

ODISSEI Microdata Access Grant (MAG) Call for Proposals 2025-1

ODISSEI (Open Data Infrastructure for Social Science and Economic Innovations) is developing a sustainable scientific infrastructure for the social sciences in the Netherlands. Through ODISSEI, researchers in the social sciences have access to large-scale and longitudinal data collections among which a wide range of administrative microdata at CBS. This makes it possible to answer new, transdisciplinary research questions and to research existing questions in a new way, in areas like migration, employment, education, innovation, safety and health.

This Microdata Access Grant (MAG) call offers funding for six CBS Microdata projects for researchers working at ODISSEI [member organisations](#).

General information about CBS Microdata Services and the catalogue of the available data can be found at www.cbs.nl/microdata and through the prototype of [ODISSEI Portal](#). Researchers considering submitting a proposal are welcome to consult CBS Microdata Services through microdata@cbs.nl to obtain more detailed information on available data, feasibility of the project as anticipated, potential additional costs and further conditions.

Who can apply

Every researcher employed by one of the [ODISSEI member organisations](#) can apply for the MAG grant. Early career researchers are particularly invited to submit their proposals.

When you can apply

The application must be submitted no later than **28 March 2025, 15:00 CET**. The project needs to start in the Remote Access environment of CBS by the end of June 2025.

What can be applied for

There is a budget available for Microdata access for **six MAG projects**. The budget of (maximally) € 7.500 per project would typically cover a project for two researchers, half a year in duration and access to about ten different datasets. For price examples, please consult CBS's brochure ["Your research, our data"](#).

Costs exceeding this budget e.g. due to extension or prolongation of the project will have to be covered by the applicants or their institute. Additional costs and access procedures may apply for the use of some data in the CBS catalogue (e.g. Dutch Hospital Data (DHD), etc.). These additional costs also need to be covered by the applicants or their institute and cannot be claimed from the MAG budget.

The MAG grant covers the cost of starting a new project, and cannot be used for financing of an already existing project.



Researchers awarded an ODISSEI MAG or LISS panel grant three calendar years before the current call **round** are excluded from the application procedure.

Each applicant can submit only one application as the principal applicant and at most, one as a co-applicant.

Making the most of your project through other ODISSEI facilities

Applicants can also make use of the following ODISSEI facilities. Please note that the use of those facilities is optional (including them in the application does not have consequences for the evaluation of the proposals).

Social Data Science Team

The ODISSEI Social Data Science (SoDa) team has been initiated to support social scientists in their research projects by offering computational, statistical, machine learning and research engineering skills. The ODISSEI SoDa team can help answer complex computational research questions. General information on the type of support that can be offered by the SoDa team can be found [here](#); examples of projects supported by SoDa are listed [here](#).

Support by the SoDa team is free of charge and is subject to availability. Researchers interested in collaborating with the SoDa team are welcome to attend a [SoDa Data Drop-in](#) session or contact the team through soda@odissei-data.nl, for non-binding consultation prior to submitting their proposal.

ODISSEI Secure Supercomputer

In the ODISSEI Secure Supercomputer (OSSC), researchers can perform analyses of highly-sensitive data (such as CBS Microdata) in SURF's high performance computing environment Snellius. More information on the OSSC can be found [here](#).

Please note that the costs of performing the analyses in the OSSC are not covered by the MAG grant (for available OSSC financing schemes please contact us at submissions+mag@odissei-data.nl) and the timing of the analyses in the OSSC is subject to the availability of the OSSC computing time.

Applicants interested in using the support of the SoDa team and/or the ODISSEI Secure Supercomputer are requested to express their interest in the online application form, along with a short motivation. Successful applicants interested in making use of those facilities will be contacted after the award decision to discuss the possibilities and/or available financing schemes for the use of the OSSC.

How to submit a proposal

Proposals must:

- be submitted via the [online application form](#) no later than **28 March 2025, 15:00 CET**
- be written in English
- be as specific as possible about requested Microdata (see the [CBS data catalogue](#) (in Dutch) or [ODISSEI Portal](#))



- contain the research questions and a scientific motivation
- contain a layperson summary of the project (max 150 words) that can be used for communication purposes on the ODISSEI website if the grant has been awarded
- meet [the CBS conditions](#) for access to Microdata

Proposals should be typically between three and five pages long (the suggested template can be downloaded [here](#)). CVs of applicant(s) are not required.

The assessment committee will evaluate proposals based on the criteria given below.

Assessment procedure

Participants receive a submission confirmation. CBS assesses the proposals for eligibility of the [CBS criteria for access to Microdata](#) and for the feasibility at a global level of answering the research questions with [CBS data](#).

After this, an independent and interdisciplinary assessment committee will evaluate the proposals based on the criteria given below. After that, the Management Board of ODISSEI will take the final decision.

Criteria

1. Originality (40%):

- Does the proposal contain new and/or significant research questions that are adequate to justify the use of CBS data?
- Does the proposal clearly convey the innovative and original nature of the study?
- In case of a replication: Is the replication well justified in the light of the available empirical evidence?

2. Relationship to the literature (20%):

- Does the proposal demonstrate an adequate understanding and synthesis of the relevant literature in the field?
- Are the research aims clearly stated and well supported by relevant literature?

3. Methodology (20%):

- Is the research methodology appropriate and robust for meeting the research aims?
- Are the methods of data analysis robust as well as explained clearly and adequately?

4. Implications for research, practice, and/or society (20%):

- Does the proposal identify and clearly describe any implications for research, practice, and/or society?
- Are these implications consistent with the other parts of the proposal?



More information?

To facilitate the preparation of proposals, ODISSEI and CBS make the recording of an earlier information session on the conditions of the Microdata Access Grant available (the recording of the 2023 round, with identical conditions, is accessible [here](#)). Additionally, ODISSEI scheduled a Q&A session, which is meant to clarify any remaining questions. During this meeting, potential applicants can ask questions about conducting research with CBS Microdata (available data, searching for the data, procedures, etc.) and the grant application procedure. More information and registration for the event will be available shortly on the [ODISSEI website](#).

An overview of the studies that received the MAG in the previous rounds of the call can be found [here](#).

For more information on the available microdata, the researchers are invited to consult the [ODISSEI Portal](#), which combines metadata from a wide variety of research data repositories into a single interface and allows advanced semantic queries to support the findability of the most relevant data for your research project.

Researchers considering submitting a proposal are also welcome to consult CBS Microdata Services through microdata@cbs.nl to obtain more detailed information on available data, feasibility of the project as anticipated, potential additional costs and further conditions. Please allow sufficient time for CBS colleagues to answer your questions, requests and inquiries. Questions, requests and inquiries submitted to CBS shortly before the Call submission deadline may not be processed in time for a submission.

Approved submissions

We aim to announce the award decision by **15 June 2025**. Successful applicants are kindly requested to provide feedback on dissemination materials (website, newsletter content and policy briefs) and to participate in ODISSEI events featuring the results of the study that received ODISSEI funding. Also, the successful proposals will be shared on the [ODISSEI Zenodo](#) repository, with an embargo of six months after the award decision.

The MAG project needs to be started in the CBS Remote Access environment by the end of August 2025. Failure to start the project within the assigned time frame or violation of the conditions as described in this Call for Proposals can result in the cancellation of the grant.

Successful applicants are obliged to comply with the [ODISSEI User Policy](#).

Work that was funded by ODISSEI should contain a reference to ODISSEI:

"This research was conducted in whole or in part using ODISSEI, the Open Data Infrastructure for Social Science and Economic Innovations (<https://ror.org/03m8v6t10>)"

Upon the completion of the project, the analytics code can be stored in [ODISSEI Code Library](#) (for support, please contact Angelica Maineri, ODISSEI Data Manager, via angelica@odissei-data.nl).



Contact

For any queries regarding the MAG programme please contact:

ODISSEI Secretariat

Attn. dr. Kasia Karpinska

submissions+mag@odissei-data.nl

We look forward to receiving your proposal!