

23 July 2024

By email: [fyi-request-27409-d22b3388@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-27409-d22b3388@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Tēnā koe Mishika

I refer to your request for information dated 27 June 2024 made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). You requested:

*“...the number of students that got accepted into Dentistry via rural entry in the past 3 years, their entry score and the cut off for dentistry for 2024 based on semester 1 results (via rural entry).”*

I note your clarification email of 1 July 2024, which confirmed that you were interested in receiving:

*“...the average percentage and GPA of students that got accepted into dentistry as well as medicine via rural entry through health science first year for the following year: 2024, 2023, 2022 and if possible for the year 2025 as well.”*

Please see below our response to your request.

## 1. Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MB ChB)

### a. Number of students that got accepted

Please see the below table which shows the number of applicants to receive offers to the 2022 – 2024 MB ChB programme via the Health Sciences First Year (HSFY) and Graduate categories for New Zealand Rural Origins equity group applicants:

	Number of applicants to receive offers to the MB ChB programme	
	HSFY Rural equity group	Graduate Rural equity group
2022	41	16
2023	24	15
2024	28	15

### b. Minimum average academic score to receive an offer

### c. Mean average academic score to receive an offer

Subject to the following comments, please see the below table which shows the minimum and mean academic scores to receive offers to the 2022 – 2024 MB ChB programme via the HSFY Rural and Graduate Rural equity group:

- The HSFY category uses “average academic scores”, which are calculated using a student’s top seven paper scores across the year. This calculation can include one of the approved optional 8<sup>th</sup> papers if it is one of a student’s top seven scores.

- The Graduate category uses “weighted GPA scores”, which is calculated from the grades achieved in the qualifying degree, which is usually the first university degree awarded to the applicant. No preference is given to degree qualification or major subject.
- Further information on the entry requirements for the MB ChB programme, including scoring examples for both the HSFY and Graduate categories, are available on the University’s website at the [Medicine: Guidelines for Admission](#) webpage.

	Minimum academic score to receive an offer to enter the MB ChB programme		Mean academic score to receive an offer to enter the MB ChB programme	
	HSFY Rural equity group (average academic score)	Graduate Rural equity group (weighted GPA score)	HSFY Rural equity group (average academic score)	Graduate Rural equity group (weighted GPA score)
<b>2022</b>	86.00	7.13	91.78	8.02
<b>2023</b>	78.29	4.84	88.98	7.24
<b>2024</b>	79.71	5.78	90.35	7.33

d. *Cut off/requirements for 2025*

As the 2024 academic year is ongoing, the University does not hold minimum or mean academic scores to receive offers to the 2025 MB ChB programme via the HSFY Rural or Graduate Rural equity groups. This information will not be finalised until March 2025 once class numbers are confirmed and all admissions processes are completed. Therefore, we decline this part of your request pursuant to section 18(g) of the Act, as the information requested is not held by the University.

As per the [Regulations for the Degrees of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery \(MB ChB\)](#), applicants must pass all of the papers prescribed for the HSFY course, with an average mark of at least 65% in the applicant’s best seven papers, in order to be eligible for admission under the HSFY category. For the Graduate category, the average grade for all papers in the qualifying programme must be at least a weighted grade point average of 5. [Te Kauae Parāoa](#), the Division of Health Sciences Policy on Admissions, also documents the admissions process for the University’s health sciences professional programmes.

## 2. Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS)

a. *Number of students that got accepted*

Subject to the following comment, please see the below table which shows the number of applicants to receive offers to the 2022 – 2024 BDS programme via the HSFY and Graduate categories for New Zealand Rural Origins equity group applicants:

- For privacy and student wellbeing reasons, the University’s standard practice is not to report on information that relates to fewer than five individuals. Where the numbers are very low, there is a risk that the identity of those individuals can be determined/inferred. We therefore withhold this information pursuant to section 9(2)(a) of the Act, in order to protect the privacy of natural persons. As there were fewer than five applicants to receive offers to

the 2022 – 2024 BDS programmes via the Graduate Rural equity group, we have withheld the actual number of applicants to receive offers, and indicated using “<5” (fewer than five).

	Number of applicants to receive offers to the BDS programme	
	HSFY Rural equity group	Graduate Rural equity group
<b>2022</b>	10	<5
<b>2023</b>	8	<5
<b>2024</b>	9	<5

- b. *Minimum average academic score to receive an offer*
- c. *Mean average academic score to receive an offer*

Subject to the following comments, please see the below table which shows the minimum and mean academic scores to receive offers to the 2022 – 2024 BDS programme via the HSFY Rural and Graduate Rural equity group:

- The HSFY category uses “average academic scores”, which are calculated using a student’s top seven paper scores across the year. This calculation can include one of the approved optional 8<sup>th</sup> papers if it is one of a student’s top seven scores.
- The Graduate category uses “weighted GPA scores”, which is calculated from the grades achieved in the qualifying degree, which is usually the first university degree awarded to the applicant. No preference is given to degree qualification or major subject.
- Further information on the entry requirements for the BDS programme, including scoring examples for both the HSFY and Graduate categories, are available on the University’s website at the [Dentistry: Guidelines for Admission](#) webpage.
- As noted above, the University’s standard practice is not to report on information that relates to fewer than five individuals. As there were fewer than five individuals to receive offers to the 2022 – 2024 BDS programmes via the Graduate Rural equity group, we have determined that it is necessary to withhold the minimum academic scores to receive offers, pursuant to section 9(2)(a) of the Act.

	Minimum academic score to receive an offer to enter the BDS programme		Mean academic score to receive an offer to enter the BDS programme	
	HSFY Rural equity group (average academic score)	Graduate Rural equity group (weighted GPA score)	HSFY Rural equity group (average academic score)	Graduate Rural equity group (weighted GPA score)
<b>2022</b>	81.43	Withheld	90.90	Withheld
<b>2023</b>	78.29	Withheld	89.11	Withheld
<b>2024</b>	81.29	Withheld	90.00	Withheld

d. *Cut off/requirements for 2025*

Similar to our response for the MB ChB programme, as the 2024 academic year is ongoing, the University does not hold minimum or mean academic scores to receive offers to the 2025 BDS programme via the HSFY Rural or Graduate Rural equity groups. This information will not be finalised until March 2025 once class numbers are confirmed and all admissions processes are completed. Therefore, we decline this part of your request pursuant to section 18(g) of the Act, as the information requested is not held by the University.

As per the [Regulations for the Degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery \(BDS\)](#), applicants must pass all of the papers prescribed for the HSFY course, with an average mark of at least 65% in the applicant's best seven papers, and no mark less than 60 in the prescribed papers, in order to be eligible for admission under the HSFY category. For the Graduate category, the average grade for all papers in the qualifying programme must be at least a weighted grade point average of 5. [Te Kauae Parāoa](#), the Division of Health Sciences Policy on Admissions, also documents the admissions process for the University's health sciences professional programmes.

I trust that this information will be helpful.

In the above cases, 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. 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



Kelsey Kennard  
Official Information and Compliance Coordinator  
Office of the Registrar