



4 October 2023

By email: [fyi-request-24077-a262241a@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-24077-a262241a@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Rossetta,

I refer to your request for information dated 8 September 2023 made under the Official Information Act 1982. You have requested the UCAT thresholds for entry to the Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MB ChB) and Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) programmes at the University of Otago from 2019 – 2023 for all applicant categories.

Please see below our response to your request:

#### **UCAT threshold for BDS and MB ChB for 2019 - 2023**

Please note that the University Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT) was not used by the University of Otago as an admissions test for entry to the MB ChB and BDS programmes in 2019. The University used the Undergraduate Medicine and Health Science Admission Test (UMAT) during this period. The University started using UCAT for 2020 entry to both programmes.

#### **MB ChB:**

The MB ChB UCAT criteria is set annually by the University's Medical Admissions Committee. Where UCAT was used as a threshold for admission, the thresholds for entry to the 2020 – 2023 MB ChB programmes were as follows:

- 2020:
  - Verbal Reasoning: 20<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher required
  - Situational Judgement: 10<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher required
  - Scores for Decision Making, Quantitative Reasoning and Abstract Reasoning were not considered
  - Thresholds were applied to the General category for applicants applying under the Health Sciences First Year (HSFY) or Graduate categories. Thresholds were not applied to the Māori, Indigenous Pacific, Socioeconomic Equity, Refugee or Rural applicant sub-categories, or applicants applying under the Alternative category.
  
- 2021:
  - Verbal Reasoning: 20<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher required
  - Situational Judgement: 10<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher required

- Scores for Decision Making, Quantitative Reasoning and Abstract Reasoning were not considered
  - Thresholds were applied to the General category for applicants applying under the HSFY or Graduate categories. Thresholds were not applied to the Māori, Pacific, Socioeconomic, Refugee or Rural applicant sub-categories, or applicants applying under the Alternative category.
- 2022:
    - Verbal Reasoning: 20<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher required
    - Situational Judgement: threshold set above the bottom 10<sup>th</sup> percentile
    - Scores for Decision Making, Quantitative Reasoning and Abstract Reasoning were not considered
    - Thresholds were applied to the General and Rural categories for applicants applying under the HSFY or Graduate categories. Thresholds were not applied to the Māori, Pacific, Socioeconomic or Refugee applicant categories, or applicants applying under the Alternative category.
- 2023:
    - Verbal Reasoning: 20<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher required
    - Situational Judgement: threshold set above the bottom 10<sup>th</sup> percentile
    - Scores for Decision Making, Quantitative Reasoning and Abstract Reasoning were not considered
    - Thresholds were applied to the General and Rural categories for applicants applying under the HSFY or Graduate categories. Thresholds were not applied to the Māori, Pacific, Socioeconomic or Refugee applicant categories, or applicants applying under the Alternative category.

#### BDS:

The BDS UCAT criteria is set annually by the University's Dental Admissions Committee. Where UCAT was used as a threshold for admission, the thresholds for entry to the 2020 – 2023 BDS programmes were as follows:

- 2020:
  - Verbal Reasoning: 20<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher required
  - Situational Judgement: 10<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher required
  - Decision Making: threshold set at the 57<sup>th</sup> percentile
  - Scores for Quantitative Reasoning and Abstract Reasoning were not considered
  - Thresholds were applied to all applicants applying under the HSFY, Graduate or Alternative categories.
- 2021:
  - Verbal Reasoning: 25<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher required
  - Situational Judgement: 10<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher required
  - Decision Making: score of 640 or above met the threshold
  - Scores for Quantitative Reasoning and Abstract Reasoning were not considered

- Thresholds were applied to all applicants applying under the HSFY, Graduate or Alternative categories.
- 2022:
  - Verbal Reasoning: 22<sup>nd</sup> percentile or higher required
  - Decision Making: score if 630 or above met the threshold
  - Scores for Situational Judgement, Quantitative Reasoning and Abstract Reasoning were not considered
  - Thresholds were applied to General and Rural categories for applicants applying under the HSFY or Graduate categories. Thresholds were not applied to the Māori, Pacific, Socioeconomic or Refugee applicant sub-categories, or applicants applying under the Alternative category.
- 2023:
  - Verbal Reasoning: 22<sup>nd</sup> percentile or higher required
  - Decision Making: score if 630 or above met the threshold
  - Scores for Situational Judgement, Quantitative Reasoning and Abstract Reasoning were not considered
  - Thresholds were applied to General and Rural categories for applicants applying under the HSFY or Graduate categories. Thresholds were not applied to the Māori, Pacific, Socioeconomic or Refugee applicant sub-categories, or applicants applying under the Alternative category.

I trust that this information will be helpful.

Yours sincerely



Jo Pearson  
Official Information Act Administrator  
Office of the Registrar