

19 February 2025

By email: fyi-request-29825-376bb8e3@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe T

I refer to your request for information dated 21 January 2025 made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). You requested:

“Could I please have the grade distributions for the following papers for 2024:

CHEM301
CHEM302
CHEM303
CHEM305
CHEM306
CHEM390

Also, could I please be let know if there are any monetary prizes for any of the CHEM (200 and 300 level) papers, the prize requirements and the monetary value (or range) of that prize.”

We respond below to part of your request but need to extend the due date for responding to the remainder of your request.

Response for the grade distributions of the CHEM papers:

We are pleased to advise that anonymised statistical academic results data for papers offered by the University will soon be published on our website: <https://www.otago.ac.nz/about/quickstats>. We are doing this so that all students can access this information at any time, without having to submit a request for information under the Act.

The published information will indicate the number of students who achieved a particular grade or percentage mark for Semester 1, Semester 2, Full Year, and Summer School papers for each year from 2019. This mark and grade distribution data will essentially be the same as that which we would provide in response to individual information requests made under the Act.

The University will continue to withhold information where necessary to avoid the identities of students being determined or inferred and their personal information being disclosed, to protect their privacy and wellbeing. Data will **not** be published:

- for any students in a paper, if fewer than ten (<10) students were enrolled in that paper; or
- for fail grade and mark data, if fewer than five (<5) students have failed a paper (i.e., a grade of Fail D, Fail E, Failed Compulsory Assessment or Failed Terms); or
- for students who withdrew from a paper or received an Aegrotat or Compensation Pass (where no final marks are awarded).

The first set of data will be published as it was held as at 31 December 2024. If the mark and grade distribution data for any papers was not confirmed at this date, data for those papers may not be

initially published. Grade and mark distribution data will be updated later based on data as held at 31 March 2025 and again as held at 31 July 2025, to ensure the data becomes complete over time.

Accordingly, the University declines this part of your request under section 18(d) of the Act, as the information you have requested will soon be made publicly available. We will endeavour to contact you to advise when the data will be or has been published.

Extension for 200- and 300-level CHEM paper prizes:

The Act requires that we advise you of our decision on your request no later than 20 working days after the date your request was received. Unfortunately, it will not be possible for us to respond to your request in its entirety within the time limit. We are therefore writing to notify you, pursuant to section 15A of the Act, of an extension of the time to make our decision in respect of this part of your request, to Friday 28 February 2025.

This extension is necessary to allow for consultations necessary to make a decision on your request. We thank you for your patience – we will endeavour to respond sooner if possible.

If you are not satisfied with our response and extension 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
Policy Analyst
Office of the Registrar and Secretary to the Council