

11 February 2025

By email: fyi-request-28696-4f96506c@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe TK

I refer to your request for information dated 10 January 2025 made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). You have requested:

I would like to request a breakdown of applicant numbers to Health Science Professional Programs commencing in 2025. The request follows below.

1. Number of applications to Medicine (MBChB); Dentistry (BDS); Physiotherapy (BPhy); Pharmacy (BPharmSc). This should be broken into the following subcategories:

- a) Māori*
- b) Indigenous Pacific*
- c) Socioeconomic Equity*
- d) Refugee*
- e) Rural*
- f) General*

I am aware that individuals may apply under multiple subcategories. In such case, I would request that the applicant be considered under ONLY ONE subcategory – placed in order of the list above. For clarification, consider the following examples:

- i. Suppose an individual applying through Māori, rural and socioeconomic subcategories. They should be reported ONLY as applying via the Māori subcategory (from order above)*
- ii. Suppose an individual applying through the socioeconomic and rural subcategories. They should be reported ONLY as applying via the socioeconomic subcategory (from order above)*

Finally, I am requesting only applicants from the 2024 domestic HSFY pool.

Unfortunately, it is not possible at this time to provide the information requested for entry to the University of Otago's MB ChB, BDS, BPhy and BPharm programmes in 2025. Admissions processes for these programmes are still ongoing and are not expected to be finalised until the end of February 2025. On that basis, we decline your request pursuant to section 18(g) of the Act, as the information requested is not held by the University at this time.

We note that in your request, you requested information for the "BPharmSc" programme – the Bachelor of Pharmaceutical Science. This is a new three-year degree, and while the first year follows a similar structure to the Health Science First Year programme, students do not apply for BPharmSc in the same way that students apply for MB ChB or BDS (as examples). We have therefore interpreted your request to be in relation to the "BPharm" programme – the Bachelor of Pharmacy.

We hope 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 "B. Frewen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Bill Frewen
Manager Policy and Compliance