



22 October 2020

Huda Khan

By email: fyi-request-13121-4a5cbef0@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Huda,

We refer to your Official Information Act request of 21 June 2020 regarding information for general entry to the medical (MB ChB) programme at University of Otago for the last six years (2015 - 2020).

We note that we responded to you on 31 July 2020 in relation to some of the information you requested, specifically:

- **Minimum number of seats available each year (for both first year and graduate);**
- **Number of applicants offered interviews each year (for both first year and graduate); and**
- **Interview core-GPA cut off (for both first year and graduate).**

We sincerely apologise for the delay in providing the remainder of the information that you requested. We have been dealing with a large number of information requests and had some staff changes which has caused the delay. We thank you for your patience.

We are now able to respond to the remainder of the information you requested apart from the following matters for which we are still collating the relevant data:

- **Number of general seats filled each year (for both first year and graduate)**
- **Lowest core GPA for successful general applicants (for both first year and graduate)**
- **Lowest raw score for successful general applicants (UMAT for 2015-2019, and UCAT for 2020) (for both first year and graduate)**
- **Highest raw score for unsuccessful general applicants (UMAT for 2015-2019, and UCAT for 2020) (for both first year and graduate)**

We will endeavour to respond to you on these 4 remaining matters by **30 October 2020**.

We set out our response to the other remaining matters below.

Some initial general comments

As noted in our response to you of 31 July 2020, data prior to 2017 is not held centrally in our Student Management System. To obtain the information you seek for 2015 and 2016 would require substantial collation and staff time, and is therefore declined pursuant to section 18(f) of the Official Information Act.

The data we have provided below relates to both domestic and international applicants.

A number of your requests have reference “core GPA”. We have taken this to be the academically-derived score used for selection purposes for admissions. For Graduate Entry this is a weighted Grade Point Average across a candidate’s qualifying degree (with higher-level papers given more weight). For Health Science First Year (HSFY) a mark average across an applicant’s best seven papers in HSFY is used, and prior to 2020 admissions, this was combined with the applicant’s UMAT score and selection was based upon this combined score. In the relevant data below, the academically-derived ranking score is what is reported as “core GPA”.

1. Number of general applicants each year (for both first year and graduate)

Year	Graduate	HSFY
2020	264	323
2019	292	370
2018	271	316
2017	230	429

2. Lower quartile core GPA for successful general applicants (for both first year and graduate)

Year	Graduate GPA <i>(out of a total of 9, and to 1 decimal place)</i>	HSFY Score <i>(out of a total of 100, and to 1 decimal place)</i>
2020	8.30	93.57*
2019	8.29	82.16**
2018	8.00	81.28**
2017	7.35	81.41**

* Academic Score

** Combined academic score (66.6%) and UMAT score (33.3%) as used for selection 2017-19

3. Median core GPA for successful general applicants (for both first year and graduate)

Year	Graduate GPA <i>(out of a total of 9, and to 1 decimal place)</i>	HSFY Score <i>(out of a total of 100, and to 1 decimal place)</i>
2020	8.47	94.93*
2019	8.42	83.18**
2018	8.23	83.25**
2017	7.72	82.96**

* Academic Score

** Combined academic score (66.6%) and UMAT score (33.3%) as used for selection 2017-19

4. Upper quartile core GPA for successful general applicants (for both first year and graduate)

Year	Graduate GPA <i>(out of a total of 9, and to 1 decimal place)</i>	HSFY Score <i>(out of a total of 100, and to 1 decimal place)</i>
2020	8.72	96.14*
2019	8.68	84.58**
2018	8.40	84.47**
2017	8.17	84.40**

* Academic Score

** Combined academic score (66.6%) and UMAT score (33.3%) as used for selection 2017-19

5. Highest core GPA for unsuccessful general applicants (for both first year and graduate)

Year	Graduate GPA <i>(out of a total of 9, and to 1 decimal place)</i>	HSFY Score <i>(out of a total of 100, and to 1 decimal place)</i>
2020	8.63	92.71*
2019	8.55	81.94**
2018	8.53	81.20**
2017	7.95	80.98**

* Academic Score

** Combined academic score (66.6%) and UMAT score (33.3%) as used for selection 2017-19.

I trust these data are helpful. We will provide the remaining information as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely



Mayhaka Mendis
Manager, Policy and Compliance
Office of the Registrar

