

open call

LICHTING2025





about

Lichting celebrates the most promising fashion talent by featuring the best academy graduates of the year in one event.

Lichting was founded in 2007 to bridge the gap between the academies and students on the one side and the talent-hungry fashion industry on the other. Lichting is an initiative of HTNK and Amsterdam Fashion Week.

apply for lichting 2025

Requirements:

Participants of Lichting each stand out in what they do; whether that is couture, digital design, performance, commercial product, innovative design or handcrafted materials, the condition is that you create impressive work and excel in your work.

All Lichting participants;

- graduated in fashion design at an HBO fashion academy
- graduated between 1 January 2025 and 1 August 2025
- deliver an outstanding performance in fashion design
- can make their concept, process & work clear in the application
- are available at all dates Lichting takes place
 - Presentation to Dutch jury - 14 August 2025
 - Portfolio & pitch workshop – 18 August 2025
 - Panel pitch to international panel - 2 September 2025
 - Lichting show - 3 September 2025
 - **Optional but recommended:**
online intro meeting 14 July, 17:00

Selection procedure:

Lichting 2025 works in three selection rounds:

1. Selection by academies or open call:
 - The 7 Dutch fashion academies* have the opportunity to send in one student each. These graduates are guaranteed through to the Dutch jury pitches.
 - All design graduates from the academies* can apply via an open call
2. The Lichting organization selects 25 candidates for the third round (this includes the academy picks)
3. The 25 selected candidates each present their concept, process and work in a short presentation to a Dutch jury, who will select ten final participants for Lichting 2025. These ten participants are in the Lichting trajectory and show.

The participants will receive guidance and preparation to pitch their work to an international panel and present their work during the Lichting show for panel, press and a curated audience. The panel will pick one winner for Lichting 2025. The Lichting winner receives a cash prize of €5.000.

*The seven Dutch academies that participate in Lichting are AMFI - Amsterdam Fashion Institute, ArtEZ University of the Arts, Gerrit Rietveld Academy, MAFAD Maastricht Academy of Fine Arts and Design, Royal Academy of Art, Utrecht School of the Arts, Willem de Kooning Academy. Students from AFA – Amsterdam Fashion Academy can apply via the open call.

Apply:

Click here to fill out the application for Lichting 2025:

tinyurl.com/lichting2025

The deadline to apply is 3 July 18:00

Frequently Asked Questions

When do I hear back?

We make our first selection of 25 applicants on 9 July. You will hear from us on 9 or 10 July via mail.

What can I expect?

If you're one of the 25 selected applicants, you will have an informal video call with the group on 14 July at 17:00. You will hear more about the Liching trajectory and get to ask any questions.

I'm not available on one of the dates, can I still participate?

Unfortunately it's not possible to participate if you're not available on one of the beforementioned dates. The workshop, pitches and show are important and necessary to attend.

I'm not sure my form / file came through, what do I do?

Please send an email to hello@htnkinternational.com

I have another question

Please mail hello@htnkinternational.com