21 December 2022

Hubert Hiffenberg
By email: fyi-request-20657-8b30d186@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Hubert

I refer to your information request dated 23 November 2022 made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). You have requested information in relation to the high school decile of students who entered the 2022 Bachelor of Dentistry (BDS), Bachelor of Physiotherapy (BPhty), Bachelor of Pharmacy (BPharm) and Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Science (BMLSc) programmes at the University of Otago. This is a continuation of your Official Information Act request dated 29 September 2022, where you requested this information for the 2022 Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MB ChB) programme.

Please see below our responses to each of your questions.

1. **Of those entering the BDS, BPhty, BPharm and BMLSc programmes in 2022 (via any pathway), of which you have the data on which high school they attended, can you please provide a summary by decile of the number of entrants.**

Subject to the following comments, please see the below tables which show the number of students who entered the 2022 BDS, BPhty, BPharm and BMLSc programmes, broken down by secondary school decile.

- where there are low numbers of students entering the 2022 programmes from specific secondary school deciles, we have determined that it is necessary to withhold the actual number of students to protect their privacy and wellbeing. This is consistent with section 9(2)(a) of the Act. We consider that withholding this information is necessary to protect against the identity of these students being determined or inferred. Therefore, where there are fewer than five students entering the programmes from specific secondary school deciles, we have either grouped these students together, or indicated using "<5" ("fewer than five").

- the data is inclusive of all admissions categories for each programme. Further information on admissions categories can be found at the Guidelines for Admission for each programme:
  - BDS
  - BPhty
  - BPharm
  - BMLSc

- a school decile of "not applicable" may include home schooling, correspondence schools, schools which are no longer open, or domestic and international students attending overseas schools.

School Decile	Students Entering 2022 BDS Programme
1	0
2 - 4	7
5	0
6	5
7	13
8	10
9	14
10	11
Not applicable	*6*
Total	**66**

School Decile	Students Entering 2022 BPhty Programme
1	0
2 - 4	9
5	8
6	17
7	19
8	24
9	19
10	26
Not applicable	*10*
Total	**132**

School Decile	Students Entering 2022 BPharm Programme
1	0
2	0
3 - 5	9
6	11
7	8
8	12
9	15
10	21
Not applicable	*9*
Total	**85**

School Decile	Students Entering 2022 BMLSc Programme
1	0
2	0
3	<5
4	6
5	<5
6	8
7	7
8	8
9	8
10	<5
Not applicable	*<5*
Total	**45**

2. **Are you also able to provide data on which former high schools had the most entrants into the programmes in 2022?**

We have determined that is necessary to withhold the details of the schools where fewer than five former students entered the 2022 BDS, BPhty, BPharm and BMLSc programmes. Of all secondary schools that were attended by entrants to these programmes, none of these schools provided five or more students to each of the programmes. On that basis, this part of your request is refused pursuant to section 9(2)(a) of the Act. We consider that withholding this information is necessary to protect against the identity of these students being determined or inferred.

I trust that this information will be helpful. In the above cases, we consider that good reasons exist for withholding information, and this is not outweighed by other considerations which would make it desirable, in the public interest, to make the information available.

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.

Yours sincerely

Kelsey Kennard
Official Information and Compliance Coordinator
Office of the Registrar