

## Preferred Research Themes for the HASANZ Scholarship Programme

HASANZ is aiming to fund several applied research scholarships in the area of occupational (or workplace) health and safety. We are looking for high quality research that can be taken up, used by groups of companies or sectors, and will lead to improved occupational health and safety in New Zealand. It is expected that during the research that the successful scholarship recipients work with the sector to ensure the research is targeted and can be effectively utilised.

Below is a list of research themes outlining where we are seeking proposals. The list is not exclusive. Research outside the list may be funded if the proposal is deemed an important area of occupational health and safety that is impacting the workplace.

Area	Research Themes
Psychosocial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding fatigue in the workplace – how best to assess, manage and respond across different industries.</li> <li>• Work-related physical and verbal abuse.</li> <li>• Bullying and harassment in the workplace.</li> <li>• Mental wellbeing/health interventions in the workplace.</li> </ul>
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health monitoring (and surveillance) for occupational diseases.</li> <li>• Noise exposure and hearing loss.</li> <li>• Exposures to airborne contaminants particularly at levels below or near the Workplace Exposure Standards (WES).</li> <li>• Vibration risk in New Zealand by sector.</li> <li>• Exposures to carcinogens and mitigation approaches.</li> <li>• Sector-based issues including assessing risks, controls and interventions. For example, diesel particulate exposure in transport industry, flour dust exposure in food manufacture and concrete dust in construction.</li> <li>• Nano particles.</li> <li>• Impact of air pollution.</li> </ul>
Human Factors/Ergonomics and Workplace Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevention through design (safety by design).</li> <li>• Participatory ergonomics interventions.</li> </ul>

Health and Safety System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workplace health and safety for the small and medium businesses, including current and future issues, interventions and preventative initiatives.</li> <li>• Managing occupational health and safety within a complex supply chain.</li> <li>• Integrating health and safety into normal business practices. For example, procurement and supply chains.</li> <li>• The occupational health and safety implications of modern working and employment arrangements. For example, dependent contracting, outsourcing and “Uber-type” business models (sometimes called the “gig economy”).</li> <li>• Culture, leadership and organisational factors that lead to improve health and safety.</li> <li>• The role of front-line management in improving health and safety.</li> <li>• Use of technology to improve occupational health and safety practice, reduce rate of injuries and similar. For example, drones, wearable technologies, automation and modelling.</li> <li>• Reducing road-related injury as it relates to the transport sector and commercial operations.</li> </ul>
Higher-risk Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effective health and safety interventions in higher-risk groups including migrants, Pacific Peoples and Māori.</li> <li>• Precarious employment. Business/contract models and the impact on health and safety.</li> </ul>
Work Representation, Participation and Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effective models of worker representation, participation and engagement to improve health and safety outcomes.</li> </ul>
Rehabilitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevention and injury prevention models.</li> <li>• Effective rehabilitation approaches and interventions</li> </ul>