

## CEPAR Summer Scholarship Application Form 2021/2022

**Project Code:** CEPARSP2021\_04

**Project title**

Provide a short descriptive title of no more than 20 words.

The intergenerational consequences of depression: A cross-country comparison

**Supervisor**

Name: Prof. Philip O'Keefe	Location: CEPAR, UNSW	Email: pokeefe63@gmail.com
Name: Dr Yuanyuan Deng	Location: CEPAR, UNSW	Email: Yuanyuan.deng1@unsw.edu.au

**Project summary**

Depression is ubiquitous. It affects more than 264 million individuals of all ages around the world and is the leading cause of disability worldwide (WHO, 2020). Depression cuts across genders, generations, ethnic groups, and socioeconomic backgrounds. It is might well know that parents' depression has a strong effect on kids, but it is not well documented statistically (empirically), especially from an economics perspective regarding the intergenerational consequences of depression. Using data from the China Health and Retirement Longitudinal Study (CHARLS) and National Survey of America's Families (NSAF), this project 1) investigates the connections between parental/grandparental depression and long-term adult children's life outcomes such as educational attainment, depression, and marital status; 2) compares the results between the U.S. and China. The project will shed light on the interventions and support needed for families with parental/grandparental depression. Moreover, recent studies have shown that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the related government policies have created significant mental health problems for large portions of the general population. Yet, no one knows when the pandemic will end. As a result, this project will become more relevant due to the rapid and unprecedented pandemic.

**Role of the scholarship holder(s) in the project**

- Review the literature on depression and intergenerational transmission
- Investigate the mechanisms and models of intergenerational transmission
- Data collection and empirical analysis/programming
- Draft research report

**Required knowledge, skills and/or training**

- Basic skills in Statistics or Econometrics
- Coding experience in using STATA, R or other statistical software packages

**Preference**

E.g.: Potential applicants with an interest in pursuing an Honours program will be preferred

- Background in Economics, Actuarial Studies, Public Health or Medicine
- Experience in analysing individual- or household-level survey data
- Proficiency in reading Chinese

**Work period**

The work period may be broken into two parts as students will not be expected to work during the UNSW shutdown over Christmas/New Year.

Total work weeks: 6 weeks

The supervisor and the scholarship holder will discuss a mutually acceptable 6-week period over the summer term.