



Request for Proposals

International Comparative Analyses on Land Policy

The Lincoln Institute of Land Policy invites proposals for original research papers on land policy and its relevance to social, economic, ecological, and fiscal issues. The research proposals will be reviewed competitively based on the weighted evaluation criteria indicated below. These criteria favor empirical studies that use reliable data and rigorous quantitative and qualitative analytical methods, employing original field work and/or secondary data. Research outputs are expected to result in papers appropriate for publication.

The Lincoln Institute is interested in expanding its understanding of land policy issues and practices within and across regions of the world. In 2019, the Lincoln Institute strongly encourages the submission of research proposals that are **comparative** in nature. Comparative analyses may be intraregional (e.g. Colombia – Argentina), interregional (e.g. Mexico – China), or multiregional (e.g. Brazil – South Africa – India). The comparative analyses of cases in and across regions of the world will describe the subject of comparison (policy, strategy, place, institution, or service), the problem confronting the regions, the policy or instrument, how it has been applied to address the problem, the outcome, and the criteria for comparison.

Please note: Proposals must be submitted online via the web-based [application form](#). Proposals submitted by email or mail will not be accepted.

Research themes and priorities

The 2019 request for research proposals is built upon the Lincoln Institute's mission, core goals, and priority issues within each goal. The Lincoln Institute also gives priority to research projects that enter into direct dialogue with or contemplate the implications of the subject in current public policy debates within and across countries and regions.

Applicants should consider the following points:

- Proposals should demonstrate clearly how the research objectives address one or more of the priority areas within an Institute-wide goal.
- Proposals should demonstrate the relevance of the proposed comparative analysis to policymaking, specifically how the potential results and observations of the research project may be applied by decision makers, public officials, and the private and academic sectors.

The priority areas listed are provided as examples and are not exhaustive. An applicant may submit a proposal that addresses a research priority that is different than the one listed in this call for proposals. If

this is the case, the proposal must explain how that issue will help the Lincoln Institute address one or more of its Institute-wide goals:

Goal 1: Reduced poverty and spatial inequality

Sample set of research priorities:

- Spatial inequalities in urban regeneration initiatives (whether and how regeneration projects affect spatial inequality, and who these projects affect)
- Modalities of affordable and inclusive housing provision
- Housing schemes for migrant workers in cities
- Large-scale urban projects that leverage land value increments and advance socially-minded urban policies

Goal 2: Efficient and equitable tax systems

Sample set of research priorities:

- Land valuation approaches (methodology for estimating land values) across geographies
- Equity and efficiency of valuing property using market-based vs. area-based approaches in countries at different stages of development
- Introduction and phase in of new land-based taxes in a transition situation
- Property tax policy design that maximizes fairness and efficiency while addressing issues of political viability

Goal 3: Fiscally stable, efficient, sustainable, and livable communities and regions

Sample set of research priorities:

- Conditions under which jurisdictions integrate land use and fiscal planning policies, and/or embark on land policy experiments and planning reforms
- Land-based instruments to finance transportation projects, affordable housing, or large-scale urban infrastructure
- Performance of land value capture instruments relative to other sources of own revenue across geographies
- Utilization of local taxes to replace shortfalls in intergovernmental grants and transfers

Goal 4: Sustainably managed land and water resources

Sample set of research priorities:

- Integrated land and water planning, law, policy, management, and governance
- Comparison of indicators and/or indices used to measure water sustainability across transboundary river or groundwater basins
- Urban water efficiency, conservation, sustainability, and resilience at multiple scales
- Innovative geospatial data sets or geospatial methodologies that address density and water sustainability

Goal 5: Low-carbon, climate-resilient communities and regions

Sample set of research priorities:

- Land and water dimensions of climate change
- Land-based instruments to finance climate infrastructure, including green infrastructure
- The role of green infrastructure in water sustainability and urban resilience
- Projects that increase resilience in cities as the impacts of warming become increasingly apparent

Goal 6: Functional land markets and reduced informality

Sample set of research priorities:

- Policy approaches to promote urban residential inclusion
- The potential of preventative and regularization measures to forestall the development of informal settlements.
- Shrinking cities (or legacy cities) and strategies to revitalize them

Submissions

Proposals must be submitted online via the web-based [application form](#) must follow the formatting guidelines that appear in the appendix to this RFP. Proposals submitted by e-mail or mail will not be accepted. Incomplete proposals, proposals received after the due date, or proposals that do not respect the format defined in the submission link will not be accepted.

Language: Proposals submitted must be in English. However, the papers produced pursuant to the RFP awards by awardees may be prepared in English, Spanish, Portuguese or Mandarin. If a researcher anticipates that the final work produced pursuant to the RFP (if they are selected for an award) will be produced in a language other than English, the researcher must indicate that on the proposal form at the time of the RFP proposal submission. This will not impact how the proposal is scored; it will only be used to allow the Lincoln Institute to plan for appropriate translation services relating to the final works selected pursuant to the RFP.

Proposal evaluation

The Lincoln Institute will evaluate the research proposals based on the following criteria:

Relevance of the research for the advancement of knowledge on the selected topic	40%
Quality of the proposed methodology and sources of data	35%
Qualifications of the members of the research team	20%
Use of the Lincoln Institute's databases and research	5%
Total Score	100%

Minimum qualifications

Applicants are required to have an advanced degree in urban planning, economics, public policy, law, or other related disciplines at the time of submission. Submissions will be accepted from research teams; however, the principal investigator must meet the minimum qualifications.

Deliverables – Working papers

Research deliverables are expected to result in working papers. Working papers must adhere to the Lincoln Institute's format and style, appropriate for publication by the Lincoln Institute.

Level of funding

The Lincoln Institute will commission the research project based on the scope of work and the justification of the proposed budget. Recent project funding has ranged from \$12,000 to \$75,000, with most projects not exceeding \$30,000.

Publication and dissemination of works produced

The works produced from the proposals selected via this process will be considered for inclusion on the Lincoln Institute's website and distance learning platform. The researchers selected through the RFP process may be invited to present the completed works in Lincoln Institute webinars, symposiums, conferences, and events.

Work-for-hire

The funds awarded under this Request for Proposals are contracted as work-for-hire and are not permitted to be sub-contracted by recipients to third parties.

Ownership and third-party copyrights

The Lincoln Institute of Land Policy will own all Work Products, in all languages, in all forms, and in all media, including print or electronic, eBooks, CD-ROMs/DVDs, the Web, and social media, together with all rights, title, and interests therein, including copyrights. Individuals and/or institutions who accept a research commission shall transfer and assign to the Lincoln Institute all rights, title, and interests in and to such work products, including without limitation, all rights pertaining to copyright and trademark, together with the right to file and/or own applications for copyright registrations and any copyright registrations issuing thereon. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Lincoln Institute acknowledges and agrees that with respect to any third party copyrighted materials (such as individual images, photographs, tables, and figures, and lengthy text) included in the Work Products, the Lincoln Institute will have rights as specified by the copyright holders. The Lincoln Institute's ownership and copyright conditions do not preclude the publication of commissioned works in other journals or media. Works commissioned by the

Lincoln Institute may be published by a third party (journal, publishing house), but only after securing the permission of the Lincoln Institute.

Important dates

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|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Deadline for submission of proposals | July 8, 2019 |
| • Awards announced by the Lincoln Institute | Mid-August 2019 |
| • First draft of papers due | September 1, 2020 |
| • Final papers due | May 1, 2021 |

About the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

The Lincoln Institute of Land Policy seeks to improve quality of life through the effective use, taxation, and stewardship of land. A nonprofit private operating foundation whose origins date to 1946, the Lincoln Institute researches and recommends creative approaches to land as a solution to economic, social, and environmental challenges. Through education, training, publications, and events, we integrate theory and practice to inform public policy decisions worldwide.

Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

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APPENDIX A: FORMATTING GUIDELINES FOR RFP PROPOSALS

1. **Language:** Proposals submitted must be in English. However, the papers produced pursuant to the RFP awards by awardees may be prepared in English, Spanish, Portuguese or Mandarin. If a researcher anticipates that the final work produced pursuant to the RFP (if they are selected for an award) will be produced in a language other than English, the researcher must indicate that on the proposal form at the time of the RFP proposal submission. This will not impact how the proposal is scored; it will only be used to allow the Lincoln Institute to plan for appropriate translation services relating to the final works selected pursuant to the RFP.
2. **Proposal Abstract:** The proposal abstract is fundamental in the assessment of proposals. We encourage all applicants to submit proposals with well-written, clear, and compelling abstracts that do not exceed 1,500 characters in length. The proposal abstract must convey the core topic and proposed contribution of the research for which funding is sought. It should clearly convey the subject of comparison, purpose, relevance and methods of the proposed research topic. Proposals with poorly written or vague abstracts may not pass the first stage of review.
3. **Contact Information and Curriculum Vitae:** Include title of the research and contact information for the lead researcher and all other research participants (include name, title, organization, email, co-author or research collaborator information). All correspondence from the Lincoln Institute will be made with the lead researcher. Please include your curriculum vitae / resume(s), as well as your record of publications (three pages maximum).
4. **Detailed Budget:** Please outline the costs for research assistance, data, fieldwork, travel, etc. **and attach the budget to the proposal form.** Projects that have other sources of financing or will need cofinancing should state the expected amount, the sources of cofinancing, and any conditions attached to such financing. **Please be advised that no overhead or indirect costs may be charged against funds awarded through this RFP.**
5. **Calendar of Activities:** Attach to the proposal form an estimate of a work plan with a projected schedule of activities to be completed.
6. **Project Description:** The project description should not exceed 15,000 characters in length. It should identify the following:
 - **Research objective and specific research questions:** Clearly state the purpose and objectives of the research, highlighting the main question(s) to be addressed. Proposals without an identifiable and coherent research question will not be considered. Specify the relevance of the research topic to priority themes listed in this RFP. Highlight and document the contribution your proposal is likely to make to the literature and/or policy debates related to the topic.
 - **Theoretical or conceptual framework and main hypotheses to be tested:** Give the conceptual framework that informs the research. List and discuss a maximum of three key works that help situate the proposal clearly and easily within the relevant academic and policy literature. Describe the subject of comparison and how it relates to the theoretical or conceptual framework and hypothesis.

- **Methodology, sources of empirical data, and data collection strategy:** Present clearly the analytical methods to be used and their relationship to the conceptual framework adopted for the research. Specify sources of empirical data, assurance of access to the data, data collection strategy when warranted, and proposed uses of data to generate and support desired results, if any.
- **Expected results:** Identify and explain the expected outcome(s) of the research and its relevance for policy and knowledge production. What results are expected, why would they be relevant, and how would they be disseminated and used?
- **Description of roles and partnerships:** (if research involves collaboration with academic institutions, government organizations, the private sector, etc.). If applicable, specify the role of each participant on the research team, including the responsibilities and tasks assigned to the lead researcher and to each research collaborator.

APPENDIX B: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Proposal Format

- **How detailed should the project description be?** Whatever best conveys the objective of your proposal in clear language.
- **Should the project description include a budget?** No. There is a separate section to upload the budget in the online application program.
- **How flexible is the character count for each section?** Not at all. You must adhere to the specified character count or your proposal will not be accepted.
- **Must all submissions be electronic?** Yes.
- **Do I need to send a hard copy of the proposal?** No.
- **What is the format for the Lincoln Institute Working Paper?** This format will be sent to authors of selected proposals later.
- **Are references included in the count of characters within the project description section?** Yes.

Budget

- **Can the budget be changed during the research?** No, except in the case of reallocation of funds in consultation with the Lincoln Institute.
- **Does the Lincoln Institute cover institutional overhead?** No.
- **What does the award amount cover?** The award covers all direct research expenditures including personnel, research assistance, data, books, research-related travel and software or other items deemed indispensable for the development of the project.
- **Does the Lincoln Institute finance acquisition of equipment?** No.
- **Is there a maximum budget amount?** No. Total funding from the Lincoln Institute will be determined based on the scope of the project and the justification of the proposed budget.

Evaluation Criteria

- **Do I need to be a U.S. citizen to apply?** No.
- **Do you fund only academics? What about practitioners and researchers who do not hold a Ph.D.?** The RFP targets, but is not restricted to, academics and researchers holding a Ph.D.
- **Can the paper be coauthored?** Yes. Contact details for all authors must be mentioned in the proposal and a lead researcher must be designated as the person responsible for the project.
- **How many proposals do you expect to receive?** The average number of responses to other Lincoln Institute RFPs ranges from 100 to 150.
- **Can I get feedback on the substance of my proposal?** No. This is a competitive process, so all participants must have access to the same information. Thus, we will not respond to individual consultations either during the evaluation period or prior to the proposal due date.
- **Can I make changes to a section of my proposal after I send it in?** Only if you do so before the final date for submission of proposals and only if you submit a complete revised version that will replace the original one.
- **Can I present more than one research proposal?** Yes.
- **Are proposals that address more than one priority issue given more weight?** No. We will apply the same evaluation criteria to all proposals addressing either one or more priority issues.

If you have further questions regarding these guidelines, please send an e-mail to Luis Quintanilla Tamez at ltamez@lincolninst.edu