



C. LOWELL HARRISS
DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM
APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Deadline for receipt by email: February 1, 2016 – 6:00 p.m. (EST)

Dissertation fellowship awards will be announced by April 30, 2016

The Lincoln Institute of Land Policy is the leading resource for key issues concerning the use, regulation, and taxation of land. Providing high quality education and research, the Institute strives to improve public dialogue and decisions about land policy. As a private operating foundation, whose origins date to 1946, we seek to inform decision-making through education, research, policy evaluation, demonstration projects, and the dissemination of information, policy analysis, and data through publications, our Web site, and other media. By bringing together scholars, practitioners, public officials, policymakers, journalists and involved citizens, the Lincoln Institute integrates theory and practice and provides a nonpartisan forum for multidisciplinary perspectives on public policy concerning land, both in the U.S. and internationally.

This focus on land derives from the Institute's founding objective—to address the links between land policy and social and economic progress—that was identified and analyzed by political economist and author Henry George.

The annual C. Lowell Harriss Dissertation Fellowship Program invites applications from doctoral students who are writing theses in fields that address the Institute's primary interest areas in valuation and taxation, planning, and related topics (see page 2). This fellowship program provides an important link between the Institute's educational mission and its research objectives by supporting scholars early in their careers.

The Institute also supports special fellowship programs for both masters and doctoral students enrolled at universities in Latin America and in the People's Republic of China. For more information on these other programs, visit our Web site at www.lincolninst.edu/education/fellowships.asp.

The Lincoln Institute of Land Policy is an equal opportunity institution.

Lincoln Institute of Land Policy ♦ 113 Brattle Street ♦ Cambridge, MA 02138 USA
Tel: 617/661-3016 Fax: 617/661-7235 Email: fellowships@lincolninst.edu Web: www.lincolninst.edu

Your C. Lowell Harriss Dissertation Fellowship application should address how your research will build on and contribute to the concerns of the academic department to which you are applying, as summarized below. The last page of this application document offers responses to many frequently asked questions about the dissertation fellowship proposal process.

Department of Valuation and Taxation

The Lincoln Institute's Department of Valuation and Taxation has three major goals: improving public and scholarly debate on the taxation of land value; addressing the economic impact, feasibility, political acceptability, and appropriate use of value-based taxes; and contributing to a better understanding of the valuation process for tax purposes. The local property tax, being the primary value-based tax in the United States, is a major focus of the Institute's work, but a variety of revenue instruments may be analyzed in these terms, particularly with regard to their treatment of land value increments attributable to public investment. These include annual capital-value taxes, taxes based on rental value, taxes on increases in property value, and various land-related charges and fees.

Policy issues related to valuation and taxation include the impact and likely future of tax limitation measures, debate over the use of local taxes as a source of school finance, and the interaction of environmental protection and taxes on open space. In the international sphere, taxes on land and buildings can offer special benefits to transition economies facing new regimes of property rights, privatization, decentralization and restitution. Comparative international experience also provides a rich array of alternative approaches to taxation as a means of defining the public share of real property value.

Department of Planning and Urban Form

Two global driving forces--urbanization and climate change--are on a collision course. Our research shows an overall trend toward more sprawl and excess resource use, making climate change worse and exposing millions of additional urban dwellers to environmental risk through development in inappropriate locations. Better planning decisions can help avoid these negative results, as cities become vehicles for reduced greenhouse gas emissions and more resilient to the unavoidable impacts of climate change. Creating good urban form and conserving land need to be pursued as complementary processes. Practitioners need new tools to plan across boundaries, over long time spans, and under conditions of uncertainty.

Major topical areas of interest to the department include global urbanization and urban regeneration, climate change adaptation and mitigation, land-related water policy in the American West, large landscape conservation, and the development of new planning tools, in particular, those dealing with exploratory scenario planning.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Deadline for receipt by email: February 1, 2016 – 6:00 p.m. (EST)

Please read the instructions carefully all application sections must be submitted in English.

The C. Lowell Harriss Dissertation fellowships of \$10,000 each support development of a thesis proposal and/or completion of thesis research. If your university department requires a formal proposal defense, please indicate if you have successfully completed this step. Applications must include all of the items listed below.

- **Application Cover Sheet** (use Form A)
- **Project Summary** (use Form B)
- **Project Abstract** (use Form C)
- **Table of Contents** (use Form D)
- **Project Description** (submit a summary of your thesis—no longer than five pages)
- **Curriculum Vitae and Narrative Biography** (submit a CV, not to exceed four pages, and a short narrative biography of 100-125 words.)
- **Letter of Support from thesis advisor** (emailed separately)

DEADLINE: February 1, 2016 – 6:00 p.m. (EST)

Complete applications in electronic format

must be received at the Lincoln Institute by February 1, 2016 – 6:00 p.m. (EST)

The Institute will email an acknowledgment within ten days after your application has been received.

DELIVERABLES:

1) Electronic version of the complete application, including Forms A, B, C, D.

The electronic version of the entire application must be written in English and submitted as a single *Microsoft Word* file. Download the guidelines and forms from the Lincoln Institute Web site, http://www.lincolninst.edu/education/fellowship_guidelines.asp or email to fellowships@lincolninst.edu to request an electronic copy of the guidelines and forms.

Format the application with margins for copying on 8.5 x 11-inch (letter-size) paper. Use page breaks for each separate section and form. Send the entire application as one single *Microsoft Word* document (**NO PDFs, JPEG or TIFF FORMATS will be accepted**) attachment via email to fellowships@lincolninst.edu so it arrives by February 1, 2016 – 6:00 p.m. (EST).

It is required put your last name followed by your first name on the email subject line (Subject: Doe, Jane) for both application and letter of support.

2) Letter of support **to be emailed directly by thesis advisor to fellowships@lincolninst.edu** *Letter of support only can be accepted in PDF format or as a Microsoft Word document.* Please ask your advisor to put your last name followed by your first name in the subject line.

**LINCOLN INSTITUTE OF LAND POLICY
Form A**

**C. LOWELL HARRISS
DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION COVER SHEET
Deadline for receipt by email: February 1, 2016 – 6:00 p.m. (EST)**

APPLICANT

Last Name _____
First Name _____ Middle Name _____
Title _____ Department _____
Organization _____
Street Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Country _____
Phone () _____ Fax () _____
Email _____

TITLE OF PROJECT: _____

DEPARTMENT (choose one):

- ☐ Department of Valuation and Taxation
☐ Department of Planning and Urban Form

PROJECT DURATION Start Date _____ End Date _____

How did you learn about the Lincoln Institute's Dissertation Fellowship program?

- ___ *Land Lines* magazine
___ Lincoln Institute Web site
___ Colleague
___ Received information by email

Have you applied for a Dissertation Fellowship in the past? ☐ Yes ☐ No

** Send the entire application as one single Microsoft Word document.*

LINCOLN INSTITUTE OF LAND POLICY
Form B

C. LOWELL HARRISS
DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP PROJECT SUMMARY

The project summary should include a statement of objectives, methods to be employed and the significance of the dissertation project. Briefly address the ways your research will build on and contribute to the concerns of the department under which you are applying.
(DO NOT EXCEED THIS SINGLE PAGE. UNDERLINE UP TO FOUR KEY WORDS.)

TITLE OF PROJECT: _____

APPLICANT NAME: _____

LINCOLN INSTITUTE OF LAND POLICY
Form C

C. LOWELL HARRISS
DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP PROJECT ABSTRACT

This abstract should state clearly the key purpose and goals of the project. If your project is selected for funding, this information will be used in Lincoln Institute catalogs and newsletters and on the Web site to announce your fellowship award.

TITLE OF PROJECT: _____

Lincoln Institute Program Area _____

APPLICANT: _____

Position/Department/Institution: _____

Email: _____ **Phone:** _____

ABSTRACT: DO NOT EXCEED 100 WORDS

LINCOLN INSTITUTE OF LAND POLICY
Form D

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*Format the entire application (including all four forms) within one Microsoft Word document (**PDFs or JPEG formats will not be accepted**), and email as a single file attachment to fellowships@lincolninst.edu. Do not change the order of forms by moving this Form D to the beginning of your application! Also do not change the format of the forms.*

It is required you put only your last name followed by your first name in the subject line of your email.

*Have your thesis advisor email a Letter of Support directly to above email address by February 1, 2016 – 6:00 p.m. (EST), **with your last name followed by your first name in the subject line.** Letter of support only can be accepted in PDF format or as a Microsoft Word document.*

| Section | Page No. |
|--|-----------------|
| A. Application Cover Sheet (Form A) | _____ |
| B. Project Summary (Form B) | _____ |
| C. Project Abstract (Form C) | _____ |
| D. Table of Contents (Form D) | _____ |
| Project Description (not more than 5 pages; optional 2 additional pages for references and bibliography) | _____ |
| Curriculum Vitae and Narrative Biography | _____ |
| Appendix (Letter of Support emailed directly by thesis advisor, see instructions under “Deliverables”) | |

TITLE OF PROJECT: _____

APPLICANT NAME: _____



DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP PROPOSAL FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- Do I need to be a U.S. citizen to apply? *No.*
- Do I need to be registered in a U.S. university to apply? *No, but a different process applies if you are registered at a university located in Latin America or in China (see <http://www.lincolninst.edu/education/fellowships> for more information).*
- Must the dissertation be restricted to cases in the United States? *No. Research may focus on the United States or other industrial or developing countries.*
- Do you fund students working on their Master's thesis? *No, this RFP is restricted to doctoral students at the dissertation-writing stage of their studies.*
- How many proposals do you expect to receive? *The average number of responses for this fellowship program is about 75-100.*
- How many fellowships will you grant? *Between three and six fellowships of \$10,000 each.*
- Should the entire proposal be single- or double-spaced? *Single-spaced.*
- Is there a desired format to follow when composing the five-page project description? *No.*
- How detailed should the five-page project description be? *Whatever best conveys the intent of your proposal.*
- Should the five-page project description include a budget? *No.*
- Can I include more pages for a bibliography and references? *Yes, you may add up to two pages for a bibliography and/or references pertaining to your project description.*
- Must all submissions be electronic? *Yes. Please email your proposal as a single, complete attachment using only Microsoft Word to fellowships@lincolninst.edu with your last name followed by your first name in the subject line. NO PDFs, JPEG or TIFF formats accepted.*
- Must all submissions be in Microsoft Word? *Yes. We will **not** accept other formats, such as PDF files. Only letters of support from advisors may be submitted in PDF format.*
- Must I also mail a hard copy of the proposal? *No*
- What is the format for the letter of support from my advisor? *The letter must be on university letterhead and signed by your advisor, scanned, and emailed by him or her as a PDF, JPEG or TIFF attachment, by February 1, 2016 – 6:00 p.m. (EST), to fellowships@lincolninst.edu, with your last name followed by your first name in the subject line. Do not mail a hard copy.*
- Can I make changes to a section of my proposal after having sent it in? *Only if you do so before the deadline for submission of proposals and only if you send a complete revised version that will replace the original one. Isolated sections will not be considered.*
- Does the proposal deadline refer to the sending date or the date of receipt of the email by the Institute? *Date of receipt by the Institute (February 1, 2016 – 6:00 p.m. (Eastern Standard Time)).*
- Will you acknowledge receipt of my application? *Yes, all applications will be acknowledged when they are processed.*
- When will I know whether my dissertation has been selected for funding or not? *We will notify all applicants by April 30, 2016.*
- Can I get feedback on the substance of my proposal if it is not selected? *No. This is a competitive process, and proposals are examined by a review committee which does not offer comments regarding the content of proposals that are not selected for funding.*

If you have other questions regarding the Guidelines for Dissertation Proposals, please send an email to fellowships@lincolninst.edu.