Call LUMC Junior Principal Investigator Program 2027

The LUMC is excited to announce the third edition of the program to foster talented starting group leaders who have the potential to become cornerstones of the fundamental, translational and clinical research of our institute.

The call is open to junior researchers based anywhere in the world.

The LUMC Junior Principal Investigator Program will award three personal grants of € 850,000 for four years to kick-start the career of three starting group leaders.

Deadline
The preproposal deadline is on 15 September 2026.

Who are we looking for
We are looking for junior group leaders who are among the top 10% of peers in their field as evidenced by research output, potential to attract research funding, initial experience with supervision and mentoring, and academic citizenship. Moreover, the research line, whether fundamental, translational or clinical, needs to strongly contribute to the LUMC research strategy. The call is aimed at starting group leaders who have obtained their PhD at least three and maximally 10 years before the call deadline, with possible extension for a maximum of five years due to parental leave, medical training or other documented reasons. See the LUMC Junior PI Program regulations and preproposal form for further details on eligibility criteria and extension clauses.

How to apply and deadline
Candidates are invited to send their preproposal (see below for the required form) before 15 September 23.59 CET to research@lumc.nl.

On applying for multiple internal LUMC grants (e.g. Gisela Thier Research Fellowship, Junior PI Fellowship, Theme PhD), please read carefully the LUMC Policy regarding the allocation of individual grants from institutional funding (versie 1) which states the internal LUMC policy on applying for internal grants.

Please note that all candidates, including external candidates, are required to discuss their proposal with their intended Department head(s) and/or Theme(s) of Innovation prior to the application deadline.

Selection
The selection will consist of three phases.

(1) an LUMC-wide Committee will perform an eligibility check and select those candidates who fit the target group based on CV.
The eligible preproposals will be judged on:
- scientific content by the Committee
- fit with the strategic research priorities of LUMC-wide research themes
- alignment with the priorities of the potential prospective department the applicant would be embedded in, if successful. The Research Themes will play an advisory role for this assessment.

(2) This results in a shortlist of max 8 candidates who will be invited to submit a full proposal (deadine 01 February 2027) and a pitch on 04 March 2027.
Max. 2 candidates per department will be admitted to the pitch stage.

(3) The final decision will be based on the full proposal and pitch.

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Timeline

Call published:	15 June 2026
Deadline preproposal:	15 September 2026 23:59 CET
Preselection on fit to the target group:	16 September 2026
Judging preproposal, alignment themes and departments:	October 2026
Committee meeting selection full proposal & pitch	10 November 2026
Notification of full proposal selection:	End November 2026
Deadline full proposal:	01 February 2027 23:59 CET
Pitches:	04 March 2027, 09.00-18.00 CET

Notification of selected candidates:	May 2027
Starting date:	Ultimately 16 September 2027

Documents

- Preproposal form LUMC Junior PI Programme 2027
- Regulations LUMC Junior PI Programme