

University Medical Center Groningen
Mandema-stipendium



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General introduction

The University Medical Center Groningen (UMCG) offers 'Mandema-stipendia' (€60.000,=) to enable young physician-scientists (M.D./Ph.D.) to combine their specialist training with research and to establish their own line of research.

Awarding of a 'Mandema Stipendium' is not restricted to a specific field of medicine or dentistry. Applications from all disciplines within the UMCG are welcome.

The 'Mandema Committee' advises the Board of the UMCG about awarding Mandema Stipendia and will evaluate applications twice a year. The deadline for submitting an application is the **15th of April and the 15th of October, each year**. Applications must be submitted by means of filling in the 'Registration Form Mandema Stipendium' as specified below.

Conditions / Profile of the candidate

All elements given below fit into the profile of a future academic specialist, i.e. an excellent specialist in his/her field and an excellent scientist. The Mandema Stipendium is meant to be used not only for help with the establishment of a research line, but can also help with filling in possible gaps in the candidate's CV.

The candidate

- is a recently graduated doctor (M.D.)/dentist (D.M.D.),
- has been recently awarded with a doctorate in the Medical Sciences (preferably within the last two years),
- starts with or is active in a specialist training programme under supervision of a trainer ('opleider') working in the UMCG,
- is a promising researcher as evidenced by publications in high ranking journals
- can write and submit grants, preferably a proposal for a VENI, or other (personal) fellowship, but any other significant grant proposal will do. A copy of the proposal(s) should be enclosed with the Registration Form
- preferably has 6 months (or more) research experience or clinical training abroad. If the candidate lacks international experience, a research or clinical training period of 6-12 months abroad should be included into the specialist or research training programme
- is active in a field of research that is embedded in one of the approved programmes of the research institutes of the UMCG
- is considered by the head of the (clinical) department as a future staff member in his/her department.

Application procedure

Applications are considered twice a year. Deadline for submitting an application is the **15th of April and/or 1st of November of each year**. Applications must be submitted by means of the 'Registration Form Mandema-stipendium'.

Applications must be written in **English** and should include the following items:

- a letter of application, including a CV with a list of scientific publications (only those that are published or 'in press'), awards, etc.
- a description of the intended research. Also a view on the anticipated future line of research of the candidate must be included
- detailed description of the budget*, defining the required resources and spendings. Costs that can be reimbursed from the 'Mandema-stipendium' are:
 1. salary costs of support staff or other (scientific) employees
 2. travel expenses, e.g. for visiting conferences and/or research institutes
 3. costs for training abroad
 4. consumables, small equipment, etc.
- if applicable, supporting documents (copies) of application(s) for (additional) financing (see also 'Conditions / Profile of the candidate')
- a specified specialist and research training program. Before the Mandema stipendium is awarded a specialist training program approved by the trainer ('opleider') and the 'Medisch Specialisten Registratie Commissie (MSRC)' must be obtained. During the first year of this program the candidate must commit him/herself full-time to the specialist training program only in order to give the trainer ('opleider') the opportunity to evaluate the candidate's ability to become a very good medical specialist. Also, if the candidate lacks clinical experience outside the UMCG or the region, it is advised to include this aspect into the specialist training program, preferably as a stay outside The Netherlands. If training abroad is included in the program: a commitment (letter) of the visiting institute(s) should be provided. The program of the 'free year' (available during most specialist training programs) should contribute to the aim of the 'Mandema-stipendium'
- a letter of recommendation from the trainer ('opleider'). -
- a letter in which the head of the department states that the candidate is eligible for a future staff position in his/her department.
- a letter in which the candidate declares that he/she is sincerely committed to stay in the UMCG for a period of at least five years after the end of his/her specialist training program.

* The budget is NOT meant for salary costs of the candidate. The department is expected to take responsibility in this regards as proof of commitment. In case the (required) budget exceeds the amount of €60.000,=, the board of the UMCG can decide to increase the assigned grant.

Selection procedure

Applications are evaluated by an independent committee, the 'Mandema Committee', made up of the chair of the 'Centrale Opleidingscommissie', the pro-dean Research, chair of the Project group Junior Scientific Masterclass, two clinical professors/trainers ('opleiders') and one professor/fundamental researcher, all residing in the UMCG. The committee will be supported by two external advisers, specialists in the field of the application, and the scientific director of the Graduate School Medical Sciences.

An interview with the 'Mandema Committee' is part of the selection procedure. During the interview the candidate has to illustrate and summarize the goals and proposed methodology of the application (via a short presentation) and to answer questions. Prior to this interview, the candidate will get the opportunity to write a rebuttal to the questions or comments of the external reviewers.

Each year a maximum of three applications are awarded. The aim is to complete the selection procedure within 2-3 months. When an application is awarded, the Mandema recipient and his/her trainer ('opleider') will propose a mentor (a senior clinician/scientist), who has affinity with the topic of the research proposal and specialist training, but preferably is not working in the department of the applicant and trainer ('opleider'). After approval of the Mandema Committee, the recipient can rely on the mentor's opinion on all matters related to the specialist training and research work carried out during the program period. Once every three months the mentor has a meeting with the recipient and once every six months the mentor has a meeting with both the recipient and the trainer ('opleider'). The mentor can mediate in conflicts, and advise in case of conflicting interests. Unsolvable disputes are referred to the chair of the Mandema Committee.

The Mandema recipient must submit a (short) mid-term report to the Mandema Committee, approved by the trainer ('opleider') and mentor, in which the progress of both the specialist training as well as the research project is detailed.

Candidates who apply for a stipendium, but who are not awarded, will get a personal explanation by one of the members of the committee. Candidates will be allowed to resubmit an improved application only once.

Additional information

Website: www.mandema-stipendium.nl

or

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