

Support for Young Scientists (YS) in ISSI Teams

This initiative is directed towards young scientists preparing the PhD, or shortly afterwards, in space science disciplines. The aim is to offer to these junior scientists the possibility to have a direct involvement in the workings of an international team of their seniors, engaged in multidisciplinary research at ISSI, thus contributing to the young scientist formation and international experience. Young scientists will participate in the activities of the Teams but will be identified and funded separately from the core Team members, listed in the original Team proposal. To this end, ISSI has established a separate financial line in the budget. The YS scheme is thus, a separate addition to the core Team, both financially and in terms of participation.

Eligible young scientists should be within about +/-2 years of the PhD at the time of his/her nomination by the leader. The Leader, in consultation with the other members of the Team, is expected to identify the young scientists and establish a programme. The Leader shall communicate to ISSI the names and affiliation of the young scientists participating in the Team activities, accompanied by short CVs of each one. ISSI will evaluate the request and make the decision. The procedure must remain flexible; hence YS may, attend all meetings of a Team but could also vary among them.

ISSI support for the young scientist will consist of the accommodation and of a per diem to cover the meals while in Bern, precisely as for the core team members (no travel).

The additional support allocated to a Team for YS, will be about 20% of the total person-weeks* allocated to the core Team for its activity. Deviations from this guideline will be discussed jointly. This allocation will be shared among the different participating Young Scientists at the discretion of the Team Leader. There will be a maximum of flexibility for the leader to arrange it as she/he sees it best.

*A practical example of “person-week” units calculation.

A team of 8 core members, meeting 3x1week, receives, at approval, an authorisation of 24 person-weeks to be funded by the regular budget line. Upon approval of the Team, an additional, separately funded, allocation of about 5 person-weeks will be put at the disposal of the core team to the advantage of the Young Scientists.

M. Falanga, June 2012