



11 July 2023

By email: fyi-request-23115-aa30465a@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Jenny

I refer to your information request dated 13 June 2023 made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). You have requested information in relation to entry to the second year of the Bachelor of Laws (LLB) programme at the University of Otago for international students.

Please see below our responses to each of your questions.

1. Do international students have a different competition pool as domestic students?

International Students are encouraged to apply for second year Law, but places are limited. As noted in the [Regulations for the Degree of Bachelor of Laws \(LLB\)](#), admission to the second year Law course is limited to 200 domestic candidates. However, clause 1(i) of the Regulations states that:

“the Law Admissions Committee shall have discretion to offer additional places in the second year Law course to foreign students for whom acceptable arrangements for the payment of tuition fees shall have been made. Such applicants must have achieved a level of attainment to be determined by the Law Admissions Committee from time to time.”

2. If so, what is the median score of international students who have gotten accepted into second year law in LAWS101 in the last five years?

3. Number of international students applied for and gotten into second year law in the last five years.

Please see the below table which shows the number of applications received from International Students for second year Law, and the number of International Student applicants accepted to second year Law from 2019 – 2023:

Year	Number of applications from International Students for second year Law	Number of International Students accepted to second year Law
2019	6	3
2020	6	1
2021	12	1
2022	2	0
2023	2	0

It is the University's standard practice to not report on data that relates to fewer than five students where we consider that such disclosure could affect an individual's privacy and wellbeing. Where the numbers are low, there is a risk that the identity of these students could be determined/inferred, and their personal information could be revealed. Accordingly, as there were fewer than five International Students to be accepted to second year Law in 2019, 2020 and 2021, we decline providing the median

academic scores of these students to protect their privacy and wellbeing – pursuant to section 9(2)(a) of the Act. We consider that good reasons exist for withholding information, and this is not outweighed by other considerations which would make it desirable, in the public interest, to make the information available.

I trust that this information will be helpful.

If you are not satisfied with our response to your information request, section 28(3) of the Act provides you with the right to ask an Ombudsman to investigate and review this response. However, we would welcome the opportunity to discuss any concerns with you first.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kelsey Kennard', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kelsey Kennard
Official Information and Compliance Coordinator
Office of the Registrar