



3 May 2024

Johann Jayatilleke

By email: [fyi-request-26388-6e477eeb@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-26388-6e477eeb@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Tēnā koe Johann

**Re: Official Information request – Eligibility to HSFY**

I refer to your information request dated 10 April 2024 made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). You have requested confirmation of whether you can receive dispensation for prior university study when being admitted to the University of Otago's HSFY programme.

Please see below our response to your request.

The Act enables people to request official information from organisations such as the University of Otago. However, the Act only applies to information that is already held by the University. There is no obligation for us to create information in order to respond to a request.

The information you are seeking in this case is not already held by the University of Otago but would need to be created in order to respond to your request. We believe that this information would need to be created as it would require our staff to interpret your personal circumstances, and then generate an opinion on whether you would be able to receive a dispensation for prior university study in entering the University's HSFY programme.

I am therefore refusing your request under section 18(g) of the Act, because the University does not hold the information you have requested. I note that our Admissions Office is the best place to lodge your query, and I understand that you may have now received a response to your email dated 30 March 2024 to our Admissions Office. If you require additional assistance or wish to discuss your personal circumstances further with our staff, please contact AskOtago at [university@otago.ac.nz](mailto:university@otago.ac.nz).

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi

Kelsey Kennard

Official Information and Compliance Coordinator  
Office of the Registrar