

CEPAR Summer Scholarship Application Form 2022/23

Project Code: CEPARSS2301

Project title

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

Understanding the length of stay and health trajectory of older Australians in permanent residential care

Supervisor

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Project summary

Paying for accommodation costs at permanent residential aged care in Australia is a complex decision that needs to be made no later than 28 days after entry. Australia has a unique accommodation cost payment structure: one needs to choose from a refundable lump sum payment, rental-style daily payments, or a combination of these two.

The decision is likely to be influenced by the resident's expected length of stay, alongside other factors. Yet, existing research on length of stay in nursing homes mostly uses data from the U.S. or European countries, and that based on Australian data is scarce.

The project aims to study the length of stay of older Australians in permanent residential care. We will examine its distribution, and how it varies with demographic and health-related factors. We will also investigate the impact of subsequent health information after entry on the length of stay.

Role of the scholarship holder(s) in the project

- Assist with literature review on (i) the institutional background of aged care in Australia and (ii) methods employed to estimate the length of stay by using dynamic longitudinal health status.
- Assist with cleaning individual-level administrative data.
- Perform exploratory data analysis on the individual-level health data.

Required knowledge, skills and/or training

- Solid searching and written communication skills.
- Adequate knowledge of statistical modelling in actuarial studies.
- Basic knowledge of computer programming languages, e.g., Stata / R / Python / MATLAB.

Preference

- Economics and/or Actuarial Studies majors are preferred.
- Potential applicants with an understanding of the Australian aged care system are preferred.

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