



Call for Papers: Small Grants for Research

Latin American Public Opinion Project (LAPOP) Vanderbilt University

Objectives

In order to support scientific research on public opinion, political culture, democratization, and marginalization, the Latin American Public Opinion Project (LAPOP), with the financial support of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), is opening a competition for scholars worldwide at public and private institutions to compete for small research grants. Successful projects will address research questions related to discrimination and marginalization (based on gender, race, class, sexual orientation, or other factors) as well as their impact on public opinion and democracy. Every project eligible for a grant must have as its basis the analysis of at least one of the databases in the LAPOP files. The full list of these databases can be found at www.AmericasBarometer.org.

Eligibility

Eligible applicants are graduate students, faculty, and researchers worldwide whose work is related to democratization in Latin America and who are conducting research projects in recognized academic or research institutions. Applicants must have completed at least a Master's degree or be in a doctoral program or in the thesis stage of a Master's program. LAPOP employees, current students, and members of the country teams are ineligible to apply; if you have questions about eligibility, please contact Amy Erica Smith.

Conditions

The grant consists of a total of USD \$2,000, which may be spent on various activities directly related to the approved project, including software acquisition, bibliographical material, research assistance and salaries/fees of the researcher(s). The grant will be paid when the final report of the research is accepted by LAPOP. The final report must be submitted by September 1, 2011. If that deadline is not met, the funds will not be paid.

Final papers must be submitted in English, though we welcome proposals in Spanish or Portuguese.

LAPOP will provide the relevant public opinion data bases at no cost to the grantee, although all grantees must first receive human subjects certification from Vanderbilt University or from their home institution. Grantees will be instructed how to obtain this certification, for which there is no cost.

Final papers will be posted on the LAPOP website (www.AmericasBarometer.org) and will be eligible for the LAPOP Best Paper Award. The winner(s) of the Best Paper Award will be invited to present their paper(s) and to receive their prize(s) at the conference Marginalization in the Americas: A View from the AmericasBarometer, to be held in Miami, October 26-27, 2011. Authors are also encouraged to publish their studies in journals or in book format.

Evaluation Mechanisms

Proposals will be evaluated by a committee comprising distinguished researchers and scholars from various countries. The selection of small research grant recipients will be based on:

- a) The qualifications of the applicant, as demonstrated by the CV;
- b) The rigor of the scientific approach and methodology proposed; and
- c) The degree to which the proposal demonstrates conceptual innovation and promise for applied contributions to democracy promotion.

Required Documentation

Complete the on-line application form. The required documentation should be submitted either in PDF or Word format via e-mail. Mailed applications will not be accepted. The required application cover sheet can be downloaded on-line at www.AmericasBarometer.org.

The required documentation includes (PDF or Word format):

- A. Cover sheet and title page, signed by the principal investigator and by the advisor, if appropriate.
- B. Abstract, maximum of 200 words.
- C. Research project proposal. The proposal should not be longer than seven pages, double spaced (in 12 point Times New Roman font), including bibliography, tables and figures, and notes.
- D. A detailed budget of the planned expenses.
- E. CV of the researcher(s) (attached to the proposal)
- F. Letter of institutional support from the university official responsible for grants and contracts, stipulating that the institute will not charge a fee or overhead on LAPOP funds, that the grant will be for the exclusive use of the researchers, and that the funds will be used solely for research purposes.

Dates

Proposals due: May 1, 2011, 5 pm CST. Participants will be informed of the results of the grant competition by June 1, 2011.

Final papers due: September 1, 2011. Grant awards will be paid upon completion. Recipient(s) will be awarded Best Paper prize at Marginalization in the Americas Conference in Miami, October 26-27, 2011.

Contact Information

Amy Erica Smith
Research Coordinator
Latin America Public Opinion Project
Vanderbilt University
Phone: (615) 322-3534
Email: amy.e.smith@vanderbilt.edu
www.AmericasBarometer.org

Mailing Address:
LAPOP
Vanderbilt University
PMB 407827
2205 West End
Nashville, TN 37240-7827, USA