



30 May 2024

By email: fyi-request-27040-db37a5f6@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Charlie

I refer to your information request dated 28 May 2024 made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). You requested:

“the distribution of grades based on the percentage of people who received a certain grade of the following papers in 2023:

*BIOC 223
BIOC 222
BIOC 221”*

Subject to the following comments, please see attached the information you have requested.

- we have interpreted your request to be for the mark and grade distributions of the 2023 BIOC221, BIOC222 and BIOC223 papers offered by the University of Otago.
- the data is correct as at 30 May 2024.
- on occasions where fewer than five students have failed a paper (i.e. received a grade of Fail D, Fail E or Failed Terms), we have determined that it is necessary to withhold the marks and specific grades for these students to protect their privacy and wellbeing. We consider that withholding this information is necessary to protect against the identity of these students being determined or inferred, and their personal information (i.e. their marks) could be disclosed. We therefore withhold this information pursuant to section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
- we note that students who withdrew from the papers are excluded from the data.

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.

Ngā mihi

Kelsey Kennard
Official Information and Compliance Coordinator
Office of the Registrar