**Lincoln Institute of Land Policy**

**Program on the People’s Republic of China**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

The Lincoln Institute of Land Policy’s Program on the People’s Republic of China cordially invites proposals for academic 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 focus areas are indicated below:

1. **Municipal Finance**. This area focuses on the effects of municipal finance on urban economy, the role of municipal finance in local service delivery, and the issues relating to municipal fiscal sustainability.
2. **Land Policy**. This area focuses on the effects of the recent land policy reform (especially the amendment to the Land Administration Law) on the efficiency and equity of urban and rural land use, land redevelopment, urban regeneration, and municipal finance.
3. **Housing Policy.** This area focuseson housing market performance, effectiveness of housing policy (especially affordable housing policy), and housing for migrant workers.
4. **Urban Environmental Policy.** This area focuses on the quality of urban environment, effectiveness of urban environmental policy and regulations, and impact of urban environment on the quality of life.
5. **Land Conservation.** This area focuses on the issues of land conservation, including the analysis and assessment of land conservation practices, policy, and finance.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

Applicants for the China Program’s International Fellowship will be required to have a Ph.D. degree at the time of submission.

**PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS:**

1. **Cover Sheet** (includes name, title, organization, contact information, email, co-author or research collaborator information)
2. **Project Abstract** (Project title and abstract not exceeding 1,500 characters in length)
3. **Table of Contents**
4. **Calendar of Activities**
5. **Detailed Budget** (Please outline the costs for research assistance, equipment, data, fieldwork, travel, etc.)
6. **Project Description**
	1. Research objective and specific research questions
	2. Theoretical or conceptual framework and main hypothesis to be tested
	3. Methodology, sources of empirical data, and data collection strategy
	4. Expected results
	5. Description of partnerships (if research involves collaboration with academic institutions, government organizations, private sector, etc.)
7. **CV and Publication Records**

**Proposals will be evaluated on the basis of significance, clarity, theoretical/conceptual framework, methodology, data feasibility, and expected contribution to the field.** **Exceptional papers will be considered for inclusion in the Lincoln Institute Working Paper series.**

**TIMELINE FOR PROPOSALS AND PRESENTATION:**

Deadline for Submission of Full Proposals – October 31, 2019

For Fellowship Recipient:

Deadline for Submission of Draft Final Paper – March 31, 2021

Deadline for Submission of Final Paper – June 30, 2021

**AWARD AMOUNT**

Three to four winners are expected to be selected. The amount of award will be around $35,000 USD for each winner.

**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.

**Proposals must be filed online via the web-based application** [**form**](https://lilp.formstack.com/forms/2020_rfp_china)**. Proposals submitted by email or mail will not be accepted.**

**Questions regarding proposal guidelines should be sent to:**

Kate Austermiller, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

kaustermiller@lincolninst.edu

**APPENDIX A: 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. The budget should be prepared in a separate file. There is a separate section to upload the budget in the on-line application program.
* **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.
* **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 of Land Policy Working Paper?** This format will be sent to authors of selected proposals later.

**Budget**

* **Can the budget be changed during the research?** No, except in case of reallocation of funds in consultation with the Lincoln Institute.
* **Does the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy 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.
* **Is there a maximum budget amount?** We expect the budget to be no more than US$35,000. You are expected to determine the budget based on the scope of the project.

**Evaluation Criteria**

* **Is it necessary 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 co-authored?** 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.
* **Can I present more than one research proposal?** Yes.