

11 November 2024

By email: [fyi-request-29111-49972675@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-29111-49972675@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Tēnā koe S

I refer to your information request dated 7 November 2024 made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). You have requested:

*“I would like to request the numbers of applications/applicants for MBChB program via the graduate category for 2025 (current graduate students) with the total number of applications and also broken down into the following subgroups:*

*General Entry graduate  
International graduate  
Maori graduate  
Pasifika graduate  
Rural graduate  
Refugee graduate  
Socioeconomic graduate”*

Unfortunately, it is not possible at this time to provide the number of verified applications for entry to the Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MB ChB) programme in 2025, for any of the admissions categories or equity groups.

While the process for submitting applications for the 2025 MB ChB programme closed on 15 September 2024, the process of verifying applications is continuing. Each category for admission (i.e., Health Sciences First Year, Graduate, Alternative) has its own entry requirements, which may include additional documentation for equity groups. The source of some of this documentation is external to the University of Otago, and may or may not have been included in an application or verified. The relevant requirements for each category and equity group are further detailed in the [Medicine: Guidelines for Admission](#).

In addition, an application can move between categories, including to the general category, depending upon the outcome of the verification process. Until the verification process is complete, the University of Otago cannot confirm how many valid applications exist in any of its admission categories for the MB ChB programme.

We therefore decline your request under section 18(g) of the Act, as the information requested is not held. We would be happy to consider a new request from you when the application verification process is completed if you still wish to receive this information.

Despite this refusal, please see the below table which shows the number of applications to the **2024** MB ChB programme via the Graduate category, broken down by equity group:

<b>Graduate category</b>	<b>Number of applications, 2024 MB ChB programme</b>
General	235
International	9
Māori	16
Pacific	15
Socioeconomic	<5
Refugee	8
Rural	18

I trust that this additional 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



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