

16 August 2019

By Email: fyi-request-10780-9a414106@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Ms Roe,

Please find the following answers to your Official Information Act Request of 21 July 2019.

1) Do students who have been declined from MB ChB or Dentistry or Physiotherapy year 2 applications have the right to obtain information about why the University of Otago thinks it is justified in declining their application?

Yes, pursuant to section 22 (Right of access to internal rules affecting decisions) and section 23 (Right of access by person to reasons for decisions affecting that person) of the Official Information Act 1982.

2) If students do have the right to obtain information / lodge appeal that the grounds for their not obtaining a place is illegitimate somehow, then what is the process for appeal?

As per Section 6 in the [Appeals Statute 2011](#), the process to lodge an appeal involves contacting the University of Otago Registrar and Secretary to Council with appropriate paperwork, within 10 working days of the communication to the student of the decision appealed against or sought to be appealed against.

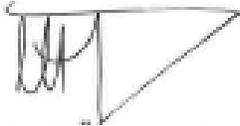
In a case requesting a review of an admission decision, the process would involve seeking leave to appeal.

3) If the University does not follow appeal process in reasonable times (whatever reasonable times are according to 2)) then what is the process for review of appeal?

Although the Appeals Statute 2011 does not state a time for dealing with the appeal the University takes timeliness in handling complaints and appeals seriously and endeavours to attend to them in an appropriate timeframe. It is important to note that different appeals have different levels of complexity and will therefore take different amounts of time.

The appeal process is the final process for review of decisions within the University.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CG', written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive.

Claire Gallop

Manager, Policy and Compliance, Office of the Registrar