



7 August 2023

Laura Black

By email: fyi-request-23439-6fbf1ab9@requests.fyi.org.nz

Kia ora Laura

I refer to your information request dated 8 July 2023 made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). You have requested information relating to entry into the Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) programme for the past five years (2018-2022 application years), as follows:

- "1) How many people applied through the "graduate" category (excluding sub-categories) for Dentistry?*
- 2) Lowest GPA for successful graduate applicants (excluding sub-categories) for Dentistry.*
- 3) Highest GPA for unsuccessful graduate applicants (excluding sub-categories) for Dentistry.*
- 4) Of those individuals who applied, how many received an interview invite?*
- 5) Of those individuals who received an interview invite, how many received an offer?*
- 6) Interview UCAT cutoff for graduate applicants for Dentistry each year."*

Subject to the following comments, please see below the information you have requested:

- The information is provided by entry year e.g. applications received in 2018 for entry into the programme in 2019.
- With regard to question 3, you will note that GPA scores of highest unsuccessful applicants are higher than the lowest successful applicants, this is because in order to receive an offer, applicants must meet all other requirements for entry to the BDS programme i.e. UCAT and interview thresholds. Further information about [entry requirements](#) for the BDS programme can be found on the University of Otago website.
- With regard to question 4, the numbers provided include all applicants who were invited for an interview however this number could include invitees who did not attend their interview.
- With regard to question 6, the University Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT) was not used by the University of Otago as an admissions test in 2019. The University used the Undergraduate Medicine and Health Science Admission Test (UMAT) during this period. The University started using UCAT in 2020.

1. How many people applied through the "graduate" category (excluding sub-categories) for Dentistry?

Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) Number of General Graduate Category (Excluding Sub-category) Applications – By Entry Year				
2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
165	141	167	107	150

2. Lowest GPA for successful graduate applicants (excluding sub-categories) for Dentistry

Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) Lowest Successful General Graduate Applicant (Excluding Sub-category) GPA Score – By Entry Year				
2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
7.13	7.51	7.00	8.13	8.63

3. Highest GPA for unsuccessful graduate applicants (excluding sub-categories) for Dentistry.

Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) Highest Unsuccessful General Graduate Applicant (Excluding Sub-category) GPA Score – By Entry Year				
2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
8.63	7.65	7.54	9.70	9.43

4. Of those individuals who applied, how many received an interview invite?

Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) Number of General Graduate Invited to Interview – By Entry Year				
2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
64	45	70	40	73

5. Of those individuals who received an interview invite, how many received an offer?

Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) Number of General Graduate Offers – By Entry Year				
2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
36	24	38	13	16

6. Interview UCAT cutoff for graduate applicants for Dentistry each year

Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) General Graduate UCAT Thresholds – By Entry Year				
2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
See comment above.	Verbal Reasoning: threshold set at the bottom 20 th percentile. Situation Judgement: threshold set at the bottom 10 th percentile. Decision Making: threshold set at the 57 th percentile. <i>Scores for Quantitative Reasoning and Abstract Reasoning were not considered.</i>	Verbal Reasoning: threshold set at the bottom 25 th percentile. Situational Judgement: threshold set at the bottom 10 th percentile. Decision making: Score 640 or higher. <i>Scores for Quantitative Reasoning and Abstract Reasoning were not considered.</i>	Verbal Reasoning: 22nd percentile or higher. Decision making: Score 630 or higher. <i>Scores for Situational Judgement, Quantitative Reasoning, and Abstract Reasoning were not considered.</i>	Verbal Reasoning: 22nd percentile or higher. Decision making: Score 630 or higher. <i>Scores for Situational Judgement, Quantitative Reasoning, and Abstract Reasoning were not considered.</i>

I trust that this information will be helpful.

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



Jenny Shaw
Official Information and Compliance Coordinator
Office of the Registrar