

COST Action MP1210



6th CALL for Short Term Scientific Missions (STSMs)

Call opening: 14th September 2015
Deadline for the applications: 9th October 2015
Decision and notification: 18th October 2015

“The String Theory Universe” is opening the 6th call for Exchange Visits (STSM’s) aimed at strengthening ties amongst network members, fostering knowledge transfer and enabling researchers to promote new ideas, skills or techniques within the scientific objectives of this Action.

Total budget of STSM-grants for this call: about 20,000 € (max 2500€ per general STSM, max 3500 € for Early Stage Researchers (within 8 years from PhD date) staying over three months). We will support about 10-15 STSMs.

These missions must take place between November 1st 2015 and 30th April 2016.

There will be another call in January 2016 for any leftover budget to cover further travel between February 2016 and May 1st 2016.

Detailed information can be found also under “STSM” on our webpage: <http://www.weizmann.ac.il/stringuniverse/stsm> or on the COST Vademecum (<http://www.cost.eu/participate/networking>)

THE APPLICANT:

The applicant could be PhD student, a PostDoc or staff member in an institution actively participating in the Action and located in a COST Country or European Body Participant of our Action (please visit http://www.cost.eu/domains_actions/mpns/Actions/MP1210?parties). Please check the COST Vademecum for the special rules concerning Non-Cost participating countries with Reciprocal Agreement such as South Africa.

STSM grantees must make their own arrangements for all health, social, personal security and pension matters.

HOME & HOST INSTITUTION:

The Home and the Host institution can be organizations of either the public or the private sector. An STSM may only be approved from a home institution in a COST country of the

Action to a host institution in a COST country of the Action. The Applicant must obtain the agreement of the host institution, **before** submitting the STSM application.

DURATION:

There is a **minimum duration of 5 working days** for the proposed STSM, and max of 90 days, raised to 180 days for ESR's.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT:

The financial support provided by the STSM scheme is intended to cover a part, but not necessarily all, of the costs of the proposed visit. The financial contribution for a STSM will be a fixed grant based on the Applicant's budget request and the evaluation of the application by the STSM assessment committee. **Indicative values for the requested amount for daily allowance and travel expenses are 60-90€** (max 160 €) and 300€ (max 500 €), respectively. However, the total amount requested per STSM shall not exceed € 2500 (€ 3500 for ESR's staying longer than 90 days). Advanced payment is not possible.

BEFORE the STSM

REGISTRATION & DEADLINES:

The Applicant must use the on-line registration tool:

<https://e-services.cost.eu/w3/index.php?id=91> to submit her/his application.

The following information has to be provided:

- Applicant's data: name, work place, address etc.
- The planned dates and duration of the STSM
- Information about the proposed STSM: **title**, short description etc.
- A short CV
- A requested budget
- Bank details

A formal STSM application must also be downloaded and sent by e-mail to the STSM coordinator of the Action MP1210 -- Dr. Anna Ceresole <stringtheoryuniverse@to.infn.it>. The applicant should clearly indicate the science topic most relevant to her/his application (defined in relation with the Working Groups of the Action) and should also send the necessary supporting documents (CV, full work plan and motivation letter, list of publications, letter of financial support from the home institution if applicable, letter of acceptance from the Host institute of the STSM) to the STSM host institution and to the STSM coordinator.

The deadline for the application is 9th October 2015.

The scientific and budgetary assessment of the STSM applications will be executed by a selection committee (Dr. A. Ceresole (IT), Prof. E. Kiritsis (EL), Prof. R. Gregory (UK), Prof. D. Lust (DE), with possible involvement of Chair & Vice-chair and WG Leaders).

The most important criteria of assessment are scientific excellence, how effectively the STSM will contribute to the scientific aims of Action MP1210, together with geographical distribution and gender promotion. The committee will inform the Grant Holder of the successful evaluated proposals on **18th October 2015**.

The Grant holder will subsequently inform the successful applicants by sending them a Grant letter with an official approval and the level of the financial grant given. The Applicant has to return this Grant letter **within one week**, after accepting the grant with his/her signature.

Please be aware that applicants paying taxes in Italy or spending their mission in Italy will incur in some taxation. The committee will take this into account when defining the grant amount.

AFTER the STSM is completed

STSM SCIENTIFIC REPORT:

The grantee is required to submit to the host institution and to the STSM coordinator (Anna Ceresole (stringtheoryuniverse@to.infn.it)) within 4 weeks after the completion of the STSM a short scientific report with following information:

- Purpose of the STSM
 - Description of the work carried out during the STSM
 - Description of the main results obtained
 - Future collaboration with host institute (if applicable)
 - Foreseen publications (if applicable)
 - Other comments (if any)
- Letter of Confirmation by the host institute of the successful execution of the STSM

NOTICE OF COMPLETION:

The STSM coordinator will approve the final report and send the completion notice to the Grant Holder. The Grant Holder will execute the payment of the fixed grant directly to the grantee or the host institute, as requested in the application, after receipt of the following documents:

- Notice of completion by the STSM coordinator
- Completed Payment request form from the STSM grantee
- Summary (max 1 page) of scientific report from the STSM grantee

Dr Anna Ceresole
(STSM Coordinator of the COST Action MP1210)