

3 April 2020

Nick Hegarty

By email: [fyi-request-12276-12f3ed99@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-12276-12f3ed99@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Nick,

Please find the following answers to your Official Information Act request of 20 February 2020 regarding rugby scholarships awarded by the University of Otago between 2018 and 2020.

*I am requesting information to know how many scholarships for university rugby club were given in 2018, 2019 and 2020.*

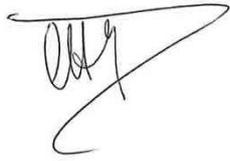
I take your question to be related to Undergraduate Entrance Scholarships. A full range of the available scholarships can be found [here](#). There are two particular scholarships that are relevant to your question.

The [University of Otago Alumni in America Inc. Rugby Performance Entrance Scholarships](#) is the only scholarship that particularly targets rugby players. As specified in the regulations, this scholarship requires that recipients “must play for, and be a financial member of the Otago University Rugby Football Club for the tenure of the scholarship”.

I am unable to confirm the exact numbers of awards of this scholarship between 2018 and 2020 because we are currently unable to access the appropriate system remotely. However, it is likely that both advertised scholarships were awarded each year. If you would like to have confirmation of the exact numbers please contact me and I will request this information post lock-down.

The [University of Otago Performance Entrance Scholarship](#) awards scholarships to individuals across a wide range of sports, cultural, leadership, and academic endeavours; it does not award them to a particular club and nor is there an expectation that any student would represent the University in their high performance sport.

The exact number of Performance Entrance Scholarships the University awards and the weighting of the criteria used to assess award are commercially sensitive and therefore we withhold this information pursuant to section 9(2)(b)(ii) of the Act. Please note, you have the right to make a complaint about this decision to the Ombudsman.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CG', enclosed within a large, stylized, hand-drawn loop that forms a partial signature or flourish.

Claire Gallop  
Manager, Policy and Compliance, Office of the Registrar