

Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM)

STSM Coordinator: Dr. Kaja Põlluste (University of Tartu, Estonia)

What STSM is?

Mobility Grants aimed at promoting individual mobility, strengthening BetterCare networks, and fostering collaboration between PhD students, residents, and young researchers pursuing the objectives of the COST Action 22152.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jkHg45tLvOM&ab_channel=COST-EuropeanCooperationinScienceandTechnology

More information: <https://www.cost.eu/cost-actions-event/action-networking-tools/>

Who can apply?

The STSM applicant can be any person with an e-COST profile. An STSM applicant must specifically contribute to the research coordination and capacity building objectives of the COST Action for which they are submitting a STSM application.

The STSM applicant:

- is engaged in an official research program as a PhD Student or postdoctoral fellow, or
- has to be employed by, or affiliated to, an institution, organization or legal entity which has within its remit a clear association with performing research.

We particularly welcome applications from PhD students, residents, and young researchers (less than 40 y.), and applicants both from within and outside the BetterCare Consortium, that explore and explain how their participation can contribute to the COST Action 22152.

What kind of expenses are covered by STSM funding?

The STSM Mobility does not necessarily cover all expenses related to performing a given mission. The grant is a contribution to the overall travel, accommodation and meal expenses of the grantee.

During this Grant Period this financial contribution for each STSM grant must respect the following criteria:

The STSM applicants have to calculate the cost of the visit by themselves. Up to a maximum of EUR 1 500 in total can be awarded to each successful STSM applicant; (E.g. EUR 150 per day for accommodation and meal expenses, travel costs up to EUR 500). Daily amount depends of country.

Important:

STSM has to be performed from 15th April to 20th September 2024.

The STSM grantee must pay in advance tickets and the cost of the accommodation.

Once the activity has ended, the grantee submits the required **Report on the outcomes of a Short-Term Scientific Mission** in e-COST within **30 days after the end date of the activity or 15 days after the end of the Grant Period**, whichever date comes first. Participant must submit the report about STSM main achievements and claim for payment of the approved grant after the STSM performed. This report has to be approved by the Host Organizer.

When to apply?

From 29th January to 1st March 2024.

How to apply?

Participants should upload documents in this way.

The following documents must also be upload on the COST Action 19113 website

<https://cost-bettercare.eu/calls>

They will complete the formular on the webpage and upload the following documents.

- **The APPLICATION FORM** with the following information:
 - Your title of the STSM:
 - Start and end date (within the active Grant Period, i.e. no overlap across two consecutive Grant Periods)
 - Budget requested by the applicant;
 - Information about the host institution and contact person.
- **Confirmation letter** of the host on the agreement from the HOST institution in receiving the applicant;
- **A motivation letter** including a work plan detailing the proposed activities. The work plan should describe goals, description of the work to be carried out by the applicant, expected outcomes and description of the contribution to the Action objectives,
- **CV**, including a list of academic publications if applicable
- **A support letter** from the HOME Institution

Once the participant is eligible, they will receive the information about how to register in e-COST webpage.

What COST Action 22152 objectives are?

MoU objectives of the COST Action 22152 are available:

<https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA22152/>

More information <https://cost-bettercare.eu>

See also the [BetterCare - Cost Action 22152 \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

How applicants will be assessed?

The applications will be ranked by the STSM coordinator and members of the Core group based on:

- Research career in line with the work proposal to be carried out.
- Benefit to the development of the COST Action 22152

The selection will follow the COST policies on inclusiveness (gender, age, geography).

The final ranking will be approved by the Action Chair and Co-Chair.

The researchers who applied to the call will receive the results of the selection from the STSM Coordinator in their mail.

The selected researchers should wait for the official invitation from the Grant Holder before booking any travel arrangements.

Scholars' duties:

Respecting basic principles of health research.

Respect the standards of the COST Association and COST Action 22152.

Attend on the scheduled dates and actively participate in the planned activities.

Submit the activity report up to 30 days after STSM, approved by the host.

When all documents are approved, the reimbursement will be provided.

Important:

The participants shall declare via e-COST when submitting their Online Travel Reimbursement Request (OTRR) that they will not receive a reimbursement or any allowance from a third party to support their attendance at the approved COST activity for which they are submitting a claim. The COST Association reserves the right to contact any beneficiary of COST funds and / or their institution or any other relevant third party when double funding is suspected.

Other information

<https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2022/12/COST-094-21-Annotated-Rules-for-COST-Actions-Level-C-V1.3.pdf>