



26 August 2022

Torven Schalk

By email: fyi-request-20106-eaea8b88@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Torven

Official information request regarding tutor and teaching assistant pay rates

I refer to your request for information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) dated 2 August 2022:

*“What are the hourly pay rates for post grad students employed as
a) tutors, and
b) teaching assistants,
at each of the schools of the university.”*

Remuneration rates for tutors and teaching assistants at Te Herenga Waka—Victoria University of Wellington (the University) are determined on an individual basis.

Minimum rates for tutors and teaching assistants (and other teaching and research support staff) are set out in the Tutors (and other Teaching and Research Support Staff) Collective Agreement (CA) and the General Terms And Conditions For Tutors (GTC). These rates, along with relevant qualifications, experience, and additional duties, are considered when determining an individual’s hourly rate. Rates may also differ depending on expertise or other requirements necessary to tutor a particular course. For these reasons, there is no defined rate for graduate tutors or teaching assistants in a particular school.

Whilst the University holds records of undergraduates and graduates, and records of people employed as tutors or teaching assistants, these records are not able to be cross-referenced. The University would need to manually assess the records of each tutor or teaching assistant in each school in order to determine those who are or were employed as a graduate, and to identify the specific rate they were employed on. This work would need to be repeated for each trimester of each year of the ten year period your request covers.

The work to collate and analyse this information would require a substantial amount of collation or research that would have a significant and unreasonable impact on the University’s ability to carry out its other operations. Therefore your request is refused in accordance with s18(f) of the Act.

We are able to provide the following documents that may assist you in your understanding of the remuneration of tutors and teaching assistants:

- Tutors (and other Teaching and Research Support Staff) Collective Agreement*
- General Terms And Conditions For Tutors
- Appointment of Tutors and other Teaching and Research Support Staff – Procedures

* Please note the term for the attached Collective Agreement ended in January 2022. An updated Collective Agreement is currently being negotiated.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of the decisions made regarding this request. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, including ways the request may be refined to a form that would remove the reason for the refusal, please feel free to contact me at oiarequests@vuw.ac.nz.

Ngā mihi nui

Blair Doherty
Senior Advisor, Official Information and Privacy
Legal Services
Te Herenga Waka—Victoria University of Wellington