

13 April 2026

By email: fyi-request-33716-e8aefa7f@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe

I refer to your information request dated 13 February 2026 made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). You have requested the following information:

I would like to request a breakdown of the number of students from each hall of residence in 2025 that were offered a place in the MBChB and the BDS for 2026. For example, how many students from Selwyn College, Carrington College etc. got offered a place in MBChB and BDS.

I would also like to request the minimum and maximum grade averages to receive both waitlist and non-waitlist offers to either BDS or MBChB for 2026 from FYHS general category.

Subject to the following comments, our response to your request follows.

- Further information is available on the University's website about entry requirements for the Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) and the Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MB ChB) programmes:
[Dentistry: Guidelines for Admission](#)
[Medicine: Guidelines for Admission](#)
- Information on applications or admissions to the 2026 BDS, MB ChB and BPhty programmes, including by categories of admission or admission pathway, will not be finalised until all admissions processes are completed and data has been compiled, which we expect to be completed soon. Accordingly, we decline your request under section 18(g) of the Act, as the information requested is not held.
- It is the University's standard practice not to provide information where it relates to fewer than five individuals and we consider that such disclosure could affect an individual's privacy and wellbeing. Where the numbers are very low, there is a risk that the identity of these students could be determined or inferred, and that their personal information could be disclosed. Accordingly, where there are fewer than five individuals in a particular dataset, we have withheld the data, and indicated using "<5" ("fewer than five") under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of natural persons. We have used N/A where no data applies.
- The data is correct as at 24 March 2026

The number of students from each residential college to commence the 2026 MB ChB and BDS programmes via Health Sciences First Year (HSFY) category, all admissions pathways combined:

Number of students from each Residential College to commence MB ChB and BDS in 2026 via HSFY all admissions pathways		
Residential College	Heads	
	MB ChB	BDS
192 Castle College	8	<5
Aquinas College	<5	<5
Arana College	24	<5
Caroline Freeman College	15	N/A
Carrington College	25	<5
Cumberland College	5	N/A
Hayward College	12	<5
Knox College	14	<5
Salmond College	<5	<5
Selwyn College	16	<5
St Margaret's College	39	<5
Studholme College	9	<5
Te Rangihīroa College	32	7
University College	8	<5

In the cases above, we consider that good reasons exist for withholding information, not outweighed by other considerations which would make it desirable, in the public interest, to make the information available.

We hope this information will be helpful. If you have further questions please consider contacting our AskOtago service: university@otago.ac.nz, or to book an appointment with a Student Development adviser see: [Request an appointment](#).

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



Jo Pearson

Coordinator Official Information and Compliance