

## **Request to Participate: The Lincoln Vibrant Communities Teams Program**

### **Overview**

The [Lincoln Institute of Land Policy](#) and [Claremont Lincoln University](#) are seeking their newest cohort of teams for the Lincoln Vibrant Communities Teams Program. Over the next decade, the Lincoln Institute, a globally recognized nonprofit private operating foundation, and Claremont Lincoln University, an accredited private nonprofit university, will partner with municipalities across the US to address common, complex challenges facing counties and cities. The Teams program directly addresses a specific challenging issue in your community or organization. The goal is to build vibrant, engaged communities and staff driven by trust, facilitated by resident agency, and focused on positive change.

Supported by the Lincoln Institute, the Vibrant Communities Teams Program is powered by the distinctive leadership framework of Claremont Lincoln University. Claremont Lincoln will provide trained coaches and a project delivery specialist to work alongside and support you to lead to your success. You will develop an elevator speech, a professional staff report, a plan to present to your leadership, and a professional presentation.

The six-month asynchronous, fully online leadership curriculum includes individual and group coaching, expert webinars and training, and peer networking on emerging practices that help cities and counties grapple with vexing challenges in their communities. Upon successful completion, teams receive a nine-credit graduate Certificate of Completion in Innovations and Trends in Public Administration–Lincoln Vibrant Communities. Faculty includes experts who work in the field and have direct experience addressing issues such as infrastructure planning and finance, water management, affordable housing production and preservation, housing the unhoused, public health, climate preparedness and resilience, and more.

After the program, teams will be invited to join the Network, a national online network of catalysts for local change, leaders who engage others across the public and private sector to transform their communities.

The graduate Certificate of Completion in Innovations and Trends in Public Administration–Lincoln Vibrant Communities will allow teams to apply nine credits

toward a CLU graduate degree (more details under “Application Instructions”). Topics that will be covered in the certificate program include:

- Methods to drive municipal change:
  - Scenario planning
  - Data visualization and AI practice
  - Strategic communication
  - Conflict management and mediation
  - Building cases and models
  - Developing a workforce pipeline
  - Defining policies and systems for intentional and intended change
  - Storytelling to inspire, influence, and advocate
  
- New, urgently needed leadership for the public sector:
  - Situational awareness
  - Ethical leadership in a fractured world
  - Dialogue and collaboration
  - Change and conflict management
  - Resilient and culturally competent professionalism
  - Engagement of diverse perspectives for change

### **Cost**

Through the generosity of the Lincoln Institute and Claremont Lincoln University, this Vibrant Communities Teams Program is almost entirely underwritten. Teams pay only \$1,500 per person plus travel to the kickoff event. Training, lodging, the graduate certificate, expert coaching, inclusion in the national network, and the rest of the program are fully underwritten by the partner institutions. After the Kickoff Conference, this program cost is nonrefundable.

## **Timeline**

The program will launch with a Lincoln Vibrant Communities Teams Kickoff Conference, June 26–27, 2025, in Chicago, Illinois. Classes begin on June 30. This event is mandatory, and applicants agree that they will attend this event in full.

## **Who Should Apply**

- Current, emerging, and aspiring public sector leaders
- Community leaders working with the public sector
- Business and industry leaders working with the public sector

## **Return on Investment**

- Earn nine credits toward a master’s degree designed specifically for public and private sector leaders focused on municipal change.
- Tackle a specific challenge in your community/organization that you identify
- Work with others inside your organization and from the community to collaborate and problem solve
- Immediately apply the advanced policies, practices, and approaches you just learned.
- Create and execute a master plan to address an issue that if resolved would make a significant difference in the community.
- Foster real community engagement and trust for lasting impact.
- Deepen leadership capacity to address complex municipal challenges
- Build your knowledge and practical application of advanced policies, practices, and approaches to address these challenges
- Practice your skills in strategic communication and effective engagement of diverse community perspectives in real time
- Bring others to join your network and intentional community of content experts and colleagues
- Increase impact and agency as an ethical, engaged leader

## **Application Instructions**

The application must be written in English and submitted via the [online form](#). Please upload a copy of your current resume or CV brief. Your response to the open-ended questions should not exceed 500 words. Teams will be notified of their acceptance by May 12, 2025.

Applicants must be living and working in the United States during the program. Current and past employees, board members, or family members of Claremont Lincoln University (CLU) or the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy (LILP) are not eligible for the Teams Program. Current CLU degree-seeking students are not eligible to apply unless they have the endorsement of the Chief Academic Officer and are currently working directly in the public sector. Current CLU degree-seeking students should contact CLU staff by emailing [LincolnVibrantCommunities@claremontlincoln.edu](mailto:LincolnVibrantCommunities@claremontlincoln.edu).

This asynchronous, online 24-week program culminates in a nine-unit for-credit graduate certificate from Claremont Lincoln University, titled “Innovations and Trends in Public Administration - Lincoln Vibrant Communities.” Teams can:

- Regard this certificate as an achievement in itself
- Apply the credits from the certificate to a CLU master’s degree
- Convert the certificate into 12 baccalaureate credits (only when applied to a CLU bachelor of organizational leadership degree)
- Go on to become Claremont Lincoln University-Lincoln Vibrant Communities Fellows.

The transferability of graduate credits to other accredited institutions depends upon the receiving institution. Teams applying without a conferred baccalaureate degree will not be eligible to receive graduate credit but are welcome to participate in the program for a certificate of completion.

The program begins with a kickoff event in Chicago, Illinois, on the morning of June 26, 2025, and ends in the afternoon on June 27, 2025. This in-person event launches the program, which concludes on December 14, 2025. Online instruction is designed for asynchronous learning, which allows students to engage at any time, no matter where they are in the country.

### **Questions About this RFP**

For questions regarding this request for proposals, please contact us at [LincolnVibrantCommunities@claremontlincoln.edu](mailto:LincolnVibrantCommunities@claremontlincoln.edu).