



2 August 2022

By email: [fyi-request-19830-b53230cb@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-19830-b53230cb@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Ella

I refer to your information request dated 5 July 2022 made under the Official Information Act 1982. You have requested information regarding library fines at the University of Otago between 2019 – 2021.

We set out our responses to each of your questions below.

**The total value of all library fines for late, overdue and damaged books for between the years of 2019 – 2021 (inclusive), including a breakdown of the value of fines per year**

Please see the below table which shows the total value of library fines for late, overdue and damaged books from 2019 – 2021:

Year	Total value of library fines
2019	\$66,164.63
2020	\$52,794.19
2021	\$49,941.42
Total	\$168,900.24

**The value of fines for overdue books in 2021**

The total value of fines for overdue books in 2021 was \$23,388.75.

The total value of fines paid for overdue books in 2021 was \$5,160.50.

**The number of library fine waivers granted by the library for the years of 2020 and 2021**

The total value of all library fine waivers in 2020 was \$41,495.86.

The total value of all library fine waivers in 2021 was \$39,985.12.

Please note that these figures are the total of all fine waivers for overdue and recalled material, and include lost books being returned – when there is an automatic waive of the lost replacement fees.

**Whether there is any policy of fine forgiveness in place upon the return of lost or overdue books**

Since 2015, there have been no daily fines for overdue regular loan items. Fines are charged at a daily rate for recalled items and high demand items. The University of Otago library fine rates are available at the following link: <https://www.otago.ac.nz/library/fines/>.

Upon the return of lost material, there is an automatic waive of fines. We also note that during COVID-19 lockdown periods in 2020 and 2021, there were no library fines charged.

I trust that this information will be helpful.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kelsey Kennard', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kelsey Kennard  
Official Information and Compliance Coordinator  
Office of the Registrar