

31 July 2024

By email: fyi-request-27492-1d7745d5@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Emily

I refer to your request for information dated 3 July 2024 made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). You have requested:

“Can you please assess whether Tauraroa Area School (Corner Omana & Tauraroa Road RD8, Maungakaramea O178, Whangarei, Northland) would be eligible for rural entry into BDS in 2025.”

In answer to your question, we do not assess rural eligibility ahead of an application and would not be able to advise for entering one of the University’s Health Sciences Professional Programmes (including BDS) in 2025 as the eligibility criteria can change year to year. An application is automatically checked using the information entered in eVision (the University’s student management system), as it requires the verification of the information provided at the time of application. If the application is found to not be eligible under the Rural equity group, the applicant would be notified, and the application will continue to be processed with this equity group removed.

To perform an informal check of the classification of the residential area relevant to your application, please use the GCH (Geographic Classification for Health) New Zealand Map found [here](#). It is important to note that this should be used as a guide only and may be subject to change each year. The Statistical Area 1s (SA1s) of the residential address and/or the school(s) provided will be checked against the GCH database during the assessment of an application.

While we are unable to confirm whether Tauraroa Area School (Corner Omana & Tauraroa Road RD8, Maungakaramea) will be classed as Rural or Urban for entry to the 2025 BDS programme, we note that it was classed as Urban for entry to the 2024 BDS programme. Please note that this may change for entry to the BDS programme in future years and can also depend on the years of attendance at the mentioned school.

It is also important to note that whether a school is classified as Rural or Urban is not the sole factor in determining whether or not a candidate is eligible under the New Zealand Rural Origins equity group. Provided applicants have selected this equity group as part of their application, each applicant’s particular circumstances are considered individually with respect to the requirements listed in the [BDS: Guidelines for Admission](#), and a determination made taking all factors into account.

Ngā mihi



Kelsey Kennard
Official Information and Compliance Coordinator
Office of the Registrar and Secretary to the Council