

[Program Overview] Theoretical Sciences Visiting Program (TSVP)

August 15, 2022 (v 1.2)

Overview: This program will be sponsored and administered by the Faculty Affairs Office (FAO). The program's objective is to create a vibrant research community in theoretical sciences at OIST. The program consists of two parts: Visiting Scholars and Thematic Activity.

Visiting Scholars (VS): Open to candidates pursuing independent research (at least senior postdoc level) in theoretical sciences, usually staying at OIST for 3 to 12 months.

Thematic Programs (TP): Hosted by a group of two or more researchers (coordinators) who stay at OIST for 2 weeks to 3 months. Additional participants can be invited during the TP's duration or for an (optional) symposium.

All TSVP Visiting Scholars, coordinators, and program participants are expected to actively contribute to the theoretical sciences environment at OIST and its research output.

Duration:

- Visiting Scholars (VS): usually 3 months to 12 months
- Thematic Programs (TP): 2 weeks to 3 months

Expenses covered by OIST for participants in VS or TP:

- A round-trip airfare between the home institution and OIST
- On-campus housing
- Daily allowance (OIST per diem)
- In exceptional situations, where an applicant (VS) or a coordinator (TP) does not receive any salary from grants or their institution at the time of their visit to OIST, successful candidates may be able to apply for support with salary, where this is necessary to facilitate the visit, and they can provide evidence of their need.
- Office space
- Access to OIST's IT system, library, and research facilities
- TP: Symposium/workshop expenses (where applicable)

Application documents:

- CV including a list of publications (in the case of TP: of all coordinators)
- VS: Brief description of research to date, and proposed research during the visit to OIST, including the research units the applicant is interested in interacting with
- TP: Proposal containing the theme of the program, its intellectual background, and the opportunity for progress in this area.
- TP: A list of researchers who would be willing, in principle, to participate in the program, if funded. While the scope of the Thematic Program should be theoretical, a diverse base of participants is encouraged, which may include experimental scientists.
- TP (where applicable): A title and abstract for a linked symposium of up to 60 participants

Selection:

Selection committees composed of OIST faculty, appointed by the DFA, will review applications (VS)/proposals (TP) and conduct interviews. Careful consideration is given to avoid conflict of interest.

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Selection process:

1. The applications/proposals will be screened by the Faculty Affairs Office to eliminate incomplete packages.
2. Complete applications/proposals will be distributed to the respective selection committees and evaluated using the following criteria: scientific quality; possible interactions with OIST Units; the interdisciplinary nature of OIST; and considerations of diversity.
3. Selected candidates will be interviewed by OIST Faculty or Committee members.
4. The respective committee will finalize and rank the candidates (VS) and proposals (TP). FAO will invite VS/TP in accordance with the ranking and availability of funding.