

Please explain succinctly (1) how important the travel grant is to your attendance to the conference; (2) justifications for the requested amount; and (3) how you can ensure the quality of the presentation of your paper(s) with or without the travel grant.

1.) Importance of the Travel Grant: Attending MMSP (Multimedia Signal Processing) 2024 is a crucial opportunity for me as a graduate student and first author of our paper, which focuses on “KPCA-CAM: Visual Explainability of Deep Computer Vision Models using Kernel PCA”. Presenting our research at an international conference like MMSP would significantly contribute to my academic growth and future career. However, the costs associated with attending such a conference are prohibitive without external financial support.

2.) Justification for the Requested Amount: The estimated costs to attend MMSP 2024 are as follows:

- Airline tickets: \$433.07 (Round Trip from Toronto to Chicago)
- Connecting Busses: \$100 (Round Trip from Chicago to Lafayette)
- Hotel accommodations: \$324
- Conference registration: \$610

Total Cost: \$1,467.07 (CAD)

These expenses are beyond my financial capacity. My earnings from a research assistantship are limited, and I have already allocated a huge portion of my savings towards academic expenses. This travel grant would alleviate the financial burden and allow me to focus on contributing to the conference.

3.) Ensuring the Quality of Presentation: I am committed to delivering a high-quality presentation, regardless of the travel grant outcome. I plan to collaborate closely with my coauthors to refine the presentation and conduct several practice sessions, including presenting to our research group for feedback. I will also seek guidance from my supervising Professor to ensure the presentation is well-structured and engaging. If I am unable to attend in person, I will ensure that my virtual presentation is equally impactful by utilizing available technologies and preparing thoroughly for a seamless delivery.

Attending MMSP 2024 in person would be an invaluable experience, providing me with the opportunity to engage with leading researchers, expand my academic network, and gain insights into the latest advancements in multimedia signal processing. I hope to receive the travel grant to fully benefit from this opportunity.