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# Eviction Prevention Learning Lab

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Is there a fee associated with being a part of the Eviction Prevention Learning Lab (EPLL)?

There is no fee associated with the Eviction Prevention Learning Lab. This technical assistance opportunity provided by National League of Cities and Stanford Legal Design Lab is free to cities and their partners.

### Will grant dollars be available as part of this technical assistance program?

No, grant dollars will not be made available through the EPLL at this time.

### Does a city need to be a dues-paying member of the National League of Cities in order to join the Eviction Prevention Learning Lab?

No, cities are not required to be NLC members in order to participate. All communities committed to equitably addressing evictions are encouraged to apply, regardless of size or membership status!

### How can a city apply to the Eviction Prevention Learning Lab?

Cities and their partners should [apply here](#) by submitting one application through the Submittable platform. Simply create an account, complete the questionnaire and answer the short response questions.

As part of the application, cities will be asked to select one-to-two (1-2) eviction prevention goals that it will focus on over the course of the Learning Lab and identify two (2) city staff members to serve as lead participants for the city's involvement. Additional participation from across city departments, agencies, and external partners such as community-based organizations or service providers is highly encouraged, but not required.

Applications are due 11:59 PM EST on Friday, February 26, 2021.

### Who should apply to the EPLL, and is a letter of support from the mayor, city manager or a city councilmember required?

Any city and/or agency staff associated with the eviction process in your city, town and village may apply to the Eviction Prevention Learning Lab. Cities are encouraged to engage team members who are involved in the eviction process and housing stability work from a range of departments and perspectives.

The city staff members applying to the Eviction Prevention Learning Lab do not need a letter from their mayor, city manager or city councilmember to apply to this program.

## What about nonprofits, philanthropies, service providers and other partner organizations? Can non-municipal organizations apply or participate in the EPLL?

Non-municipal organizations involved in the eviction process or eviction prevention are strongly encouraged to participate in the Learning Lab as part of a city's team, but are not eligible to apply. Partner organizations interested in participating should seek to connect with their local government team and encourage them to apply for the EPLL.

## What are the selection criteria for participation?

Applications will be evaluated based on whether they show commitment from the city to actively address evictions and embed racial equity in the city's approach to eviction prevention moving forward. Applications should seek to demonstrate that commitment, along with connectedness to the community and the larger anti-eviction stakeholder group in the city; dedication to actively participating in EPLL programming; and open-mindedness to exploring new ideas or sharing about your city's own eviction landscape and strategies.

## What if more than one application is submitted for the same city?

Applicants from the same city will be asked to merge their teams and participate as a single group. The applications will be evaluated together when determining whether a given city will be accepted into the Eviction Prevention Learning Lab.

## Are there resources available to help with completing the application and/or to ask additional questions?

Yes, there is technical assistance available. You can contact the team at [EPLL@nlc.org](mailto:EPLL@nlc.org) for assistance with completing your application and/or to ask questions related to the Eviction Prevention Learning Lab.

Additionally, National League of Cities and Stanford Legal Design Lab will host a webinar on **Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>** to provide an introduction to eviction prevention strategies and to offer an example of the type of programming that will be available through the EPLL. Time will be held on the agenda to answer questions for cities, towns and villages interested in applying to the Eviction Prevention Learning Lab.

## Will the Eviction Prevention Learning Lab meet in person?

The EPLL will not convene in person. Activities related to the Learning Lab will largely take place over video conference calls.

## What are the responsibilities of the lead participants for a city in the EPLL?

Two lead participants will serve as the primary points of contact for a city's team. These individuals should be city staff members who are equipped to actively participate in, and contribute to, ongoing Learning Lab programming. This includes joining and contributing to the quarterly meetings, participating in some optional sessions or hands-on workshops, and sharing relevant resources. They will also support internal coordination with the city as needed, such as by facilitating connections to other city departments or teams in order to apply learnings from the program.

These individuals are also expected to support evaluation of the EPLL by completing an initial onboarding survey, periodic progress reports and a final feedback survey at the conclusion of the program.

The lead participants are strongly encouraged to invite additional city staff members, external stakeholders and partners to participate in the EPLL's virtual programming on an ongoing basis as part of the city's core team. Lead participants can also engage individuals to participate in one-off sessions relevant to their work. For example, by inviting a colleague who manages communications around eviction programs to join a Learning Lab workshop or meeting focused on outreach and marketing tactics.

### What happens if one of the lead participants leaves their role in the city?

We ask that the departing team lead engage a city colleague to participate in their place and facilitate a transition to that new team member.

### Can more than two people from the same city participate in the EPLL? What about partner organizations?

Absolutely! In addition to the two lead participants, it's suggested that cities develop a core team of individuals regularly participating in the Learning Lab programming. This can include other individuals within city government or agencies, or from external partners such as community-based organizations, service providers, philanthropies, or universities. Individuals can also join for one-off sessions relevant to their work around eviction, rather than participating on an ongoing basis as part of the city's core team.

The Learning Lab can complement work being done through an existing city taskforce focused on eviction or can serve as a spark for developing such an internal workgroup.

### Can a city change its eviction prevention goal?

With the current state of the eviction crisis, NLC and Stanford Legal Design Lab understand that the eviction needs for your city may change month to month, or even day to day. It is important that your city select and commit to pursuing one or two goals from the onset that will have a significant impact, in both the short- and long-term.

With that said, if your city is interested in another goal or aspect of eviction prevention, it will be welcome to participate in programming around the other goal areas as well.

### What successes have NLC and Stanford Legal Design Lab had with technical assistance related to eviction prevention?

To learn more about the successes NLC and Stanford Legal Design Lab have had with eviction prevention, learn about the [2020 Eviction Prevention Cohort](#) and read the corresponding report, [The Eviction Prevention Cohort: Highlights from the Five-City Pilot](#). Additional information is also available through the Stanford Legal Design Lab's [homepage](#) and [Eviction Innovations webpage](#).

**Have a question not answered here?**

Contact the team at [EPLL@nlc.org](mailto:EPLL@nlc.org) with any additional questions.