
Call for Applications

SSPH+ Lugano Summer School in Public Health Policy, Economics, and Management
33rd Edition in Lugano, Switzerland, and Online **from 19 to 24 August 2024**

Deadline for the application: 3 March 2024

Notification of applicants: By 20 April 2024

Online information session: 12 February 2024 on [zoom](#)

Application platform: https://usi.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4IOQXS2zLuZvHIY

Before starting your application, please read the following instructions carefully.

* Applicants will be notified both in case of positive and negative response.



The SSPH+ Lugano Summer School

At the SSPH+ Summer School in Public Health Policy, Economics, and Management in Lugano, practitioners, researchers, and graduate students come together from all over the world for a unique learning experience focused on public health impact. The education obtained and networks created serve as an opportunity to reduce and prevent the gap between public health theory and practice. This year, we will gather in Lugano and Online from 19 to 24 August 2024.

Here's the 2024 programme: <https://www.ssph-lugano-summerschool.ch/courses>

Please read the programme carefully and choose the courses you would like to follow (based on the instructions below), before starting your application.

Courses will be offered in 3 different formats:

1. **ONLINE:** the course will be held online, but a classroom will be in Lugano for on-site participants to take the "online" course.
2. **ON-SITE:** participation is on-site in Lugano only - no online participation.
3. **HYBRID:** at least one facilitator will be on-site, but participation is both on-site and online.

About Swiss Plexus

Swiss Plexus builds capacity for global public health and contributes to the transformation of educational opportunity into a global common good. The program matches health professionals, policy makers, students, and researchers from around the globe with high quality training offers provided by member institutions of the [Swiss School of Public Health \(SSPH+\)](#), the national coordinating body for promoting university education and research in public health sciences in Switzerland. By providing scholarships for short, skill and competency-based courses, Swiss Plexus supports the public health workforce to respond constructively to challenges of the public health sector.

Swiss Plexus is run by SSPH+ and supported by a grant of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).

The Swiss Plexus Scholarship Programme

Prerequisites for the application

- Your work/research domain is relevant for the improvement of public health.
- You have a good English language level (written and oral).
- You are able to FULLY commit to the classes during the times and dates indicated in the course(s) description.
- You do not have other financial means to cover your registration fees.
- It is highly suggested that you have a laptop.
- (IF ONLINE) Your internet connection and IT equipment are sufficient to allow you to follow smoothly the online classes.
- (IF ON-SITE) You are able to travel to Switzerland (no visa-related restrictions) during the SSPH+ LSS week.

Please note: due to the funder conditions, most of the scholarship are dedicated to applicants from Low and Middle Income Countries. This does not exclude persons from High Income Countries to apply, but their chances to receive a scholarship may be lower, unless new funds will be available.

Terms to apply

- You **MUST** read the course details (content, format, date) thoroughly before applying. You will not apply for an open scholarship but for a **scholarship for specific course(s)**. Course description are available on the [SSPH+ LSS website](#).
- It is NOT possible to apply for overlapping courses.
- It is NOT possible to revise your application once it is submitted. The courses listed in the notification of acceptance are binding.
- You can apply only for ONE scholarship format. The formats are described below.
- To earn a certificate of completion and/or ECTS (European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System) credits, participants **MUST** attend at least 80% of the course, pass the final assessment, and attend the plenaries offered during the day(s) of the selected course(s).
- Scholarship winners who do not show up to the selected courses, will not be able to win another scholarship in the next years.
- The information you provide will be used for managing your application and potential participation in the summer school.
- (Only for ON-SITE) The expenses pre-financed by the participants will be reimbursed after the SSPH+ LSS week. No cash reimbursement will be possible, but only wire transfers. More info will be provided in case the scholarship is granted.

Scholarships Format

There are three formats of scholarship: **on-site, online and hub scholarships**.

An **ON-SITE SCHOLARSHIP** to participate in Lugano, Switzerland, covers the following costs:

- Tuition costs for **TWO** courses. On-site participants can select two courses, one during the first half of the week (19-21 August) and one during the second half of the week (22-24 August).^{*1} If you are willing to take just one course, please select the online scholarship.
- Plenaries attendance.
- Lunches at the USI Canteen.
- Allowance for dinners (100 CHF total).
- Scheduled networking events (2 events with apero/dinner and social activities).
- Expenses for accommodation. The SSPH+ LSS will organize and book the accommodation in the SSPH+ LSS selected hotels.
- Expenses for travel, health insurance, and visa. **Scholarship recipients NEED TO self-organize and pre-finance the travel-related expenses**, which will be reimbursed at the end of the SSPH+LSS. The SSPH+ LSS office will support this process with invitation letter, hotel confirmations, etc. IF the scholarship recipient cannot anticipate all these expenses, the SSPH+ LSS can support him/her **ONLY** with the flight booking. It is mandatory for scholarship recipients to anticipate the money for health insurance, visa fees, and trains from the airport to Lugano.

An **ONLINE SCHOLARSHIP**, to participate on zoom, covers the following costs:

- Tuition costs for **ONE** course. Online participants can select one course during the first half of the week (19-21 August) or during the second half of the week (22-24 August).^{*2}
- Plenaries attendance.
- Online networking events.

^{*1} **On-site scholarships** applicant can choose courses in any kind of format (online, on-site, or hybrid).

^{*2} **Online scholarships** applicant can choose only between courses in online or hybrid format.

A **HUB SCHOLARSHIP**, to participate in a hub location^{*3}, covers the following costs:

- Tuition costs for ONE course. Hub participants can select only the courses which will be offered within the hub.
- Plenaries attendance.
- Some hubs may provide additional services (e.g. lunches, social events)

If you are interested in the hub participation, please see below the list of hubs available and the courses they are going to offer:

1. **Hub in Prishtina**, Kosovo. Will offer the following courses:
 - Community-based participatory methods in public health (19 - 21 August 2024)
 - Making sense of the evidence to inform programmes, policies, and practice (19 - 21 August 2024)
 - Identifying and navigating ethical issues in public health (19 - 21 August 2024)
 - A practical introduction to the Meta-Analysis toolkit (22 - 24 August 2024)
 - Applied digital health for health systems strengthening: Foundations in digital health and clinical decision support systems (22 - 24 August 2024)
 - Measuring health spending and results to improve health sector performance and meet strategic objectives and inform policy reforms (22 - 24 August 2024)
2. **HUB in Mogadishu**, Somalia. Will offer the following courses:
 - A practical introduction to the Meta-Analysis toolkit (22 - 24 August 2024)
 - Applied digital health for health systems strengthening: Foundations in digital health and clinical decision support systems (22 - 24 August 2024)
3. **HUB in Chisinau**, Moldova. Will offer the following course:
 - Community-based participatory methods in public health (19-21 August 2024)

ADDITIONAL POSSIBILITY

When selecting the on-site scholarship, you will be asked if you have the possibility to **co-finance** the expenses to come to Lugano. This is because the number of on-site scholarship is limited and on-site requests are usually high. Therefore, having the possibility to co-finance the expenses, for example if you or your organization can pay the travel and/or accommodation, it may increase the chances to come to Lugano.

^{*3} Hybrid hubs are LSS satellites where clusters of LSS participants physically gather to attend synchronous online classes. Hubs provide the opportunity for face-to-face interaction within one hub, both for additional discussions of course contents as well as for networking.

Application Guidelines

Once you choose the course(s) you want to follow, based on the scholarship format for which you will apply, you can start your application. Before opening the application link (https://usi.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4IOQXS2zLuZvHIY) we highly recommend that you prepare the following information. In fact, once the application is started you cannot exit, save it, etc.

1. **BIO SKETCH** - A short description of your work, background, expertise, and any other qualification/skill relevant for your application. (Maximum 1500 character - ~ 250 words).
2. **MOTIVATION** - Please tell us why you want to attend the LSS, and more specifically the selected courses, and why you need a scholarship to do so. (Maximum 1500 character - ~ 250 words).
3. **IMPACT** - Please tell us what you hope to gain out of attending the LSS this year and what is the expected impact of the LSS on your work/studies (maximum 1000 character ~ 160 words).
4. **PAST LSS PARTICIPATION** - If you have attended the LSS in the past, please specify when, which courses you took and how the knowledge and networks provided during the LSS impacted your work (maximum 800 character ~ 120 words).

Thanks for submitting your application before March 3, 2024, at 23:30 CET.