



Fully Funded Doctoral Position

Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering

Start: Fall 2026 or Spring 2027

ABOUT THE POSITION

Dr. Haoran Li is seeking a highly motivated **fully funded doctoral student** in Civil and Environmental Engineering at **Lamar University**, starting Fall 2026 or Spring 2027. This position is **fully funded** (tuition waiver, monthly stipend, and other benefits).

Dr. Li is an incoming Assistant Professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Lamar University. He is currently a **Postdoctoral Associate at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)**. He has led multiple externally funded projects in partnership with state DOTs, FHWA, and industry partners, developing AI-driven optimization models, life-cycle frameworks, software tools, and online platforms. He received his Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh and his M.S. from University of Ottawa.

RESEARCH FOCUS

Students will work at the intersection of civil engineering, artificial intelligence, infrastructure resilience and sustainability. Research topics include:

- ▶ AI- and data-driven infrastructure performance prediction
- ▶ Life cycle assessment (LCA) and life cycle cost analysis (LCCA) of infrastructure
- ▶ Digital twin systems for intelligent infrastructure monitoring and management
- ▶ Climate-resilient infrastructure design under extreme weather events
- ▶ Physics-informed and ML-based surrogate modeling
- ▶ Sustainable materials and low-carbon construction strategies

BASIC REQUIREMENTS

- ▶ B.S. or M.S. (preferred) in Civil and/or Environmental Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Computer Science, or a related field
- ▶ Strong academic record and genuine motivation for research
- ▶ Good written and verbal English communication skills

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

Applicants with **one or more** of the following backgrounds are preferred:

- ▶ Programming skills in Python, MATLAB, or R
- ▶ Experience with machine learning frameworks (PyTorch, TensorFlow, scikit-learn, etc.)
- ▶ Background in pavement engineering, structural engineering, or geotechnical engineering
- ▶ Familiarity with finite element analysis software (ABAQUS, ANSYS, or similar)
- ▶ Experience in writing and publishing academic papers
- ▶ Currently residing in the United States

HOW TO APPLY

Interested candidates should send an email to Dr. Li at haoranli5477@gmail.com with the following:

- ▶ Subject line: [Doctoral Application] – Your Name
- ▶ Current CV (include English Proficiency test scores for international students)
- ▶ Unofficial transcripts
- ▶ Brief statement of research experience and interest

ABOUT LAMAR UNIVERSITY

Lamar University is a growing public research university located in Beaumont, Texas, and is part of the Texas State University System. The College of Engineering offers strong graduate programs with access to state-of-the-art laboratories and research facilities, including structural, materials, and hydraulics laboratories. Lamar University is committed to student success, research excellence, and community engagement, and is conveniently located near major Texas cities including Houston.

Dr. Haoran Li | Assistant Professor, Civil & Environmental Engineering | Lamar University
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