaining 50% of the costs.
- You have a realistic timeline.
- Your plan addresses sustainability for both the trip and your stay.

Budget & categories

There are two different categories:

- **Category A:** Up to €5,000 for substantial applications involving longer stays, such as multi-month international residencies.
- **Category B:** Up to €1,000 for shorter experiences such as study trips and professional visits.

The K.F. Hein Fonds contributes a maximum of 50% of total costs and can also provide guidance during trip preparation, including support with additional funding applications to third parties (particularly for Category A applications). Our annual budget is € 12.250, with one application cycle in 2026. As a reference point: last year we supported nine artists with this budget, with grants of varying amounts. The intention is that all plans be completed by December 31, 2027, at the latest. We will pay the grant after your trip, unless agreed otherwise.

Ongoing support and communication

We view the Grensverlegger travel grant as a mentorship process and maintain regular contact throughout your trip preparation. We also appreciate updates during your visit and ask you to document your experience through a blog or vlog. Upon your return, we request a brief report for the Art Commission describing the impact of your experience. This may also be done with a studio visit.

What do we ask and how to submit?

To apply for the Grensverlegger travel grant, submit one pdf containing:

- Cover letter with your name, address, phone number, email address, date of birth and – if available – your website and social media. See this cover letter as your accompanying email. Don't put any project details in this part.
- Clear project description, no more than two A4 pages.
- A realistic plan and a balanced budget, no more than one A4 page.
- Curriculum vitae (including recent exhibitions).
- Portfolio of recent work (last 5 years) with a maximum of 10 images.

We prioritize sustainable travel practices. Train travel is preferred and encouraged. Air travel must be carbon neutral with verified CO2 compensation through organizations such as the Fair Climate Fund or Trees for All. These compensation costs should be included in your grant budget.

Submit your application by email to hein@kfhein.nl by October 18, 2026. Only one submission per applicant is accepted. Applications may be written in Dutch or English.

Timeline

- Deadline: **October 18, 2026. 11:59 PM**
- Result: Week of November 16
- Execution: December 2027 at the latest

We expect to announce a new call for the K.F. Hein Grensverlegger travel grant in the fall of 2027.

Questions about the open call

Join the information **meeting on September 22 (3:30 – 4:30 PM)**. At this event, artists who were granted the Grensverlegger travel grant last year, will share their travel stories. Members of our art committee are also present to answer all your questions concerning this travel grant. [More information on the event can be found on our website.](#)

Other questions? Contact Demi van de Worp via dvandeworp@kfhein.nl or call 030 2322114.

By submitting an application for this travel grant, you agree to the [Privacy Policy](#) of the K.F. Hein Fonds.