

TRAINING SCHOOLS – EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR TRAINEES

1. Eligible candidates

- Trainees from all COST Countries
- Trainees from approved NNC institutions
- Trainees from approved European RTD Organizations
- Trainees from ECis and Industries working in the field

Applications from PhD students and Early Career Investigators (ECIs, < 8 years from PhD) are expected and will be prioritized.

The applicant must be engaged in an official research programme as a PhD Student or postdoctoral fellow or is employed by, or affiliated to, an institution, organization or legal entity which has within its remit a clear association with performing research. In any case, the applicant must check that he/she is eligible to participate in COST Action activities (please check eligibility criteria at http://www.cost.eu/participate and COST Vademecum).

2. Gender and geographical balance

Measures to promote gender and country balance could be taken if adequate.

Gender balance

The number of available positions could be divided into 2 groups. The number of positions allocated to each group would reflect the gender ratio of the applicants. It is calculated as the ratio between the male and female applicants (for example, if there were 5 positions and 6 male and 4 female candidates, the highest ranked 3 males and 2 females would be awarded). If there were not enough candidates to fill the available positions, the candidates from the other list could be offered the positions.

Country balance:

For equally graded candidates a country balance could be observed. At least 30% of the number of available positions will be initially reserved for trainees from ITC and NCC countries. If there were not enough candidates from ITC and NCC countries, the available positions could be offered to candidates from other countries.



The amount of the grants will be announced along with other relevant information related to the specific training school (TS) in <u>www.eurocaroten.eu</u>. The funding is intended to contribute to cover a part of the expenses derived from the attendance to the TS, not necessarily all the expenses.

4. Applications and selection of candidates

Candidates are requested to fill in the application form, provide at least one signed open letter of reference and research organization affiliation statement, i.e. the letter signed by the official that the candidate is the PhD Student or postdoctoral fellow or is employed by, or affiliated to, an institution, organization or legal entity which has within its remit a clear association with performing research.

The selection of candidates will be based on information available from the submitted application according to their achievements, motivation and interests.

The Training School Coordinator (Irina Milisav, <u>irina.milisav@mf.uni-lj.si</u>) and Vice Coordinator (Gianfranco Diretto, <u>giandiretto@gmail.com</u>) will evaluate the proposals, grade the candidates according to the above criteria and harmonize their gradings to produce a list of trainees proposed for funding for final approval for the Chair and Vice Chair.