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## Conference Grant Call – April 2024

Deadline for applications: 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024

The aim of COST Action CA21106 “COSMIC WISPers” is to coordinate and support WISPers searches in a synergic way at the boundary between particle physics, astrophysics and cosmology.

Among its missions, the COSMIC WISPers Action wants to promote the work of young physicists in less research-intensive European countries (Inclusiveness Target Countries or Near Neighbour Countries).

The COSMIC WISPers Action is now opening its first call for Conference Grant (CG) applications.

### Conference Grants

A Conference Grant is a contribution to the overall travel, accommodation, meal expenses and registration fees of the selected grantee. It is a fixed financial contribution which takes into consideration the budget request of the applicant and the outcome of the evaluation of the application by the COSMIC WISPers Grant Committee. Please note that a CG does not necessarily cover all the expenses related to participating in a given conference. Please also note that the grant will be paid directly to the successful applicant and not to her/his institution.

### Application eligibility

The applicants must meet the following criteria:

- The applicant’s primary affiliation must be in one of the following Inclusiveness Target Countries

(ITC) or Near Neighbor (NN) countries: Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Croatia, Hungary, Lithuania, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Republic of Serbia, Turkey.

- The applicant’s country must participate in the Action.

- The applicant must be a PhD student or an early career physicist (less than 8 years after the PhD).
- The applicant must make an oral or poster presentation at the conference and must be listed in the official conference program. The main subject of the contribution at the approved conference must be on the topic of the COSMIC WISPerS Action and must acknowledge COST.

### COSMIC WISPerS ITC CG Call

- The participation of each applicant must be pre-approved by the COSMIC WISPerS Grant Committee (see the instructions below).
- The conference must end no later than 15<sup>th</sup> September 2024. See the paragraph “At latest 30 days after the conference” below.

#### Instructions for applicants

Applications must be sent using the [eCOST service](#)

(<https://e-services.cost.eu/activity/grants/add?type=ITCG>).

If the applicant does not have an account on this platform already, it is necessary to [create an account \(https://e-services.cost.eu\)](https://e-services.cost.eu).

#### **Before the deadline and at latest 45 days before the conference start date:**

- Log into eCOST and click on the tab “ITC Conference Grants” in the left column. Please note that this link won’t be available if the applicant’s eCOST profile is incomplete or if the first criterion listed above is not met.
- Create a CG request by clicking on the button “Create Conference Grant Request” and fill the form. The Action number to be used is “CA21106”. Then click on “Save Request” button.
- Provide supporting documents by clicking on the “Upload Supporting Documents” button. These documents include: a CV, a short description of the applicant’s involvement in the COST Action, an acceptance letter from the conference organizers, title and abstract of the contribution. If the acceptance letter is not available at the time of submission, it can be temporarily replaced by a document justifying the pending status of the participation to the conference. In any case, the candidate will have to send the acceptance letter by e-mail to the ITC Grant Manager as soon as possible and no later than 30 days after the conference. Failure to do so will lead to the cancellation of the Grant.
- Finalize the procedure by clicking on “Submit Request”.

The ITC CG Committee will then review the application. In case the application is rejected, the candidate will receive a feedback and she/he will

have the possibility to apply again in a future call. In case the application is pre-approved, the applicant will receive a Grant Letter notification.

Please fill the UNIBA travel form before departure  
(<https://agenda.infn.it/category/1857/>)

**During the conference:**

- Acknowledge COST in the slides or poster and in the proceedings (if any). The logo of the Action is available on its web site and will be sent to the applicants by email.

**At latest 30 days after the conference end date and before 15<sup>th</sup> October 2024:**

- Submit a scientific report describing the activities carried out at the conference. A template is available [here \(https://www.cost.eu/visual-identity/\)](https://www.cost.eu/visual-identity/). Submissions beyond the deadline will lead to the cancellation of the grant.

The ITC CG Committee will review the report. If the report is rejected, the CG Committee will provide a feedback to the grantee so that she/he can resubmit it. If the report is approved, the grant will be validated for payment.

[Applications can be sent any time before 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024.](#)

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