

LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES CENTER

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO, BOULDER



GUIDELINES FOR TINKER FOUNDATION FIELD RESEARCH GRANT PROPOSALS

TINKER GRANT PURPOSE:

The Tinker Foundation's Field Research Grants Program provides graduate students with funds for travel to and within Latin America to conduct pre-dissertation research. These awards allow students to acquire a comprehensive knowledge of language and culture, familiarize themselves with information sources relevant to their studies, conduct pilot studies and preliminary investigations, and develop contacts with scholars and institutions in their respective fields.

ELIGIBILITY: *Graduate students in any department are eligible, with priority given to pre-dissertation research (including MA and early doctoral students). The Tinker Field Research Grants are not to be used for advanced dissertation research. Citizens of Latin American countries enrolled at US institutions are eligible to receive awards to conduct research in their home countries provided they have no previous field research experience in that country.*

PROPOSAL COMPONENTS

PLEASE SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING ELECTRONICALLY AT: lasc.colorado.edu/tinker-2016

- Proposals should be a maximum of three single-spaced pages—each section no more than one page single-spaced—and will be pasted in three separate areas in our online submission form.
 - Statement of the problem:** State what the problem is, connecting it directly to an important empirical or theoretical debate. Since evaluators of the proposal represent different disciplines in the social sciences and humanities, stating the problem directly and in clear fashion will increase the chances of funding. Problems that are difficult for people in other disciplines to recognize and understand will have little chance of funding.
 - Research Design or methods:** How will the study be designed to address the problem? We ask that applicants provide a very short and succinct explanation of how the study is constructed to generate either accurate observational data or insights. Successful applicants will demonstrate how data will be collected and how inferences can be drawn from the exercise to inform policy or theory.
 - Implications and importance:** Once the data are collected and analyzed, what impact will the information have on theories associated with the problem or the attempts to solve the problem in practical terms? Successful applications will identify how the research will directly impact their field or attempts to solve the problem.
- Project Budget: Tinker Foundation Funds can only be used for two expense categories: (1) travel to and within Latin America and (2) field-related expenses, such as per diem, insurance, and visas. Fill out the online form in accordance with these guidelines.
- Provide a brief description of the project timeline. Projects cannot last longer than 4 months.
- Include in your online application a PDF of your CV (3 pg. max). Subject heading: “[tinker2015] LAST NAME”
- Advisor email to lasc@colorado.edu that addresses (in one brief paragraph) the following:
 - Is this student at an appropriate stage in their career for this field research?
 - Do you support the application?