

SCOSTEP Visiting Scholar (SVS) Program

The **SCOSTEP Visiting Scholar (SVS)** program is a capacity building activity of SCOSTEP. The SVS program complements the current scientific program and SCOSTEP's public outreach activities.

The objective: The objective of the SVS program is to provide training to graduate students in well-established solar terrestrial physics laboratories and institutions, for periods of between one and three months. The aim is to fund up to ~20 scholars each year, related to the SCOSTEP's current program themes. The training will help the awardees to advance their career in solar terrestrial physics using the technique/skill they learned during the training. SCOSTEP will provide the airfare, while it is expected that the hosting lab will provide the living expenses (accommodation, sustenance, ground transportation, visa fees and other incidentals). Trainees should have their own health insurance or arrange a provision with the host institution. The trainees will be selected on a competitive basis.

Frequency: At least five scholars each year.

Eligibility: The SVS program is open to applicants from all countries but with an emphasis on applicants from developing countries. The program is open to Masters and PhD students with the requirement that the recipient has not received a PhD at the time of application to the program.

Application Procedure: Candidates will contact one of the SVS program hosts listed below or in the SCOSTEP website (as updated) and work out the details of the visit with the host. Once the applicant and the host agree on a visit, the candidates will prepare an application package including the following details of the visit *(i) work to be performed described in the form of a 2 page proposal; (ii) applicant's curriculum vitae, (iii) dates of the visit and an estimate of the airfare in economy class; (iv) letter from the applicant's supervisor verifying eligibility to the program, and (v) a recommendation letter from the host scientist/institution indicating that the proposed work will be mutually beneficial.* Prepare a single pdf file of the above material and email it to the appropriate SCOSTEP contact point announced every year. The applicant will be informed within three months after the deadline of the application.

Review Criteria: Applications are reviewed by the SVS Selection Committee of SCOSTEP which consists of experts in solar-terrestrial physics. Following the deadline for applications, the applications will be distributed to the committee for their consideration and evaluation.

The chair of the committee will guide the committee members in the reviews and deliberations. The committee is asked to score the applications in five criteria: Experience, Potential, Originality, Program Relevance, Letters. The scoring system is on a scale of 1 to 5 as follows:

- 1 = Unqualified
- 2 = Uncompetitive
- 3 = Competitive
- 4 = Highly Competitive
- 5 = Standout

The chair of the committee will deliver the final results to the President and the Scientific Secretary (SS). The President and the Scientific Secretary will present the results to the SCOSTEP Bureau for final selection. Final selection will be based on scores, budget, geographic and gender diversity.