Virtual Mobility (VM)

Virtual Mobility (VM) is one of the networking activities which is organized through a Grant Awarding Process in a COST Action.

What is VM?

VM is a special type of networking activity which enables a professional collaboration of the grantee with other researchers and innovators or organizations. This collaboration might be in the form of (but not limited to) a virtual mentoring, designing or performing a scientific study (e.g. data collection, statistical analysis etc.) or coordination of a project which benefit the Action's objectives. The VM grant candidate should propose a specific task to be completed in a determined period of time.

The aim of VMs is, basically to contribute to the research coordination and capacity building objectives of COST Action CA21122, PROmoting GeRiAtric Medicine in countries where it is still eMergING (PROGRAMMING) via establishing new collaborations or strengthening existing ones. The VM grantee individually may benefit gaining new knowledge, techniques, abilities and/or improving personal experience in cooperative project management.

The amount of the grant which has a maximum limit of EUR 1500,00 (per grant) is to be decided by the Action's Core Group considering the complexity of the task and activities to be covered via the VM grant. This funding aims to contribute for the overall effort given during the completion of the special work.

How to apply?

Open Calls for VMs are periodically published in the Action's website.

During an Active Grant Period, candidates will be able to reach online application platform in e-COST via their e-COST account to submit their applications. (If the candidate does not already have an e-COST account, could create one here.)

The information to be filled regarding the VM proposal in e-COST consists of

- Title

- Start and end date (within the active Grant Period) *

- Budget requested by the applicant

* For a virtual mentoring proposal, the applicant can indicate the Action member who she/he wishes to mentor her/him, having confirmed her/his availability in advance. In case this person is not identified by the applicant, it is the duty of the Grant Award Coordinator to find her/him an appropriate match among the Actions' participants.

The supporting documentation to be uploaded to e-COST:

- VM grant Application form (template available on e-COST)
  Main Objective, description of the work to be carried out by the applicant, plan for participation, expected outcomes and description of the contribution to the Action MoU objectives.
- Motivation letter

The statement explaining the candidate's motivation by relating it to the personal professional background, experience, field(s) of interest and the potential benefits that the realization of the mission will provide for the evolution of their own career and, most importantly, for their national community and working environment. The motivation letter should also include the confirmation statement that the candidate speaks English at least at B2 level.

- Support/recommendation letter
- An updated CV

Evaluation of the applications

The submitted applications will be evaluated and ranked by Meltem Koca, the Grant Awarding Coordinator of the Action PROGRAMMING, and the Core Group on behalf of the Action Management Committee (MC) and according to the VM Evaluation Criteria which are determined and approved by the Action MC to prioritize the Action's objectives on the basis of the COST Excellence and Inclusiveness principle.

VM Evaluation Criteria

• Main criterion: Active participation in the Action's specific tasks*(0/1/2 points)

• Motivation letter *The statement explaining the candidate's motivation by relating it to the personal professional background, experience, field(s) of interest and the potential benefits that realization of the project will provide for the self and his/her community* (0/1/2 points)

• Young researchers and innovators (<40yo) (0/1 points)

* Action's specific tasks are tasks and missions serving the Action's objectives, that will be defined by the Core Group according to the Action's evolving needs

Upon approval of the VM Grant Application, the grantee will be notified with a letter.

Outcomes

The grantee is required to submit the Grant Report following the template provided on e-COST within 30 days from the end date of the VM or within 15 days from the end date of the Grant Period, whichever date comes first.

The grant will be paid only after the approval of the submitted report.

Important Dates

Deadline for applications: ………… TBD …………2023

Deadline for evaluation of the applications: ………… TBD …………2023

Deadline of for the end date of the missions: 31 October 2023