

6 May 2026

Edward James

By email: fyi-request-34193-e1120937@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Edward,

I refer to your request for information dated 21 March 2026 made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). You have requested the following information:

I would like to request information regarding Māori applicants who commenced study in 2026 for the following programmes:

- * Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBChB)*
- * Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS)*

Specifically, I request:

- 1. The number of Māori applicants who applied for each programme.*
- 2. The number of Māori applicants who were offered interviews for Bds .*
- 3. The number of Māori applicants who received offers of admission for each programme.*
- 4. The number of Māori applicants who ultimately enrolled (i.e., commenced study) in each programme.*
- 5. If available, the minimum and average GPA (or equivalent academic score) of Māori applicants who were offered admission for each programme.*
- 6. The GPA cut-off for Māori applicants in order to be offered interviews for BDS.*

If possible, I would appreciate the information being provided separately for each programme (MBChB and BDS).

We advised you on 22 April 2026 of an extension to your request by 20 working days (by 21 May 2026). Our response to your request follows.

Information is available on the University's website about entry requirements for admission to the Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) and Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MB ChB) programmes:

- [Dentistry: Guidelines for Admission](#)
- [Medicine: Guidelines for Admission](#)

Anonymised historical summary statistics on admission to the BDS and MB ChB programmes offered by the University are now published on our website:

<https://www.otago.ac.nz/about/quickstats>.

The published documents indicate the number of applications, the number of applicants invited to interview (BDS only), the number of offers, the range of academic scores of applicants to receive an offer, and the number of admissions to each programme for each year from 2022 to 2026. The

data excludes information we would withhold under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy and wellbeing of students.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jo Pearson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jo Pearson
Coordinator Official Information and Compliance