

23 January 2025

By email: fyi-request-29278-ba586cc7@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe R. Shirreffs

I refer to your request for information dated 4 November 2024 made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). You have requested:

I would like to request the distribution of grades for the following papers in the Semester 2 2024 period, by the grade number, and number of students that achieved each grade number:

LAWS302
LAWS447
LAWS463
LAWS424
PSYC211

I would also like to request the number of students that applied and were accepted into the LLB(Hons) 2024 programme by application (not directly from second year) as well as the LLB degree grade averages of students who were accepted.

We are pleased to advise that anonymised statistical academic results data for papers offered by the University will soon be published on our website: <https://www.otago.ac.nz/about/quickstats>. We are doing this so that all students can access this information at any time.

The published spreadsheet will indicate the number of students who achieved a particular grade or percentage mark for semester one, semester two, full year and summer school papers for each year from 2019 to 2024. This grade and mark distribution data will essentially be the same as that which we would provide in response to individual information requests made under the Act.

The University will continue to withhold information where necessary to avoid the identity of students being determined or inferred and their personal information being disclosed, to protect their privacy and wellbeing. Data will **not** be published:

- for any students in a paper, if fewer than ten (<10) students were enrolled in that paper, or
- indicating fail grade and mark data, if fewer than five (<5) students have failed a paper (a grade of Fail D, Fail E, Failed Compulsory Assessment or Failed Terms), or
- for students who withdrew from a paper or received an Aegrotat Pass.

The data will be published as it was held as at 31 December 2024. If grade and mark distribution data for any papers was not confirmed at this date, data for those papers may not be initially published. Grade and mark distribution data will later be updated based on data as held at 31 March 2025 and again as held at 31 July 2025, to ensure the data becomes complete over time.

Accordingly, the University declines this part of your request, under section 18(d) of the Act, as the information you have requested will soon be made publicly available. We will endeavour to email you to advise when the data will be or has been published.

We decline to provide the LLB degree grade averages of students accepted by application to the LLB(Hons) programme to protect the privacy and wellbeing of these individuals', under section 9(2)(a) of the Act. Where cohorts and class sizes are small, we consider that withholding this information is necessary to protect against the identity of these individuals being determined or inferred, and their personal information being disclosed. We consider that good reasons exist for withholding the information, and this is not outweighed by other considerations which would make it desirable, in the public interest, to make the information available.

We can however advise that the minimum average percentage mark for entry to LLB(Hons) in 2024 was 79.54. In addition to meeting the cut-off average mark (based on marks in 300- and 400-level LAWS papers), students were required to have completed at least 105 points in 300- and 400-level LAWS papers to qualify for the LLB(Hons) programme by application.

We hope this information is 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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Frewen', written in a cursive style.

Bill Frewen
Manager Policy and Compliance