



3 March 2023

By email: [fyi-request-21713-10255c3f@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-21713-10255c3f@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Whom It May Concern

I refer to your request for information dated 3 February 2023 made under the Official Information Act 1982. You have requested information in relation to entry to the Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MB ChB) and Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) programmes at the University of Otago from 2018 – 2022 for International Students via the Health Sciences First Year (HSFY) category.

Please see below our response to each of your questions.

**1. Number of international applicants and successful international applicants who got into MB ChB and BDS via the HSFY pathway in 2018 – 2022**

Please see the below table which shows the number of International Student applicants to the 2018 – 2022 MB ChB and BDS programmes, as well as the number of International Students to receive offers to the 2018 – 2022 MB ChB and BDS programmes:

	MB ChB, International Students		BDS, International Students	
	Number of Applications	Number to Receive Offers	Number of Applications	Number to Receive Offers
<b>2018</b>	48	15	46	22
<b>2019</b>	42	16	49	18
<b>2020</b>	59	17	90	38
<b>2021</b>	45	13	44	16
<b>2022</b>	41	17	34	13

**2. UCAT threshold for BDS and MB ChB for 2018 - 2022**

The University Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT) was not used by the University of Otago as an admissions test in 2018 and 2019. The University used the Undergraduate Medicine and Health Science Admission Test (UMAT) during this period. The University started using UCAT in 2020.

MB ChB:

The MB ChB UCAT criteria is set annually by the University's Medical Admissions Committee. Where UCAT was used as a threshold for admission, the thresholds for entry to the 2020 – 2022 MB ChB programmes were as follows:

- 2020:
  - Verbal Reasoning: threshold set at the bottom 20<sup>th</sup> percentile
  - Situational Judgement: threshold set at the bottom 10<sup>th</sup> percentile
  - Scores for Decision Making, Quantitative Reasoning and Abstract Reasoning were not considered
- 2021:
  - Verbal Reasoning: threshold set at the bottom 20<sup>th</sup> percentile
  - Situational Judgement: threshold set at the bottom 10<sup>th</sup> percentile
  - Scores for Decision Making, Quantitative Reasoning and Abstract Reasoning were not considered
- 2022:
  - Verbal Reasoning: threshold set at the bottom 20<sup>th</sup> percentile
  - Situational Judgement: threshold set above the bottom 10<sup>th</sup> percentile
  - Scores for Decision Making, Quantitative Reasoning and Abstract Reasoning were not considered

BDS:

The BDS UCAT criteria is set annually by the University's Dental Admissions Committee. Where UCAT was used as a threshold for admission, the thresholds for entry to the 2020 – 2022 BDS programmes were as follows:

- 2020:
  - Verbal Reasoning: threshold set at the bottom 20<sup>th</sup> percentile
  - Situational Judgement: threshold set at the bottom 10<sup>th</sup> percentile
  - Decision Making: threshold set at the 57<sup>th</sup> percentile
  - Scores for Quantitative Reasoning and Abstract Reasoning were not considered
- 2021:
  - Verbal Reasoning: threshold set at the bottom 25<sup>th</sup> percentile
  - Situational Judgement: threshold set at the bottom 10<sup>th</sup> percentile
  - Decision Making: score of 640 or above met the threshold
  - Scores for Quantitative Reasoning and Abstract Reasoning were not considered
- 2022:
  - Verbal Reasoning: threshold set at the bottom 22<sup>nd</sup> percentile
  - Decision Making: score if 630 or above met the threshold
  - Scores for Situational Judgement, Quantitative Reasoning and Abstract Reasoning were not considered

I trust that this information will be helpful.

Yours sincerely



Kelsey Kennard  
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 Office of the Registrar