



Proefdiervrij Venture Challenge

Proposal Form Proefdiervrij Venture
Challenge 2026

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Please complete and submit this form to: burgers@proefdiervrij.nl. Along with a non-confidential summary/introduction of your venture and a team picture or logo. This information will be published online by Proefdiervrij in case your team is selected.

Submission deadline: 5 January 2026, 23.59h CET.

Name and contact details main applicant

Name:

Organisation:

Department:

Phone:

E-mail:

Name and contact details other applicants

Name:

Name:

Organisation:

Organisation:

Department:

Department:

Phone:

Phone:

E-mail:

E-mail:

Name:

Name:

Organisation

Organisation:

Department:

Department:

Phone:

Phone:

E-mail:

E-mail:

Venture Name

Working name or one line description of the scientific finding you want to commercialize

Relation to a University or Knowledge Institute

Is your proposal originating from or related to a University or Knowledge Institute? If yes, which University/Institute?

What's your venture about?

What is the underlying science/technology and how is this protected (patented)?

Can it be commercially offered as a new **product** or as a new **service**?

Is it a new technology that would **improve performance** or **reduce costs** of an existing process?

Or is it a **new process** that enables activities that could not be done before?

Don't dwell on technical details, but explain clearly who you see as customers that would benefit from your product/service and what difference it would make to them? (*maximum 30 lines*)

How big is your market?

Please provide a rough estimate of the market for your product/service.

For example, if your idea is about a new product/service, how many customers (i.e. businesses or consumers) might want it, how much would they be willing to spend on it, and what percentage would be spent with your Venture? Don't worry if you do not have all the numbers: that's normal at this stage.

Or, if your idea is about cost savings, how much time, money or resources would your technology/process save your customers?

Is your product/service unique?

Coming up with a unique product/service is often the key to commercial success. Offering the same as your competitors will not give you the best financial return.

Describe here how your offering differs from other products/services currently on the market (e.g., does it address an unfulfilled customer need?) or processes/technologies currently used by competitors (e.g., is it faster?).

Impact on animal use?

Tell us how your venture impacts the use of animals in science. Think about what tests could be replaced, which type of animal, how many?

Why you?

Tell us why you think your team and your organization is the right entity to take this idea forward successfully.

Think about skills, know-how, patents, assets, relationships, customer bases, etc. Would these give your venture an advantage over competitors? Also think about what you're missing to become successful.

Each team must have a minimum of 3 members, at least 1 member needs to be present during all activities. Also note that the bootcamps are three days each (9h-22h).

For the Proefdiervrij Venture Challenge a participation fee of €2.000 for a team of 3 and €500 for each additional teammember applies. Included in this fee are:

- two 3-day bootcamps
- two nights of hotel accommodation for each bootcamp on a single room basis, including meals and beverages
- course materials
- individual coaching sessions between the two workshops
- one Challenge session
- a networking event and award ceremony

Travel expenses are for your own account.

Please note that your team needs to be available at the following dates:

Interviews	9 and/or 12 January 2026
Bootcamp I	4, 5&6 February 2026
Bootcamp II	18, 19&20 March 2026
Finals	10 April 2026
Announcement of the winner	24 April 2026

Availability intake interview

If your Venture Proposal looks promising, your team will be invited for an intake interview. The 45 min interviews will take place on Friday 9 January and Monday 12 January 2026. The interviews are held online. Please indicate your availability below by checking the appropriate box.

Date	Time	Yes	No
Friday 9 January	9:00		
Friday 9 January	10:00		
Friday 9 January	11:00		
Friday 9 January	12:00		
Friday 9 January	13:00		
Friday 9 January	14:00		
Friday 9 January	15:00		
Friday 9 January	16:00		

Monday 12 January	9:00		
Monday 12 January	10:00		
Monday 12January	11:00		
Monday 12 January	12:00		
Monday 12 January	13:00		
Monday 12 January	14:00		
Monday 12 January	15:00		
Monday 12 January	16:00		

Application Requirements:

A Proefdiervrij Venture Challenge application can be submitted if:

- The team consists of a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 5 people.
- The team wants to market a new product, process or service based on a new technical invention or a new application of pre-existing technology, arising from scientific research. This must fall within the aforementioned scope.
- The team is prepared to cooperate in communication from Proefdiervrij. We take any sensitive/secret information into account. The emphasis in the communication lies on the motivation to participate, why animal-free research is so important, the expected effects on the use of laboratory animals, etc.
- When the idea includes setting up a company, this must be focused on countries within the EU that have a clear connection with the Netherlands (a Dutch founder for example)
- If the application is made by a start-up, the start-up cannot be older than 5 years
- At least 1 team member is available for each moment mentioned (bootcamps, finals, event)

The start-up or team submitting this application meets the conditions for application stated above:

☐ Yes

Signature

By submitting this application to burgers@proefdiervrij.nl, I declare that I have filled-out this form truthfully and that I agree to the conditions of the Proefdiervrij Venture Challenge as published on the website of Proefdiervrij (www.proefdiervrij.nl).

Name:

Place:

Date:

Contact

Anne Burgers | Adviseur Wetenschappen Innovatie

Email: burgers@proefdiervrij.nl

Phone: 070 306 24 68

Organised by:



GameChanger
C H A L L E N G E

