



2021 CTBUH Student Research Competition: Tall Building Performance

Award Brief

The Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat (CTBUH) is pleased to announce the “Call for Proposals” for its 2021 CTBUH Student Research Competition—culminating with an award of US\$5,000, to be recognized through CTBUH channels and platforms.

The 2021 CTBUH Student Research Competition assists talented students, working in groups under the guidance of a professor, to focus on a relevant research question, and create an engaging “output” as a response. Research proposals should directly relate to the 2021 topic of “**Sustainable Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat.**” Proposals can come from any topic/discipline, including but not limited to architecture, construction, energy issues, environmental engineering, façade design, financial and cost issues, fire and life safety, humanities, infrastructure, interiors, maintenance and cleaning, materials, MEP engineering, policy-making, resource management, seismic, social aspects, structural engineering, systems development, urban planning, vertical transportation, wind engineering, etc.

It is up to the students to interpret the theme, and outline how their research will address it, including how the funds will be used to support the intended outcome. In fact, the ultimate objective of this award is to give the chance to students of any discipline to immerse themselves—for the first time, in detailed, academic research, under the guidance of a professor—in a topic in which they are particularly interested and invested.

Submission Deadline

Proposals (via the online survey, accessed [here](#)) are due by **Tuesday 22 June 2021** (12:00 p.m. Chicago time). To express your interest in participating prior to this date, to discuss the suitability of your proposal in more detail, or to ask any questions, please contact: research@ctbuh.org.

Please note: The Student Research Competition is open to students under the guidance of a professor, while the [CTBUH International Research Seed Funding](#) initiative is aimed specifically at research professionals. It is therefore not possible to submit a proposal to both programs.

Award

The award for this competition will be provided by the Funding Sponsor in the amount of US\$5,000, paid in one installment. CTBUH will facilitate the transfer of funds to the appropriate university or professor involved with this project to support the students in their research activities. Please note: the budget needs to be used for the actual research in some way.

Key Dates

Competition Formally Launched:	20 April 2021
Submission Deadline:	22 June 2021
Judging Period:	30 June–14 July 2021
Decision Communicated to Winning Team:	23 July 2021
Winner Announcement:	29 July 2021
Research Project Undertaken:	Late 2021- Early 2022



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Proposal Submission Requirements / Submission Template

All applications must be submitted in English. All proposals should include information/details necessary for the jury to understand the research ideas and anticipated outcomes. The award funds are intended to finance the student's research work and may be used to cover all expenses that serve this purpose (including the necessary equipment and material, travel expenses directly related to the research itself, etc.). It may not be used to cover salaries, tuition, or indirect costs of the research, nor can it be used for dissemination (attending conferences, publishing papers/books, etc.). CTBUH will assist with the dissemination of progress and findings to the international community through its normal channels—publications, website, newsletters, etc.

Team Submissions

Applications will be accepted from students, as individuals or groups, or from PhD candidates. In both cases, a professor of the belonging faculty will act as a primary student advisor. The academic professional must represent public or private institutions that can effectively carry out the research (i.e., non-institutional, individual, private submissions will not be accepted). Each student or team can submit only one research proposal. The submitter or team members do not need to be CTBUH members; however, it is expected that the award recipient(s) will become CTBUH members and get involved in the activities of the Council more generally. Team projects may have as many students as are deemed necessary but must designate one academic professional who will serve as the communication liaison with CTBUH.

Selection Committee & Criteria

The evaluation of proposals will be guided by the expert jury, with guidance from the funding sponsor. The jury reflects a group of tall building/urban experts from around the world, as well as academics and university professors. The CTBUH reserves the right to reject all applications and make no awards.

The criteria for selection include the following broad guidelines:

1. Quality of the proposed research topic objectives, appeal of the topic, and methodology (20 points)
2. Experience and aptitude of the advisor and students to deliver on the project and to produce an interesting output (20 Points)
3. Relevance, novelty, and suitability for the result to be published in the form determined by the submitter (20 Points)
4. Justification of project support expenses for which funds will be used (20 points)
5. Awareness of research limitations and timeline (10 points)
6. Clarity of the written proposal, including proper use of grammar (10 points)

Total (100 points)



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Post-Award Procedures

The goal of the work under the auspices of the award is to initiate and conduct research in a formal partnership with CTBUH.

1. Following the successful award announcement, the award recipient must facilitate the execution of a signed funding agreement between the academic professional and the Council within 30 days.
2. The actual research must start within a reasonable timeframe from the award, in conjunction with the winning institution's academic schedule.
3. In all announcements, publications, presentations and other outputs in connection with this project, the award recipient should include appropriate reference to the funding provided by the sponsor with the phrasing "with kind support of the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat and (funding sponsor)."
4. CTBUH expects the home institution of the academic professional (which has, among other things, the necessary experiences of institutional, legal and labor issues) to take on fiduciary responsibility for the administration of the award funds in the name of, and on behalf of, the academic professional, to distribute the funds to the students, as they see fit. For this purpose, an agreement must be concluded between the academic professional and the home institution, and submitted to CTBUH, before the award funds are paid.
5. The award recipients will submit full and complete reports to the Council of the findings of the research, including the manner in which the funds are spent, and the progress made in accomplishing the purposes of the grant (two reports are necessary – interim and final).
6. The award recipients will keep records of receipts covering all expenditures and supply justification of the complete expenditure to CTBUH for accounting purposes.
7. The award recipient will cooperate with the Council staff on all publicity and media related to the award, its progress and outcomes throughout the duration of the funding and afterward.
8. The award recipient will repay any amount not used for the purposes of the grant, if not expended within 12 months of the award announcement.
9. CTBUH considers it essential that research results be published. The form in which this research will be published should be clearly outlined in the submission form.



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About the CTBUH

The Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat (CTBUH) is the world's leading resource for professionals focused on the inception, design, construction, and operation of tall buildings and future cities. Founded in 1969 and headquartered at Chicago's historic Monroe Building, the CTBUH is a not-for-profit organization with an Asia Headquarters office at Tongji University, Shanghai; a Research Office at Luav University, Venice, Italy; and an Academic Office at the Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago. CTBUH facilitates the exchange of the latest knowledge available on tall buildings around the world through publications, research, events, working groups, web resources, and its extensive network of international representatives. The Council's research department is spearheading the investigation of the next generation of tall buildings by aiding original research on sustainability and key development issues. The Council's free database on tall buildings, The Skyscraper Center, is updated daily with detailed information, images, data, and news. The CTBUH also developed the international standards for measuring tall building height and is recognized as the arbiter for bestowing such designations as "The World's Tallest Building."