



LINCOLN INSTITUTE
OF LAND POLICY

Request for Proposals (RFP)

Lincoln Institute of Land Policy's China Program Annual International Fellowship 2024-25

The Lincoln Institute of Land Policy's Program on the People's Republic of China cordially invites proposals for academic and policy research papers addressing land, urban, fiscal, and environmental issues relating to urbanization in China. Preference will be given to policy-oriented empirical studies and international comparative studies. The international fellowship is provided to scholars who are based outside of mainland China. Visit the website of the [Peking University-Lincoln Institute Center for Urban Development and Land Policy](#) (Beijing) to learn about a separate fellowship for scholars based in mainland China.

The focus areas of the International Fellowship are indicated below:

- **Impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the future of cities.** This area focuses on the empirical analysis of the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on urban life and behavior changes, and the implications for the future of urban land use, public service provision, and urban governance.
- **Climate change and cities.** This area focuses on the effect of urban land use and urban lifestyle on CO2 emissions, methods to measure CO2 emissions from urban areas, and policies to reduce urban CO2 emissions.
- **Urban development trends and patterns.** This area explores the spatial trends and patterns of urban development across China, studying urban regions and shrinking cities and their impacts on the economy, society, environment, and people's well-being.
- **Urban regeneration.** This area includes empirical and policy analyses of critical issues facing urban regeneration in China, such as benefit sharing, spatial inequalities, impacts on housing for migrant workers, and provision of affordable housing through urban regeneration.
- **Municipal finance and land value capture.** This area focuses on the effects of municipal finance and land value capture instruments on urban economies and the quality of life; the effectiveness of municipal finance and land value capture instruments in local public service delivery, and issues relating to municipal fiscal sustainability.

- **Land policies.** This area focuses on the effects of recent land policy reforms on the efficiency and equity of urban and rural land use, land redevelopment, urban regeneration, municipal finance, and rural-to-urban migration.
- **Housing policies.** This area focuses on housing market performance, the effectiveness of housing policy (especially affordable housing policy), and housing for migrant workers.
- **Urban environment and health.** This area focuses on the quality of urban environments, the effectiveness of urban environmental policy and regulations, and impacts of urban land use on the quality of urban life and public health.
- **Land and water conservation.** This area focuses on the issues of land and water conservation, including the analysis and assessment of land and water conservation practices, policy, and finance.

Minimum Qualifications:

Applicants for the China Program’s International Fellowship will be required to have a PhD degree at the time of submission. Qualified applicants do not need to be affiliated with a university or research institute.

Proposal Requirements:

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

The following sections must be included in proposals:

- **Project abstract** (maximum length of 1,500 characters)
- **Project description** (4–6 pages) that identifies the following:
 - Research objective and specific research questions
 - Theoretical or conceptual framework and main hypothesis to be tested
 - Methodology, sources of empirical data, and data collection strategy
 - Expected results
 - Description of partnerships (if research involves collaboration with academic institutions, government organizations, private sector, etc.)
- **Calendar of activities:** Attach to the proposal form an estimate of a work plan with a projected schedule of activities to be completed.
- **Detailed budget:** Please outline the costs for research assistance, equipment, data, fieldwork, travel, etc. Please be advised that no overhead or indirect costs may be charged against funds awarded through this RFP.
- **CV and publication records** (4 pages maximum for each investigator)

Timeline:

Proposal submissions are due on November 30, 2023, by 11:59 p.m. (EDT). Proposals received after the deadline will not be accepted. Awards will be announced by the Lincoln Institute in mid-February 2024. Contracts with selected proposals will be finalized in mid-March 2024, and the final working papers are due on May 15, 2025.

Award Amount:

Three to four winning proposals are expected to be selected. The award amount =will be around US\$35,000 for each winning proposal. The funds awarded through this RFP are contracted as work-for-hire and cannot be subcontracted by recipients to third parties.

Submitting a proposal in response to this RFP does not oblige the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy to fund the proposal.

Proposal Evaluation:

The Lincoln Institute will evaluate the research proposals using the criteria listed below:

Merits of the research and relevance of the research to the RFP’s theme	40%
Quality of the proposed methodology and design	35%
Feasibility of data	20%
Qualifications of the members of the research team and the writing skill of the proposal	5%
Total:	100%

Exceptional papers will be considered for inclusion in the Lincoln Institute Working Paper series.

Ownership:

The Lincoln Institute of Land Policy will own all work products that result from the fellowship via this RFP. Individuals and/or institutions who accept a grant 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.

If the work products are accepted for publication in an academic journal or volume, Lincoln Institute may grant copyright ownership to the publisher in exchange for royalty-free use of the article by Lincoln Institute.

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.

Questions regarding proposal guidelines should be sent to Gan Jin, associate director of China Program and Asia, at chinaprogram@lincolninst.edu.

APPENDIX A: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

PROPOSAL FORMAT

1. **How detailed should the project description be?** Whatever best conveys the objective, methodologies, and data availability of your proposal in clear language.
2. **How flexible is the character count for each section?** Not at all. You must adhere to the specified character count. The part of your proposal exceeding the length limit will not be accepted by the system.
3. **Must all submissions be electronic?** Yes.
4. **Do I need to send a hard copy of the proposal?** No.
5. **What is the format for the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy Working Paper?** This format will be sent to authors of selected proposals later.

BUDGET

1. **Can the budget be changed during the research?** No, except in the case of reallocation of funds in consultation with the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy.
2. **Does the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy cover institutional overhead or indirect costs?** No.
3. **What does the award amount cover?** All direct research expenditures including personnel, research assistance, data, books, research-related travel, and software or other items deemed indispensable to the project's development.
4. **Is there a maximum budget amount?** We expect the budget to be no more than \$35,000 USD. You are expected to determine the budget based on the scope of the project.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

1. **Is it necessary to be a US citizen to apply?** No. Only scholars based outside of mainland China are eligible to apply.
2. **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.
3. **Can I present more than one research proposal?** Yes.