**Call for AMS-MSH (Musculoskeletal Health) early career researchers**

The AMS Musculoskeletal Health research programme opens a *call for writing a grant proposal* for PhD candidates in their last year and for postdoc researchers who finished their PhD no earlier than 2021. A small grant from AMS-MSH will facilitate them to prepare and submit a grant proposal for a new, innovative research project and/or form a consortium fitting one of the five research themes of AMS-MSH (see [AMS Musculoskeletal Health Research programme](https://www.amsterdamumc.org/en/research/institutes/amsterdam-movement-sciences/programs/musculoskeletal-health.htm)). If funded, this new research project will (i) facilitate collaboration within and outside AMS, (ii) increase the output and impact of AMS-MSH research, and (iii) provide applicants an opportunity to conduct research after their PhD. A budget of €20.000 will be available to fund 2 researchers (maximum of € 10.000 per person). If granted, this funding should be used to extend the researcher's temporary contract (or offer a new contract, in case of an already-ended contract), for a short period that takes place entirely in 2025.

**Procedure**

Application forms (in PDF) can be sent to the AMS-MSH board by e-mail to [g.g.m.scholten-peeters@vu.nl](mailto:g.g.m.scholten-peeters@vu.nl), until **April 30 2025, 23.59h**. Applications forms will be judged by the AMS-MSH board, but board members involved in a submitted project will not participate in the discussion and judgement of their own particular application form. A decision from the AMS-MSH board will be corresponded before the end of May 2025.

**Eligibility criteria**

* The applicant is a PhD student who finished a PhD in 2025 or will finish it in 2025-2026, or a postdoc researcher who finished a PhD not before 2021.
* The applicant is a current member of AMS-MSH and is supervised by at least one senior researcher who is a current member of AMS-MSH as well.
* Funding can be applied for maximally €10.000, to finance an extended (or new) temporary contract at VU or AUMC that takes place entirely in 2025.
* Project idea is linked to one of the 5 research themes of AMS-MSH (see [AMS Musculoskeletal Health Research programme](https://www.amsterdamumc.org/en/research/institutes/amsterdam-movement-sciences/programs/musculoskeletal-health.htm)).
* The project idea will be submitted as a new, full proposal in the grant call/program that is described in the application form.
* The word limit in the application form is not exceeded.

**Assessment criteria**

* Quality of the young researcher.
* Innovative character of the project idea.
* How strongly the project idea fits within at least one of the 5 research themes of AMS-MSH.
* How well the project idea will contribute to new or existing collaborations within and outside AMS.
* How well the grant proposal fits within the intended grant program/call.

**APPLICATION FORM**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. **Name applicant** | |
|  | |
| 1. **Position** | |
| ☐ PhD  ☐ Postdoc | |
| 1. **(Expected) year of PhD thesis defense** | |
|  | |
| 1. **Institute** | |
| ☐ VU  ☐ AUMC location VUmc  ☐ AUMC location AMC  ☐ Other, namely….. | |
| 1. **Department of current PhD or postdoc position** | |
|  | |
| 1. **Supervising senior-researcher within AMS-MSH** | |
|  | |
| 1. **Short biosketch of the applicant (max. 100 words)** | |
| …./ 100 words used | |
| 1. **(Intended) title of project idea** | |
|  | |
| 1. **AMS-MSH research theme in which this project idea fits** | |
| ☐ Uncovering the pathophysiology of musculoskeletal disorders  ☐ Predicting and understanding the course of musculoskeletal disorders  ☐ Developing and improving therapies for musculoskeletal disorders  ☐ Reducing societal impact of musculoskeletal disorders  ☐ Preventing musculoskeletal disorders | |
| 1. **Short summary of project idea (max. 100 words)** | |
| …./ 100 words used | |
| 1. **Short description of link of this project idea with one of the research themes of AMS-MSH (max. 100 words)** | |
| …./ 100 words used | |
| 1. **Short description of the collaboration within and outside AMS in this project idea (max. 100 words)** | |
| …./ 100 words used | |
| 1. **(Intended) grant program/call in which this project idea will be submitted and deadline for submission** | |
| ☐ ZonMw program, namely:  ☐ EU program, namely:  ☐ SIA-RAAK program, namely:  ☐ Other program, namely:  Deadline for submission for this grant program/call: | |
| 1. **Short description of how well the grant proposal fits within the intended grant program/call (max. 100 words)** | |
| …./ 100 words used | |
| 1. **Requested extended (or new) temporary contract** | |
| Requested start date:  Requested end date:  Requested amount of FTE for applicant:  Requested budget: | |
| 1. **Signatures** | |
| Signature applicant | Signature supervisor (within AMS-MSH) |