

***Economic Development Quarterly* (EDQ)** *Economic Development Quarterly (EDQ)* is seeking research manuscript proposals that will contribute to our understanding of the economic challenges and opportunities facing rural areas. Authors of the selected proposals will be invited to share their complete research findings at a two-day conference hosted by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research, and Citizens Research Council of Michigan in spring 2020 in Grand Rapids, MI. In addition, the presented manuscripts will be eligible for consideration for publication in an EDQ special issue on rural economic development planned for August 2021.

EDQ is the premiere applied academic journal publishing research on domestic U.S. economic and workforce development issues. Its mission is to promote research supporting the formulation of evidence-based economic development and workforce development policy, programs, and practice in the United States.

In addition to providing an opportunity for invited researchers to share their findings, the two-day conference will provide a forum for national, state, and local policy experts, civic leaders, economic development practitioners, and policy makers to share best practices and ongoing policy initiatives.

**Purpose and Process**

The call for paper proposals is the first step in the process for compiling high-quality research for the conference presentations and the EDQ special issue. Authors of selected proposals will also be invited to attend a pre-conference workshop at the Upjohn Institute in Kalamazoo, MI, October 29-30, 2019 to present and discuss their research ideas on this topic. Researchers from the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, the Citizens Research Council of Michigan, and the Upjohn Institute, as well as invited experts, will be on hand to provide input and feedback to help guide authors in preparing their final research for the spring 2020 conference. Following the conference, authors will be given time to finalize and submit their research to EDQ’s peer-review process for inclusion in the special issue.

**Possible Research Topics**

EDQ is seeking research manuscript proposals that will probe the fundamental questions of rural economic development from within **each** of the following four research areas below. Of course, other topics related to each of the four research areas may also be offered. Please go to <https://www.upjohn.org/publications/economic-development-quarterly> to download the full details of the call for paper proposals for each of the research areas below:

1. What is rural?
2. Quality of life
3. Talent
4. Attracting and undertaking capital investment in rural communities

Editors:

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**Sponsors**

The conference is sponsored by **Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago**; the **Citizens Research Council of Michigan**, a private, nonprofit, nonpartisan, independent public affairs organization devoted to providing factual, unbiased, independent information on significant issues concerning state and local government organization and finance; and the **W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research**, a private, nonprofit, nonpartisan, independent research organization devoted to investigating the causes and effects of unemployment ([www.upjohn.org](http://www.upjohn.org)). The Upjohn Institute houses *Economic Development Quarterly*, which is published by Sage Publications, and both are committed to advancing applied research on economic development and workforce development that can inform policy.

**Submission Guidelines**

Interested authors should submit paper proposals not exceeding 3 to 5 pages, double-spaced, describing the proposed research, data, and methodology. The proposed research must also address key issues and suggest policy implications that inform national and state policy.Authors must also submit a current curriculum vitae. **Submitted paper proposals should not have been previously published nor be currently under consideration for publication elsewhere.**

Paper proposals must be emailed to edq@upjohn.org by **May 31, 2019.** Please contact Claudette Robey, EDQ Managing Editor, with any questions at edq@upjohn.org or by phone at 269-385-0469.

Selected authors will be invited to present their completed research papers at a spring 2020 two-day conference in Grand Rapids, MI. While authors are expected to present completed papers at the conference, we understand that the findings may be preliminary and encourage authors to revise their manuscripts as they receive constructive feedback from conference panelists. **The senior author of the paper is expected to present at the conference.** Lodging will be paid for the selected authors, and transportation for the selected authors will be reimbursed.

Authors of selected proposals will also be invited to attend a pre-conference workshop at the Upjohn Institute in Kalamazoo, MI, October 29-30, 2019 to present and discuss preliminary dimensions of their research. Researchers from the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, the Citizens Research Council of Michigan, and the Upjohn Institute, as well as invited experts, will provide input and feedback to help guide authors in preparing their final research for the spring 2020 conference. Lodging will be paid for the selected authors, and transportation for the selected authors will be reimbursed.

Following the conference, authors will then be asked to submit their completed papers to EDQ no later than July 1, 2020. Papers are required to go through the journal’s peer review process for inclusion in the special issue.

**Timeline**

* Paper proposals due by **May 31, 2019**
* Selected authors notified by **June 28, 2019**
* Pre-conference workshop at the Upjohn Institute in Kalamazoo, MI, **October 29-30, 2019**
* Selected authors present papers at conference in Grand Rapids, MI **spring 2020**
* Completed research papers submitted to EDQ no later than **July 1, 2020**
* Target release of EDQ special issue is **August 2021** (but may be published online in advance)