

Expressions of interest are invited for an important new project examining how housing, wealth and debt shape households' lives over time. Income alone cannot explain inequality – households with similar earnings may follow very different paths depending on their housing, assets, debts, savings and access to family support. Using longitudinal data, the project will investigate how households move between financial security and vulnerability, how these patterns vary across different stages of life, and how today's housing and financial circumstances shape future opportunities and wellbeing.

The PhD scholar will have significant opportunities to achieve research impact, build international networks and develop advanced skills in longitudinal analysis, quantitative research, data science and visualisation. The scholar will work alongside the ESRC-funded Australia–UK collaboration *In Search of the Minskyian Household: Reframing Class Analysis in an Asset Economy*, involving Adelaide University and the University of Bristol. This collaboration will transform the emerging idea of the “Minskyian household” from a theoretical concept into a measurable framework, using leading Australian, UK and international household datasets. Depending on their interests, the scholar may identify distinctive household financial trajectories, examine transitions between housing and financial positions, map patterns of inequality, and create engaging visualisations that communicate complex pathways over time to policymakers and the wider public.

This project and the appointed scholar will benefit from a vibrant interdisciplinary research environment marked by excellence in housing research, longitudinal and quantitative methods, data innovation and policy engagement. Professor Emma Baker, Assoc Prof Amy Clair and Dr Sijin Wang are part of the Australian Centre for Housing Research, where the scholar will join an active community of researchers working across housing, health, data science, and social policy. Professor Roger Burrows and Dr Amber Howard from the University of Bristol will bring additional expertise in asset economies, housing inequality and international comparative research. Together, the supervisory team will provide close methodological support, international mentoring, collaborative publication opportunities and access to leading research, data and policy networks.

Scholarships are 3.5 years, with a four-year fee waiver, and the scholarship rate is indexed every year. For 2027, it will be \$37,800. Open to international and domestic candidates.

Further details

If interested, you can find more information on the University's project page

<https://adelaide.edu.au/research/research-degrees/research-projects/>

Expressions of Interest (EOIs) will open on 31 August 2026 and close on 30 September 2026.

Professor Emma Baker

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