



Council on
Library and
Information
Resources

CALL FOR PROPOSALS
Program Evaluator(s)



*Digitizing Hidden Special
Collections and Archives: Amplifying Unheard Voices*

CLIR seeks proposals from research and assessment professionals or small teams with experience in conducting program evaluations in the nonprofit or higher education sectors to evaluate the implementation of an evolution of the [*Digitizing Hidden Special Collections and Archives*](#) program in 2021-2022. The new iteration of the program is *Digitizing Hidden Special Collections and Archives: Amplifying Unheard Voices*; through it, CLIR seeks to fund a cohort of academic, independent, and community-based organizations in the United States and Canada to digitize now-unavailable or under-utilized collections with the potential to broaden the range of racial, ethnic, and cultural representation in digital libraries and archives. The selected evaluator or team will

- examine and critique the evolved program's implementation, looking at the program's language and guidelines and their interpretation, applicant support services, and reviewer engagement practices and
- identify recommendations for increasing the clarity and transparency of program operations and the satisfaction of participants in potential future cycles, particularly those participants located outside large institutional libraries or archives who may lack significant experience in grant seeking.

The evaluator or team of evaluators will begin work in spring 2021 and continue through spring 2022. The selected evaluator or team will be awarded a contract from CLIR, with a maximum payable amount of \$63,000.

The program evaluation will employ a number of qualitative research activities including, but not necessarily limited to:

- A review of relevant scholarly and professional literature;
- Review and critical analysis of program documentation;

- Observations at key program meetings;
- Semi-structured interviews with grant applicants and recipients; and
- Semi-structured interviews and at least one focus group with program reviewers.

There will be **two major deliverables** for this project:

1. An internal report to CLIR about the study's findings of the first phase of the program's review process; and
2. A public report summarizing findings and recommendations for future iterations of the program following the completion of the 2021-2022 review cycle.

Required qualifications:

- Strong written and oral communication skills;
- Demonstrated experience in qualitative research project design and methodologies;
- Demonstrated ability to work on research projects with limited day-to-day supervision;
- Demonstrated experience conducting programmatic assessments, including design and analysis of surveys, focus groups, and semi-structured interviews;
- Demonstrated experience with qualitative data analysis;
- Familiarity with collections management work at nonprofit, cultural, and academic institutions

Interested professionals should contact CLIR Staff Joy Banks, Program Officer, and Christa Williford, Senior Director of Research and Assessment, at hiddecollections@clir.org, for further details and instructions on preparing a proposal for consideration. We welcome candidates who can bring diverse professional and life experiences to the project, including those from minority racial, ethnic, or religious backgrounds, immigrants, veterans, those with disabilities, and people with any sexual orientation or gender identity.

The Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) is an independent, nonprofit organization that forges strategies to enhance research, teaching, and learning environments in collaboration with libraries, cultural institutions, and communities of higher learning. To learn more, visit www.clir.org and follow CLIR on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).