



13 October 2022

Matthew O'Connor

By email: fyi-request-20562-7d79c6f7@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Matthew

I refer to your information request dated 15 September 2022 made under the Official Information Act 1982. You have requested information in relation to the University's Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery programme (MB ChB).

Please see below our responses to each of your questions.

1. How many placement positions have been available to students in the MB ChB programme at your tertiary education institution annually over the past five years?

Halfway through Year 3 of the programme, the MB ChB class is divided into approximate thirds for Years 4 – 6. Students are split between the Dunedin School of Medicine, University of Otago, Christchurch and University of Otago, Wellington.

During these years, students learn through clinical exposure to patients across a wide range of sites and medical disciplines. Groups of students rotate through specific context-based block modules in hospital, community, in-patient and out-patient settings, both urban and rural. Students can also apply to spend their fifth year in the Rural Medical Immersion Programme, which entails being part of a small group based in one of six rural centres. The final year (Year 6) is named the Trainee Intern year, and introduces students in a gradual manner to full responsibility for patient care, while still under continued academic supervision. While primarily located in one of the three base campuses mentioned above, students will also spend time away in a smaller hospital in the region e.g., Invercargill, Nelson, Palmerston North.

Placements are arranged for all students. Therefore, the number of placements available to students is the same as the number of students enrolled in the MB ChB programme:

	Number of students enrolled in the MB ChB programme					
Year Level	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
400	282	298	287	282	297	280
500	295	274	310	288	287	293
600	263	284	266	305	294	291

2. How many students have attained a MB ChB degree from your tertiary education institution annually over the past five years?

Please see the below table which shows the number of students who completed the MB ChB degree over the last five years. Please note that this data includes all students who were eligible to graduate, and may include students who deferred graduation.

2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
262	284	211	347	293

3. What is the number of students who have undertaken a placement as part of a MB ChB degree through your tertiary education institution, annually, over the past five years?

As noted above, clinical placements are undertaken as part of Years 4 – 6 of the MB ChB programme. All students enrolled are required to undertake placements. Therefore, the number of students who have undertaken placements equals the number of students enrolled in the MB ChB programme across these years:

Year Level	Number of students enrolled in the MB ChB programme					
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
400	282	298	287	282	297	280
500	295	274	310	288	287	293
600	263	284	266	305	294	291

I trust that this information will be helpful.

Yours sincerely



Kelsey Kennard
Official Information and Compliance Coordinator
Office of the Registrar