



CALL for Dutch Daylight Students Award submissions

The Dutch Daylight Award already exists as an award for realized architectural projects and, as of 2024, we introduced the **Dutch Daylight Students Award** to inspire and get inspired by the new generation of architects and designers. Please submit your work if you are a student working on “something with daylight” and would like to show and share your research or design, to inspire others and have impact on the lighting profession. We welcome fresh and innovative, out of the box ideas. Projects that contribute to the development of knowledge and awareness of daylight and its applications may be submitted in one (and only one) of the two categories: **Daylight Research** and **Daylight Design**. We invite all students (BA, BSc, MSc, PhD) registered at Dutch higher education (universities, HBO’s, art academies) to submit their projects in which daylight is playing a prominent role, for projects **completed from April 2024** to date. Submissions can be done as individuals or as teams.

The **deliverables** to submit are:

- A completely filled in submission form, with declarations to conform to the regulations and of originality of the submission.
- A declaration of the responsible staff member at the school that this work is yours and may be submitted for this challenge.
- A high-resolution image (300 dpi) that exemplify your project and that will be shown on our website for shortlisted projects, to be submitted in square format.
- For research projects: a short paper (max. 2 pages including references) with a clear description of the research question, background, methods, results, conclusions and limitations. Appendices (max. 5 pages with max. 200 words) may contain visualizations, technical drawings, data, analysis details, and corresponding captions.
- For design projects: a short paper (max. 2 pages including references) with a clear description of the design brief, background, methods, results, and limitations. Appendices (max. 5 pages with max. 200 words) may contain visualizations, technical drawings, data, and corresponding captions.

Procedure:

The submissions will be judged by committee members of the regular Dutch Daylight Award submissions plus two members with a scientific background. They will judge the submissions on the basis of the deliverables, with attention to:

- The novelty and smartness of the usage of or knowledge about daylight.
- How other factors are considered in the design/research, such as artificial lighting, indoor climate, sustainability, architectural innovation.
- How light(ing), context, users’ experiences and wellbeing are addressed in its full dynamics and system.
- For design projects: the feasibility, desirability and viability of the design concept.
- For research projects: the technical and methodological soundness of the research, and the knowledge contribution.

Planning

The submissions system on the website will open in March 2026 and close april 15, 2026.

The jury will rank-order the submissions and select max. 3 nominees for the prizes. The nominees for each category will be asked to do an online 5 minute presentation + 5 minute Q&A, in June. The *nominees are required to attend the final awarding event* in September 2026. On that occasion, the winners will be announced and awarded, with a Student Award and of course eternal fame.

Stichting Dutch Daylight promoot optimale toepassing van daglicht in de gebouwde omgeving.

Keilestraat 9F
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Regulations – Dutch Daylight Student Award 2026

Rotterdam, 12 december 2025

Article 1

Submission of projects for the Dutch Daylight Student Award 2026 is open to students. Only daylight research and design projects completed between April 1, 2024 and April 1, 2026 are eligible for submission.

Article 2

To prevent conflicts of interest, architects who are members of the jury or the board are not permitted to submit their work. Advisors and manufacturers holding a jury or board position may submit projects, provided that the project is not carried out in collaboration with an architect who is part of the jury or the board.

In projects involving an advisor and/or manufacturer, the relevant jury member is excluded from voting. His or her vote will be proportionally redistributed among the remaining votes.

The aim of the Dutch Daylight Student Award is to stimulate awareness and enthusiasm among clients and designers within the building sector, in connection with education. In addition, it seeks to create a platform where industry, educational institutions, and advisory bodies can exchange knowledge and provide well-founded advice and expertise.

Article 3

Projects can only be submitted via the Dutch Daylight website. All submissions must be received no later than April 15, 2026 via www.dutchdaylight.nl.

Article 4

The Dutch Daylight Student Award 2026 consists of two categories: Research and Design. Projects may be submitted for one category only.

Article 5

The submission requirements are:

- A fully completed registration form via www.dutchdaylight.nl;
- Agreement with the regulations and declaration of intellectual property;
- Project completion between April 1, 2024 and May 1, 2026;
- The project has not been submitted to previous editions of the Daylight Award.

Article 6

After the closing of submissions, the jury will nominate a maximum of three projects per category for the Dutch Daylight Student Award 2026. If, in the opinion of the jury, the quality of submissions is insufficient, it reserves the right to nominate fewer projects.

Article 7

Prior to the jury process, the organization of the Dutch Daylight Student Award 2026 will verify which submissions meet the submission requirements (Article 5) and are therefore eligible to compete.

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**Article 8**

The organization of the Dutch Daylight Student Award 2026 and the jury may individually approach admitted participants for further clarification. Projects competing for the Dutch Daylight Student Award 2026 must be freely accessible to the jury and for the production of evaluation videos.

Article 9

Projects will be assessed based on the submitted materials, with particular attention given to the explanation of how daylight as a discipline has been incorporated into the design and its elaboration, the project visit, and the responses to any follow-up questions after submission.

Article 10

Per category, the jury will award the Dutch Daylight Student Award 2026 to the submission it considers the best among the nominees.

Article 11

If, in the opinion of the jury, the quality of the submissions is insufficient, it reserves the right not to award a prize.

Article 12

All jury members must be present to establish the final conclusions. If one of the jury members is unable to attend, a substitute member with equivalent qualifications will be appointed.

The jury report will be published simultaneously with the jury's decision in the presence of the nominees. The results will be made public on the day of the official award ceremony, which will take place in the autumn in a remarkable daylight building. No correspondence will be entered into regarding the jury's decision.

Article 13

The Dutch Daylight Student Award 2026 is a biennial award presented to the winners of the two categories (Article 4).

Article 14

Each submission remains the property of the entrant. The jury members and the organization of the Dutch Daylight Award 2026 will treat submitted information confidentially where necessary. Submission materials may be used for publications, exhibitions, and promotional activities. The organization of the Dutch Daylight Award 2026 is exempt from paying copyright and image rights fees related to the submissions.

Article 15

Responsibility for the organization of the Dutch Daylight Student Award 2026 lies with Dutch Daylight in Rotterdam, formerly known as Stichting Living Daylights.