

SECTION 5. TRAINING SCHOOLS

Training Schools will provide intensive training in emerging research topics within the laboratories and organisations involved in the Action.

5.1. TRAINING SCHOOLS – ELIGIBILITY RULES

COST supports the participation of two categories of participants for their attendance at approved Training Schools:

1. **Trainers** can be reimbursed for their travel, accommodation and meal expenses in line with the eligibility rules specified in Section 4. Lecture fees and / or any form of honoraria for Trainers are not eligible.
2. **Trainees** are entitled to receive a fixed Grant in line with the considerations specified in Section 5.3.

The organisational expenses linked to hosting a Training School can be claimed under the ‘Local Organiser Support’ mechanism (see Section 6: Local Organiser Support).

The following considerations must be respected when organising a Training School:

1. The Action MC must define from amongst eligible participants those trainers who are to be reimbursed. The Action MC must also define the financial contribution (in the form of a Trainee Grant) for each eligible Trainee who will be attending the approved Training School. The Action MC can delegate the pre-mentioned tasks to the Action Chair (or Vice-Chair if the Action Chair is affiliated to the Grant Holder Institution).
2. A Training School must have COST Action objectives as its main focus. The COST Action also has to be one of the primary organisers of the Training School and must be clearly promoted on all dissemination channels, namely the official website of the Action / event, brochures and all relevant training material.
3. A Training School must be held in a Participating COST Full Member / COST Cooperating Member or in an Approved NNC institution.
4. There should be a reasonable country balance concerning trainee participation.
5. All attendees (both trainers and trainees) at approved Training Schools must sign the meeting attendance list on each day that they attend the event.
6. All attendees must also register for an e-COST profile at <https://e-services.cost.eu> - each participant must add their bank details to their e-COST profile prior to receiving their e-COST invitation.

Trainers eligible to be reimbursed:

1. Trainers from Participating COST Full Members / COST Cooperating Members.
2. Trainers from Participating COST Partner Members.
3. Trainers from Approved NNC institutions.
4. Trainers from Approved IPC institutions.
5. Trainers from Approved International Organisations (IO).
6. Trainers from Approved European RTD Organisations.
7. Up to four Invited Speakers whose primary affiliation is with an institution located in a non-Participating COST Full Member / COST Cooperating Member (which also includes COST Full Members / COST Cooperating Members listed as being under intention and / or individuals who have not yet obtained Action MC approval to participate in a given Action), individuals in non-approved NNC institutions and individuals located in non-approved IPC institutions.

Invited Speakers are specialists who are not Action Participants but can partake in one COST Action meeting and/ or Training School throughout the lifetime of the Action. Invited Speakers can be reimbursed for their attendance at one Training School across the lifetime of the Action and must be invited, and listed, as a speaker on the programme / agenda of the relevant Training School.

Trainers not eligible to be reimbursed:

1. Trainers from EU Commission, Bodies, Offices and Agencies.
2. Other Trainers not specifically mentioned as being eligible.

Trainees eligible to be reimbursed:

1. Trainees from COST Full Members / COST Cooperating Member.
2. Trainees from Approved NNC institutions.
3. Trainees from Approved European RTD Organisations.

Trainees not eligible to be reimbursed:

1. Trainees from COST Partner Members.
2. Trainees from Approved IPC institutions.
3. Trainees from Approved IO, EU Commission, Bodies, Offices and Agencies.
4. Other Trainees not specifically mentioned as being eligible.

5.2. TRAINING SCHOOL TRAINERS – FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Trainers can be reimbursed in line with the eligible travel, accommodation and meal expenses detailed in Section 4.

Lecture fees and honoraria for trainers are not eligible to be reimbursed.

Each trainer must register a profile on e-COST at <https://e-services.cost.eu> - each trainer must add their bank details to their e-COST profile.

5.3. TRAINING SCHOOL TRAINEES – FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The Action MC must define the financial contribution (in the form of a Trainee Grant) for all trainees who will be attending the approved Training School. The Action MC can delegate the pre-mentioned task to the Action Chair (or Vice-Chair if the Action Chair is affiliated to the Grant Holder Institution). Trainee Grants do not necessarily cover all expenses related to attending the Training School. The Trainee Grant is a contribution to the overall travel, accommodation and meal expenses of the Grantee. Different Grants amount can be attributed to each trainee.

The amount afforded to each eligible trainee must respect the following considerations:

1. Each trainee must register for an e-COST profile at <https://e-services.cost.eu> - each trainee must add their bank details to their e-COST profile.
2. The total Grant awarded to each eligible trainee cannot exceed EUR 1500.
3. The amount afforded for accommodation and meal expenses cannot exceed EUR 160 per day. This amount should be calculated with a consideration for the cost of living in the city / country where the Training School is being held.