

European Medicines Shortages Research Network – addressing supply problems to patients

COST Action “Medicines Shortages” (CA15105)

Call for applications for Short Term Scientific Missions **GRANTS ARE AVAILABLE!**

The COST Action “Medicines Shortages” (CA15105) supports **Short-Term Scientific Missions (STSM)** performed by applicants from COST Member Countries, Near Neighbor Countries (NNC), or International Partner Countries (IPC).

You can find more information on CA15105 “Medicines Shortages” on webpages:

<https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA15105/#tabs|Name:overview>

<http://www.medicinesshortages.eu/>

General information on COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology) can be found at: <http://www.cost.eu/>

Who can apply and what is the deadline?

The STSM applicant must be engaged in an official research programme as a PhD Student or postdoctoral fellow or can be employed by, or affiliated to, an institution, organisation or legal entity which has within its remit a clear association with performing research. The detailed information on applications’ assessment and eligibility, definitions of categories of countries, as well as specific rules concerning financial support, can be found in the following documents:

- “COST Vademecum” (Available: <https://www.cost.eu/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/COSTVademecum.pdf>) – especially pages 34-35;
- “Guidelines for COST Action Management, Monitoring and Final Assessment” (Available: https://www.cost.eu/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Guidelines_Action_management_monitoring_assessment-1.pdf)
- see also “Relevant documents” at <http://www.cost.eu/participate>

Now we are inviting especially to submission of applications for STSM-s which start

and end by 30-th of April 2019 (i.e. within the current Grant Period, for which the electronic system e-COST is now open).

However, if applicants are planning their STSM-s later in the future (between 01-st of May 2019 and 30-th of April 2020 – for this subsequent Grant Period the application system has not been opened yet), they are invited to send required documents by email to STSM Coordinator, Ms Darija Kuruc Poje: darijakuruc21@gmail.com.

The applications are now processed on a “first come – first served” basis and number of grants is limited, so please submit your application as soon as possible!

The STSM requirements

The applicant has to spend the STSM totality in the host institution of a different COST Member Country (or approved NNC, or IPC), which is different from their own.

STSMs need to take place according to the following rules:

- minimum duration, 5 days;
- maximum duration, 90 days;
- fully carried out before 30-April-2019 (end of the third Grant Period of CA15105).

Exceptions can be made for Early Career Investigators (ECI) planning to stay for a period between 91 and 180 days.

The application process

1. The applicants must carefully read the funding rules detailed in the COST Vademecum.
2. STSM applications can be made by clicking at <https://e-services.cost.eu/STSM> ; the applicants must have an e-COST profile with bank account information.
3. The applicants must obtain a letter of invitation from the Host Institution confirming that they can undertake the STSM on the given dates.
4. The applicants must complete, submit, and download the STSM application from the e-COST-system.
5. In summary, the following is needed for the application through **e-COST profile**:
 - a) the submitted STSM application form, including the budget (as point 4, downloadable when the online application is submitted at e-COST);
 - b) a motivation letter, including an overview of the proposed activities; it must contain a work-plan highlighting the proposed contribution to the scientific objectives of the COST Action “Medicines Shortages”;

- c) a short CV, including the scientific degrees (with dates), the current position, previous work experience/positions, post-graduate courses, and a list of academic publications – if applicable.
- d) letter of invitation, from a senior researcher affiliated to the Host Institution (e.g., Associate Professor, Professor, Head of Department or equivalent);
- e) a letter of support from the Home Institution.

The selection criteria

The application will then be assessed by the STSM Coordinator with consultation with the Core Group of CA15105 against the perceived contribution that the proposed mission will make against the scientific objectives outlined in the Action's Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), namely:

- scientific interest of the STSM in the scope of COST Action “Medicines Shortages”;
- relevance to the Action;
- cooperation with Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITC) as in http://www.cost.eu/about_cost/strategy/excellence-inclusiveness .

The STSM will be approved according to the COST rules, under proposal of the STSM Coordinator within the Action. Successful applicants will be shortly notified.

Final report

After the STSM is finished, the grantee is required to submit a report to the Host Institution, and to the STSM Coordinator, no later than 30 days after the end date of the STSM.

For the specific content of the final report, please refer to the **COST Vademecum**.

Please note that the reimbursement will be done after the mission is over (partial prepayment of 50% can be made to participants from ITC!), and the final report is submitted by the STSM participant. Failure to submit the scientific report within 30 days will cancel the grant.