

Faculty of Business and Economics

Summer Research Scholarships

2026/2027 Projects (Property)

Project code:	BUS016
Project title:	Housing affordability and the anticipated housing pathways to homeownership of young people in New Zealand
Discipline:	Property
Supervisor(s)	Edward Yiu
Contact details	edward.yiu@auckland.ac.nz
Skills Needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key skills required in this project are strong interest in housing and public policy research. • Ability to conduct literature reviews and summarise research findings. • Ability to work with survey and statistical data, with basic quantitative and analytical skills.
<p>Project description</p> <p>Are you interested in knowing how do young New Zealanders expect to achieve homeownership in an era of high house prices, rising living costs, and growing financial uncertainty? This project investigates the anticipated housing pathways of young adults and examines how socio-economic circumstances, perceptions of housing affordability, and expected parental support shape their future housing decisions. Building on a successful previous SRS (2025) project that collected more than 400 survey responses from young New Zealanders, this study will further analyse them together with the Stats NZ's (2024) customised dataset on household income and housing expenditure data. The project will explore homeownership aspirations, expected financial assistance from parents, attitudes towards renting and owning, and the factors influencing housing choices. You will gain hands-on experience in survey analysis, housing research, statistical interpretation, and policy evaluation. The findings will contribute to understanding the future of homeownership in New Zealand and provide valuable insights for housing policy, social equity, and intergenerational wealth research.</p>	

Project code:	BUS017
Project title:	Safer Workplaces or Hidden Costs? Evaluating New Zealand's Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 with ACC Claims Data
Discipline:	Property
Supervisor(s)	William K.S. Cheung Ryan H.L. Ip
Contact details	william.cheung@auckland.ac.nz
Skills Needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interest in data analytics, public policy, property, labour markets, or workplace wellbeing. • Basic statistical skills, including descriptive analysis, hypothesis tests and regression concepts. • Experience with Excel, R, Python, Stata, or similar tools, or willingness to learn. • Careful attention to data cleaning, variable definitions, and documentation. • Ability to summarise academic and policy literature clearly.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commitment to confidentiality and responsible handling of research data.
<p>Project description</p> <p>New Zealand introduced the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 to strengthen workplace safety, but its effects may vary across industries, regions, and firm types. This project uses Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC) injury claims and related industry data to examine whether workplace injury patterns changed after the implementation of the Act, and whether sectors with higher compliance burdens experienced different outcomes. The student will help build an evidence base on injury claims, injury severity, costs, occupations, industries, and regions, with attention to high-pressure sectors such as construction, manufacturing, health care, and accommodation and food services. The project combines policy evaluation, data analytics, and practical business relevance. It asks which workplaces bear the greatest injury burden, where injury costs are rising, and how safety policy can be better targeted.</p>	