

# Organizer Manual

## Summer School

### Open period

From early January to early November (the secretariat remains open all year, except the last two weeks of December). The months of July and August are reserved for Summer Schools.

### Duration of a session

The Summer Schools take place over 4 weeks (exceptionally 5).

### Dates of arrival/departure

Arrival on Monday evening. Classes begin on Tuesday morning and end on the Friday of the last week, late morning.

For reasons of organization (cleaning, caretaking) and security, **it is not possible to extend the stay on the school before or after the session.**

### Reception capacity: 70 participants maximum!

The school has 70 bedrooms. The amphitheatre has 70 seats; this capacity accepts between 50 and 55 participants (maximum), others are for speakers and organizers.

The capacity must not be exceeded, otherwise the school will be in difficulty in the event of an accident or visit of a safety committee.

### To apply

#### Send the "Session proposal" sheet

Any project of the session is to be submitted to the direction of the school (On the website, homepage, at the bottom right, "Organize a session" and then, "Session Proposal"). The project is then approved or not by the Scientific Council, which meets twice a year (spring and autumn).

#### Book far enough in advance...

In general, a session is decided one or two years in advance (rather two or three for a Summer School).

Note: the search for fundings takes a lot of time and must often be started before the formal acceptance of the session by the Scientific Council of the School.

## Budget

Every session must have a balanced budget. The ideal is obviously to find fundings that can support, for all participants:

- Registration cost
- Travel and accommodation for lecturers and organizers
- Accommodation for accompanying persons
- Possible secretarial expenses for the organizers in their laboratory
- Photocopies (if the number is significant)
- Possible extras: improved meals organization of a particular event, etc.
- Proceedings

### CNRS Formation Permanente

The funding rules for this source are currently undergoing many changes. For detailed information, please consult <http://www.dgdr.cnrs.fr/drh/competences/projet-ecoles-them.htm>

If the fundings are not sufficient, registration fees will be at the expense of the participants.

The duration of summer schools (4 weeks) makes them more difficult to finance. These sessions, which constitute the specificity and the reputation of the Les Houches School of Physics, can benefit from priority access to the school's own funds. Nevertheless, this does not exonerate the organizers from actively searching for financing, especially as it will be examined by the scientific council of the school before any decision regarding financial aid is made.

## Rates

**Regardless of the exact number of days of attendance, the school applies a flat fee** including catering (3 meals a day), accommodation on site and all the services offered by the school (secretarial, library, computer, tea/coffee breaks, welcome drink, ping-pong, piano, table football, bicycles, etc.).

In the exceptional case of very short sessions (speakers for example), or in special cases, a daily rate is applied.

**All fees are subject to VAT 20%.**

It is possible to benefit from improved meals and festive meals (with additional charge).

Please, contact the school administration to get information on our up-to-date rates ([houches-resp-admin@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr](mailto:houches-resp-admin@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr)).

## Financial management

The School can take care of the session's budget management. Grants are then paid to the school, which then manages the costs inherent to the organization, including reimbursement of travel expenses to speakers.

It is also responsible for the collection of registration fees.

The estimated budget will have to be provided two months before the session (on the basis of an EXCEL file sent to the organizers).

## Payment of registration fee at the School

**If they didn't pay on line, participants must pay the registration fee during the first week of the session.**

Payment can be done by credit card, cash, or check. In case of payment by a laboratory's credit card, payments are accepted by "VAD" (Distance Selling), over the phone with the secretariat in the two weeks before the beginning of the session.

**Important:** in case of registration cancelled less than one week prior to arrival date, the total amount should be paid.

## Accompanying person

**The distance from the school to the village and the restricted space in the central building (secretariat, amphitheatre, library) make the site difficult to accommodate accompanying persons (spouses and/or children).**

We do not recommend that participants come accompanied, especially with children.

However, it is common practice to accept that speakers come with their spouse, for a short stay. **Accommodation is free of charge for speakers' accompanying persons but the cost should be included in the budget.**

As well, it is possible that few participants come with their spouse, only for one week. **In this case, they have to ask for it at the same time of their registration.**

In case of accomodation for accompanying person cancelled less than one week prior to arrival date, the total amount should be paid.

The school has 5 double rooms only. The organizers must inform the school secretariat of any accompanying persons (number, age) so that the most appropriate accommodation possible is offered to them.

Contact the secretariat about fees.

## Pets

Unfortunately, we are not able to accommodate animals.

## Administrative team

The daily management of the school is provided by the Administrative Director Anny Glomot, together with the Administrators Isabel Lelièvre and Murielle Gardette. They provide all the practical information necessary for the preparation of the session. It is important to get in touch with them as soon as possible.

The Admin Team is onsite from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm, except Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays.

### Don't panic!

The secretariat will remind you in due time of the different elements to submit...

**Contacts : Secretariat:** 33+(0)4.57.04.10.40  
[houches-secretariat@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr](mailto:houches-secretariat@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr).

**Head of administration:** 33+(0)4.57.04.10.42  
[houches-resp-admin@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr](mailto:houches-resp-admin@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr)

## Work of the organizers

The organizers are responsible for the selection of nominations, in addition to the establishment of the scientific program, the session budget, and the financial reports. The School takes care of the previous correspondence with the participants (invitations, registrations, etc.). It is often useful for the organizers to be assisted by the administrative staff of their laboratory.

At the end of the selection commission, the organizers send the School a list of the selected participants and a waiting list. The list of any scholarships awarded will be transmitted at the same time.

## Schedule of lectures/conferences

It is traditional to leave a good part of the afternoon free for discussions and interactions between participants. It is essential to provide a timetable of courses respecting the restaurant's schedule.

Weekends are usually free of classes.

## Publication

Summer school courses are published annually at Oxford University Press.

Speakers must provide their courses in L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X format (see details on the School's website).

## Communication

It is common practice to give a public lecture for the inhabitants and tourists of the valley. This presentation popularized and in French, is given by a speaker of the organizer's choice.

It takes place in one of the multipurpose room of the Les Houches City Hall; the date must be given at least 6 months in advance to be included in the events' calendar.

## Website

In general, the organizers create a website, which is hosted on their institution's server. Do not forget to include in your pages a link to the Les Houches website ([School of Physics of Les Houches](#)), as well as the logos of the School and the five School's Partners.

**To provide the secretariat with:** the address of your website so that we establish a link from the site of the School.

In addition to the usual information (title, dates of arrival and departure, names of the organizers, scientific committee, guest speakers, and sponsors), we would be grateful if you could include on your website and on any posters and leaflets:

- In the header: the complete banner including the logo of the school and of the five School's Partners (do not use the web version of the logo but download the high definition version on our website)
- At the bottom of the page, the following text:

*Les Houches is a village located in Chamonix valley, in the French Alps.*

*Established in 1951, the Physics School is situated at 1150 m above sea level in natural surroundings, with breathtaking views on the Mont-Blanc mountain range.*

**Les Houches Physics School is UMS 2002 run by Université Grenoble Alpes (UGA).**

*The 5 school partners are UGA, the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), the Commissariat à l'Energie Atomique (CEA), the Institut National Polytechnique (Grenoble-INP), and the Ecole Normale Supérieure de Lyon (ENS Lyon).*

**Ecole de Physique des Houches,  
149 Chemin de la Côte, F-74310 Les Houches, France**

**<https://houches-school-physics.com>**

## Posters

Sessions are announced via paper poster.

The number of the session must appear in Roman Numerals.

The school has a mailing list with more than 100 French laboratories and a number of foreign laboratories.

The organizers are invited to establish furthermore their own file focused on the subject of the session.

## School Equipment

The Cécile DeWitt building (ex Jacassière) is equipped with:

- An amphitheatre that seats 70 equipped with:
  - Video projector
  - Capture system for video recording of lessons

- Poster room equipped with panels allowing the organization of poster sessions

<b>Number</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Size</b>
10	Magnetic Whiteboard	135 x 95
10	Dual Sided Mobile Board (in felt)	114 x 144

- Study room with tables for group work
- Copier/scan/laser printer (B & W)
- A WiFi network (Cécile DeWitt building and in the rooms). The connection with EDUROAM is recommended. However, we distribute individual access codes
- Library with reference books (all organizers are invited to suggest the purchase of some basic books) ; scientific journals available online
- 5 self-service PCs. It is also possible to connect your laptop to the network via RJ45 cables

## *On site, during the session*

### Arrival

**The arrival is on Monday afternoon, from 3:00.**

On the day of arrival, only the evening meal is planned.

For security and liability reasons, it is not possible to open the buildings earlier. Given the location of the school, it is imperative not to arrive on site earlier, because there is no shops nearby (catering and other services at more than 2 km from the site).

Participants should therefore be advised to wait in Geneva or the village of Les Houches. Note, the school is located quite far above the village and the shops: walking, 40 min. going up (probably more with snow or with luggage), and 20 min. going down.

The presence of at least one of the organizers is essential from 3:00 pm. If you are unable to attend, please inform the school secretariat.

Upon arrival, participants will find essential information in the hall of the Cécile DeWitt building: the housing plan with the list of participants, name of the accommodation building and bedroom number, and a map of the school. For obvious security reasons, the buildings entry code, previously sent by email to the organizers, is not posted on site. A name badge is provided for each person.

### Beginning of the session

It is often useful not to start too early on the first day so that the organizers have time to get in touch with the Administrative Team and resolve any small last-minute issues. Basically, shift from half an hour on the first day.

Allow 10 minutes in the amphitheatre the first morning to give practical information to the participants (progress of the session, welcome drink, mountain activities, restaurant hours, lunch box, cold drinks to pay, free tea and coffee, safe in the bedrooms, payment of registration fee, poster sessions, etc.). A PowerPoint file is provided.

### Security services

A caretaker is present on the School's campus as soon as the secretariat is closed. The caretaker is housed in the **ALPENS** building. **You must contact him in the event of a major accident or material incident** (like a power outage or heating failure in a building). His phone number is indicated in the documents provided before the session and on arrival.

## Behaviour

It is up to the organizers to ensure the smooth running of their session. It is up to them to control the small parties possibly given by the participants and to make sure that the premises remain clean and in good condition.

The Cécile DeWitt building remains open at night so that participants can meet and work there. The organizers must have an eco-responsible attitude: **turn off the lights** after the departure of the last participants, closing the windows if the heating is on, etc...

Everyone must respect the place's tranquillity and everyone's sleep (participants, the caretaker and his family, neighbours), especially by avoiding loud night-time discussions around the buildings. The organizers are asked to send this message preventively to the participants.

## Restaurant

**The organizers must ensure that the participants respect the restaurant's schedules, and in particular that the lectures/courses are not overflowing.**

Breakfast	:	7:45 ➔ 8:45
Lunch	:	12:30
Dinner	:	19:30

It is best to finish the sessions/talks at 12:15 to be at the restaurant at 12:30. Of course, it is possible to schedule a little differently if agreed with the manager of the restaurant. In order to ensure a suitable service, the organizers are asked to respect these instructions.

We take into account possible special diets, and food allergies if we have this information before the session.

Meals are provided during weekends and public holidays. However, if the weather conditions are favourable, a general picnic can be distributed on Saturday lunch time or Sunday lunch time.

During poster sessions, it is possible to order a beer or wine tasting, with petits fours on request.

## Accommodation

The accommodation is distributed in eight buildings, in individual rooms, with private bathrooms.

The cleaning service is not provided at weekends, the speakers' turnover is to be avoided during these days (room released and re-occupied on Saturdays or Sundays).



## **End of session**

A satisfaction survey is distributed to participants 24 hours before the end of the school.

On the last Friday, sessions end before lunch, which is the last meal served.

Bedrooms must be vacated no later than 9:00 am and participants must leave the site at 3:00 pm at the latest.

## **Dangers of the mountain**

The mountains, especially Mont Blanc, attract a large number of people. Each year, the valley records a significant number of accidents (mountaineering but also hiking). The organizers must encourage the participants, even the enthusiasts who claim to be "experienced", to take as much information and advice as possible from the valley professionals (guide office, weather forecast) or administrative staff of the school.

Climbing Mont Blanc is not easy (altitude, extreme and brutal weather conditions, crevasses, rock falls): it requires specific equipment and it is absolutely discouraged for unaccompanied beginners and untrained people. Obviously, neither the organizers nor the school are responsible for accidents that may occur.

# Memo

The Administrative Team of the School will send you, in due time:

- File for Estimated Budget of Financing

You will need to send them:

- Estimated Budget of Financing
- Grants Payment Notifications and/or Purchase Orders
- Your website address
- Contact information of speakers
- Program