

## UoO - Official Information Act

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**From:** Gillian Dudgeon <Gillian.Dudgeon@tec.govt.nz>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 15 June 2023 10:31 am  
**To:** Vice-Chancellor  
**Cc:** Jennifer Pearce  
**Subject:** Increase in medical places

Kia ora Helen,

Following the announcement by the Minister of Health on the Government's decision to increase the number of medical places for first year medical students from 539 to 589 EFTS for 2024, TEC is now in a position to discuss the focus and next steps for the allocation of these places between Otago and Auckland . This is great news for learners, our health workforce and your organisation.

As you will be aware, the Government is focused on increasing the number of Māori and Pacific students studying medicine. This aligns to the objectives of the Pae Ora (Healthy Futures) Act 2022 to grow a medical workforce which ensures increasing representation of Māori and Pacific peoples. As you also know, TEC has strong expectations around your organisation supporting underserved learners, particularly Māori and Pacific students to ensure their retention and completion rates are the same, if not better than, other learners.

The Government is also focused on better supporting rural communities by supporting medical students who come from and/or aspire to work in rural settings. We are aware of recent discussions around a rural health proposal and evidence internationally that rural programmes that have the greatest success focus on enrolling rural students as well training them in rural communities. TEC is keen to understand how you currently monitor the intake of rural medical students and their success.

To implement the increased cap for 2024 in the best interests of learner success and health workforce aims, we would like to engage with you on several issues. Firstly, we would like to understand your overall capacity for increased enrolments in medicine next year (including whether any increases have implications for accreditation with the Medical Council). Secondly, we would like to understand your approach to ensuring how additional places will support the Government's aims for NZ's future medical workforce. And finally, how you will ensure the highest possible retention and completion of additional underserved learners in your programme.

If you are able to advise who in your team you would like us to work with on the above we will organise a meeting to start discussions.

We look forward to working with you over the coming weeks in implementing the increase in first-year medical students.

Ngā mihi nui,


Gillian

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**From:** Dawn Freshwater <vice-chancellor@auckland.ac.nz>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 20 June 2023 11:40 am  
**To:** Helen Nicholson  
**Cc:** Vice-Chancellor; Warwick Bagg; Pamela Moss  
**Subject:** Re: Extra medical spaces

Kia Ora Helen



I am happy to confirm the arrangements for the allocation of the new Medical placements as below. Good outcome and positive news at these testing times.

Nga Mihi  
Dawn

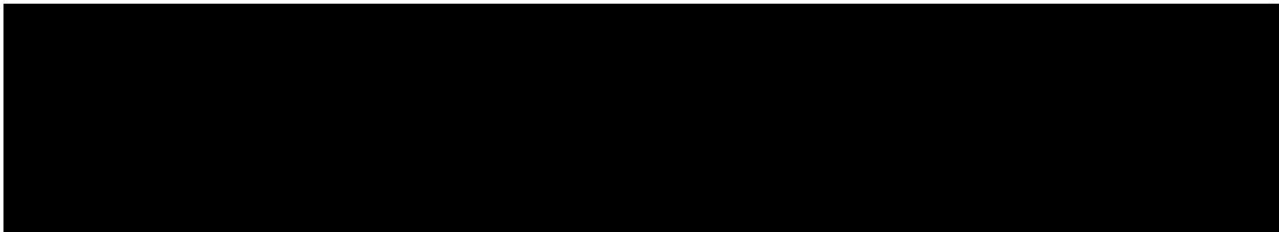
On 19/06/2023, at 12:52 PM, Helen Nicholson <helen.nicholson@otago.ac.nz> wrote:

Kia ora Dawn

As you know, last week the Minister of Health announced 50 extra medical places, to be apportioned between Auckland and Otago.

My understanding is that the relevant folk in our teams have talked, and are in agreement that the split should be as follows:

1. 20 places to Otago
2. 30 places to Auckland



If you were able to confirm that it is acceptable to Auckland also, that would be great, and enable us to move on with the detailed discussions with TEC around the conditions of the funding, etc.

Ngā manaakitanga

Helen

Professor Helen Nicholson | she/her | BSc Hons, MB ChB, MD  
Vice-Chancellor (Acting) | Te Tumu Whakarae Taupua

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