

On behalf of the High Energy Physics (HEP) group at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Mohali, we would like to submit our bid to host the LHC Higgs Working Group (LHCHWG) meeting in India at our institute in December 2026.

**Proposed dates:**

A) 1-3 December 2026 **OR** B) 8-10 December 2026

These dates are proposed to be consistent with the traditional end-of-year scheduling of LHCHWG meetings. We would also be flexible to host the meeting for up to five days, should the programme require a longer format.

**Proposed venue:**

IISER Mohali, Punjab, India

**About IISER Mohali:**

The Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Mohali is one of the seven IISERs established by the Government of India to promote high-quality education and research in the basic sciences. IISER Mohali is an Institution of National Importance funded by the Ministry of Education, Government of India. The institute is located on a 125-acre green residential campus in Mohali, Punjab. It currently hosts the Departments of Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics, and two smaller departments in Earth and Environmental Sciences, and Humanities and Social Sciences. The institute offers a five-year BS–MS dual degree programme, an Integrated PhD programme and a regular PhD programme.

The High Energy Physics group at IISER Mohali currently consists of two experimental and two theory faculty members along with several postdocs and PhD students. The experimental members are actively involved in the CMS and Belle/Belle-II collaborations, and the group has active research programmes in collider phenomenology and related areas.

**Available infrastructure and technical facilities:**

The institute has a Lecture Hall Complex (LHC) which will serve as the main venue for the meeting. The complex consists of multiple lecture halls and one large auditorium, all equipped with projectors, smart panels/boards and audio systems. The available halls and their seating capacities are as follows:

LH1 (100+)

LH3 (100+)

LH4 (100+)

LH5 (250+)

LH6 (250+)

LH7 (Auditorium) (500+)

These facilities allow us to host plenary sessions in LH6/LH7 and parallel working-group sessions in LH1, LH3, LH4 and LH5 lecture halls. All rooms are equipped with reliable high-speed internet connectivity and audiovisual infrastructure suitable for fully hybrid operation (Zoom-based participation, remote presentations and live Q&A). A dedicated local technical support team will be assigned throughout the meeting to manage streaming, recordings, remote connections and parallel hybrid sessions. These facilities have been successfully used in the past for several national and international conferences and workshops hosted at IISER Mohali.

We expect approximately 150-200 in-person participants, with additional remote participation through the hybrid format.

#### **Local and National Organising Committees:**

For the smooth organisation of the meeting, a Local Organising Committee (LOC) will be constituted, primarily comprising members of the IISER Mohali HEP group, supported by administrative staff and student volunteers. The LOC will be responsible for local organisational aspects including venue management, registration, accommodation coordination, transportation, and technical and hybrid-meeting support.

In addition, we propose to form a National Organising Committee (NOC) involving colleagues working in high-energy physics at leading academic and research institutes across India. The NOC will coordinate closely with the LHCHWG Steering Committee and conveners to assist in the scientific scheduling and overall academic structure of the meeting.

The registration, agenda and document management will be handled through the standard Indico platform in coordination with the LHCHWG Steering Committee.

#### **Funding:**

The institute has a provision to support the organisation of international workshops. In addition, we will approach national funding agencies in India to secure financial support for the meeting. The external funding will be used primarily to provide limited financial support to Indian participants, particularly students and early-career researchers, who would benefit from attending this meeting.

**Travel and visa information:**

Mohali is located approximately 250 km from New Delhi, the national capital. The nearest airport is Chandigarh International Airport (IXC), situated about 10 km from the IISER Mohali campus. Mohali is well connected to major Indian cities by air, rail and road.

International participants will be required to apply for an Indian conference visa. The local organisers will provide official invitation letters and all required supporting documents in a timely manner. As per Government of India regulations, the final list of foreign participants requires formal clearance from the Ministry of External Affairs. This process may take additional time for participants of certain nationalities, and the LOC will initiate the clearance procedure well in advance.

**Accommodation:**

The institute has a limited number of on-campus guest-house rooms that can be used for some participants, subject to availability and on a payment basis. Several three-star to five-star hotels are located within a short distance of the campus in Mohali and Chandigarh. Typical room tariffs range approximately from 60 EUR to 150 EUR per night. A list of recommended hotels, along with transport information and, where possible, negotiated conference rates, will be shared with participants well in advance. We will provide local transportation for participants to commute between their hotels and the venue during the meeting.

**Registration charges:**

To cover workshop materials, tea/coffee breaks, snacks, lunch and local transportation during the meeting days, we propose to charge a modest registration fee.

Indicative registration fee: EUR 150-200 per participant.

**On-campus facilities:**

IISER Mohali is a fully residential campus and provides access to a small health centre, and a gymnasium. A crèche facility for children may be made available to visitors on a paid basis. Dining facilities and campus cafeterias are available within walking distance of the lecture hall complex and guest house. The hybrid format, campus accessibility and availability of childcare support are intended to enhance participation of early-career researchers and participants with family or travel constraints.

**Mohali weather in December:**

December in Mohali is generally cool, dry and pleasant. Daytime temperatures are typically around 22 °C, while nights and early mornings can be cold, with temperatures around 8 °C. Skies are usually clear, rainfall is rare, and occasional dense fog may occur in the early mornings.

**Nearby places of interest:**

The cities of Mohali, Chandigarh and Panchkula (the “Tri-City” region) offer several cultural and leisure attractions. Popular nearby hill destinations such as Kasauli, Chail, Shimla and Morni Hills are easily accessible from Mohali. Important religious and cultural sites, including Mansa Devi Temple and prominent Gurudwaras, are also well connected by road and rail.