

The Transit Cooperative Research Program (TCRP) is seeking study topics for the **FY 2020 Legal Studies Program**. Ideas for study topics may be submitted by anyone at any time. However, the closing date for consideration of ideas for study topics in **FY 2020** is **November 30, 2020**. It is easy to develop and submit a legal study topic for consideration. Most are 1-3 pages in length.

The TCRP Legal Research Digest series reports on legal issues associated with transit and intermodal law. Each document is intended to provide transit attorneys with authoritative, well-researched, specific information that is limited in scope. The studies focus on legal issues and problems having national significance to the transit industry. The TCRP Legal Research Digest provides transit-related legal research on a wide variety of legal topics.

How to submit your ideas for legal study topics

[Click here for a suggested format for submitting a legal topic.](#) Legal study topics may be submitted electronically via [this link](#). Suggested legal topics may also be submitted by e-mail to tcrp@nas.edu, with an attachment to the e-mail message in Microsoft Word format.

Legal study topic selection process

Ideas submitted for study topics form the basis for selection of the annual Legal Research Program. Topics are selected by a project panel that meets once a year. The TCRP project panel members perform a preliminary screening and ordering of the topics. At the annual meeting they discuss the highest rated topics and make their final selection. It is expected that 4 new topics will be selected for the FY 2020 TCRP Legal Program. [Click here for a listing of all TCRP legal topics authorized to date.](#)

The factors considered in the selection process for study topics are

(1) broad interest in the topic; (2) timely and critical with respect to the transit community at large; (3) quality and quantity of information already learned on the subject and; (4) ongoing research or other forthcoming potential release of significant information is expected that would render the Legal Research Digest obsolete.

Previously submitted research problem statements

If you have previously submitted a legal study topic that was not selected for funding, but is still a relevant legal study topic, please feel free to resubmit your topic for consideration. There are many good topics that are not selected each year simply due to the level of funding available. Legal topics must be resubmitted each year to receive further consideration.

Information on the TCRP Program

Background Information on the TCRP may be found at:

<http://www.trb.org/TCRP/NewTCRPHomepage.aspx>

List of TCRP legal study topics and publications may be found on the TCRP website:

[Legal Study Topics](#)

[Transit Legal Research Digests](#)

Thank you

Your willingness to participate in the identification of relevant transit legal topics is a key element of a successful, industry-driven TCRP. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me at 202/334-3246 or gsmith@nas.edu.