



Statesman Thorbecke Fund Programme Rules – 2017 application round

General information

The purpose of the Statesman Thorbecke Fund is 'to promote and preserve our knowledge of the life, work and intellectual legacy of Johan Rudolf Thorbecke (1798-1872), in particular by studying the organic element of Thorbecke's thinking, and to promote research into issues of human society and life outside human society in the humanities, social sciences and sciences'.

The Fund's assets consist of a gift and a bequest from the estate of W. Thorbecke (1920-2014), J.R. Thorbecke's great grandson.

Programme

The Statesman Thorbecke Fund Programme allows members of the Royal Academy, members and alumni of The Young Academy, and professors at Dutch universities to undertake projects compatible with the Fund's purpose.

A project will preferably have a post-doctoral fellow as its project coordinator. A maximum of € 200,000 may be awarded to no more than five projects in the 2017 application round.

Disciplines

Eligible projects will focus on disciplines in which J.R. Thorbecke distinguished himself as a politician and scholar. One example is to use elements of Thorbecke's life, work and intellectual legacy to reflect on contemporary societal issues such as those raised by the Dutch National Research Agenda. Preference will be given to integrative projects, for example interdisciplinary studies or projects combining politics and the law, society and science, or different national perspectives.

Requirements for project proposals

- 1 The Fund will consider project proposals submitted by members of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW), members and alumni of The Young Academy, and professors at Dutch universities.
- 2 The 'head' of the project must be an individual member of the Royal Academy, a member or alumnus of The Young Academy, or a professor affiliated with a Dutch university. Preference is given to the appointment of a post-doc fellow as project coordinator, working under the applicant's supervision.
- 3 A project will run from one to four years and will commence six months after 1 April 2018.
- 4 The maximum grant per project is € 200,000.
- 5 Examples of expenses that may be listed in a project proposal are: assigning a post-doctoral fellow temporarily to the position of project coordinator; organising academic meetings; hiring a student assistant to perform project work; inviting a foreign expert, and so on.
- 6 Examples of expenses that should not be listed in a project proposal concern indirect material costs, for example scientific equipment and overheads. Such expenses are regular institutional expenses.
- 7 The project proposal must include a conference or final conference, expert meeting or symposium hosted by the Royal Academy.
- 8 Activities conducted within the context of the project must be funded solely from the monies that the Royal Academy makes available from the Statesman Thorbecke Fund.

Assessment criteria

- A research question compatible with the Fund's purpose.



- A detailed plan of activities and specified outcomes related to the research question.
- A realistic schedule.
- A comprehensive operating budget with transparent justification.

Assessment and decision-making

An Academy assessment committee will assess the project proposals in competition with one another and will present its nominations, with arguments, to the Academy Board. Applicants will receive written notification of the outcome no more than three months after the application deadline.

Submission

The deadline for submitting project proposals is 15 December 2017. The required application form can be downloaded from www.knaw.nl/en/thorbecke-fund. The application form and project proposal must be submitted by e-mail to wetenschapsfondsen@knaw.nl. An application is deemed to have been submitted when the applicant receives confirmation of receipt from the Academy.

Following allocation

- Once allocated, the grant will be disbursed in three instalments: 40% at the start of the project, 40% halfway through the project period based on a concise interim report, and 20% after project completion. The final payment will be made after submission of a project report and a set of final financial accounts, the latter accompanied by an auditor's statement.
- The project head is responsible for the budget estimate and budgetary control. Only the project head (or the project coordinator mandated for this purpose) may ask the Academy to disburse the award.
- Where requested, the Academy will provide organisational support for the conference/final conference, expert meeting or symposium held within the context of the project.
- The project must adhere to the schedule described in the project proposal. Deviations must be submitted to the Academy for approval well in advance.
- The project head must submit a project report to the Academy, along with the final financial accounts as described above, within three months of the end of the project.
- Any project-related activities and publicity must state visibly that the project was made possible by the Royal Academy's Statesman Thorbecke Fund.

Contact person

In the event of questions, please contact Jeffrey Muskiet, Academy Science Funds, at +31 (0)20 551 0702 or wetenschapsfondsen@knaw.nl.