

Calendar for 2026

Dates are listed in five sections:

- Dates of general importance
- Important dates for Medical students
- Closing dates for applications for first enrolment in certain courses and programmes
- Closing dates for applications for awards
- Dates of Senate and Council meetings

Additional and amended dates will be advertised on the University's website.

Dates of general importance

Dates of teaching and examination periods and for enrolment procedures relevant to most students and staff.

January

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| Monday | 5 | Summer School commences.
Applications for Final Examination Only enrolment in Summer School papers due by this date. |
| Thursday | 8 | Students may not add any Summer School papers to their courses after 11:59pm on this date. |
| Friday | 9 | Fees for Summer School must be paid by this date. |
| Wednesday | 14 | Students who delete a Summer School paper up until 11:59pm on this date are eligible for a refund of fees (subject to certain conditions).

To be eligible to change from international to domestic fee status for Summer School papers, a student must have a resident visa with this date or earlier in his or her passport. |
| Thursday | 15 | Due date for submission of papers for course approval by students taking semester 1 or full-year papers. |

February

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| Friday | 6 | Waitangi Day. |
| Sunday | 8 | Students may not withdraw from Summer School papers after 5pm on this date. |
| Friday | 13 | Summer School classes end. |
| Saturday | 14 | Summer School examinations begin. |
| Monday | 16 | Orientation Week commences.

Semester 1 begins for undergraduate programmes in the School of Dentistry.
Semester 1 begins for Master of Community Dentistry students. |
| Thursday | 19 | Summer School examinations end. |
| Friday | 20 | Preliminary classes are held for full-year and semester 1 papers.

Due date for completion of course enrolment declaration by students taking semester 1 and full-year papers. |
| Monday | 23 | Formal lectures begin in most courses. |

March

- Sunday 1 Applications for Final Examination Only enrolment in full-year and semester 1 papers due by this date.
Students may not add any semester 1 or full-year papers to their courses after 11:59pm on this date.
- Sunday 15 Students who delete a semester 1 paper up until 11:59pm on this date are eligible for a refund of fees (subject to certain conditions).
To be eligible to change from international to domestic fee status for semester 1 papers, a student must have a resident visa with this date or earlier in his or her passport.
- Sunday 22 Students who delete a full-year paper up until 11:59pm on this date are eligible for a refund of fees (subject to certain conditions).
To be eligible to change from international to domestic fee status for full-year papers, a student must have a resident visa with this date or earlier in his or her passport.

April

- Friday 3 Good Friday.
- Monday 6 Easter Monday.
- Tuesday 7 University holiday in Dunedin (Otago Anniversary Day observance).
- Monday 13 Semester 1 resumes for most students.
- Saturday 25 ANZAC Day.
- Monday 27 ANZAC Day observed.

May

- Sunday 3 Students may not withdraw from semester 1 papers after 5pm on this date.
- Saturday 9 Graduation ceremonies.
- Saturday 16 Graduation ceremonies.
- Friday 29 Lectures end in most subjects prior to mid-year examinations.

June

- Monday 1 King's Birthday.
- Wednesday 3 Semester 1 examinations begin.
- Sunday 15 Applications due from students taking only semester 2 papers for programmes subject to the Entry Pathway system.
- Wednesday 18 Semester 1 examinations end.

July

- Friday 10 Matariki
Students enrolling only for study beginning in semester 2 must pay the invoiced amount of their tuition fee accounts by this date.
- Monday 13 Semester 2 begins for most students.
Due date for completion of course enrolment declaration by students taking only semester 2 papers.
- Sunday 19 Students may not add any Summer School papers to their courses after 11:59pm on this date.

August

- Sunday 2 Students who delete a semester 2 paper up until 11:59pm on this date are eligible for a refund of fees (subject to certain conditions).
To be eligible to change from international to domestic fee status for semester 2 papers, a student must have a permanent resident visa with this date or earlier in his or her passport.
- Saturday 22 Graduation ceremonies.
- Saturday 29 Mid-semester break begins.

September

- Monday 7 Semester 2 resumes for most students.
- Sunday 20 Students may not withdraw from full-year or semester 2 papers after 11.59pm on this date.

October

- Friday 16 Lectures end in most subjects.
- Monday 19 End of year examinations begin.
- Monday 26 Labour Day.

November

- Saturday 7 End of year examinations end.
- Monday 9 Pre-Christmas Summer School begins.
- Sunday 15 Applications due for international students applying for full degree studies commencing in semester 1 2026.

December

- Thursday 10 Applications due from all new students and recommencing students (i.e. students who have been enrolled at the University previously but not in 2025 and/or 2026) taking Summer School, or semester 1, or full-year papers or courses subject to the Entry Pathway system in 2027, and from returning students (i.e. students who have been enrolled at the University in 2025 and/or 2026) applying for a new programme. Earlier application may be required for first enrolment in certain courses and programmes (see third section).
- Friday 11 Pre-Christmas Summer School classes end.
- Saturday 12 Graduation ceremonies.
Pre-Christmas Summer School examination day.
- Wednesday 16 Graduation ceremonies.
- Saturday 19 Graduation ceremonies.

Important dates for Medical students

Dates for enrolment, change of course and withdrawal procedures, and public holidays are as in the list of dates of general importance.

January

- Monday 5 First quarter resumes for Medical trainee interns.
- Monday 26 Semester 1 begins for 4th year Medical students.

February

- Monday 2 Semester 1 begins for 5th year Medical students.
- Wednesday 11 Orientation begins for 2nd year Medical students.
- Friday 13 Orientation ends for 2nd year Medical students.
- Monday 16 Semester 1 begins for 2nd and 3rd year Medical students.
- Sunday 22 First quarter ends for Medical trainee interns.
- Monday 23 Second quarter begins for Medical trainee interns.

April

- Friday 3 Mid-semester break begins for 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th year Medical students.
- Monday 13 Semester 1 resumes for 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th year Medical students.

May

- Sunday 17 Second quarter ends for Medical trainee interns.
- Monday 18 Third quarter begins for Medical trainee interns.

June

- Friday 19 Semester 1 ends for 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th year Medical students.

July

- Monday 6 Semester 2 begins for 4th and 5th year Medical students.
- Friday 10 Matariki
- Monday 13 Semester 2 begins for 2nd and 3rd year Medical students.

August

- Sunday 9 Third quarter ends for Medical trainee interns.
- Monday 24 Fourth quarter begins for Medical trainee interns.
- Saturday 22 Mid-semester break begins for 2nd and 3rd year Medical students.
- Saturday 29 Mid-semester break begins for 4th and 5th year Medical students.
- Monday 31 Semester 2 resumes for 2nd and 3rd year Medical students

September

Monday 7 Second semester resumes for 4th and 5th year Medical students.

October

Friday 23 Semester 2 including examination period ends for all 4th year Medical students.

Friday 30 Semester 2 including examination period ends for all 2nd, 3rd and 5th year Medical students.

November

Sunday 15 Fourth quarter ends for Medical trainee interns.

Monday 16 First quarter starts for Medical trainee interns.

Closing dates for applications for first enrolment in certain courses and programmes

For most programmes with specific entry requirements, the due dates for applications for enrolment for the first time are earlier than those for general degree programmes, and in many cases late applications cannot be considered.

May

- Friday 1 Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery in the Alternative category.
 Sunday 31 Postgraduate programmes in Dentistry, Dental Technology, Clinical Dental Technology, and Dental Therapy.

July

- Friday 31 Master of Teaching and Learning programme (later applications may be considered).
 Applications encouraged for the Bachelor of Teaching (for the first round of interviews).

August

- Friday 7 Bachelor of Medical Science with Honours programme.
 Friday 14 Health Sciences Undergraduate Professional Programmes, excluding Medicine in the Alternative Category and Dentistry with Advanced Standing. This includes Medicine (HSFY and Graduate categories), Dentistry, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, Medical Laboratory Science, Radiation Therapy, Oral Health, and Dental Technology.

September

- Tuesday 1 Performance papers in Music and for Bachelor of Performing Arts programmes (later applications may be considered).
 Wednesday 30 Bachelor of Dental Surgery with Advanced Standing, domestic applicants

October

- Thursday 1 Second year classes in Law.
 Tuesday 20 Postgraduate Diploma in Clinical Psychology programme.
 Saturday 31 Postgraduate Diplomas in Surgical Anatomy and Neuropsychology.
 Postgraduate Certificate in Health Sciences and Postgraduate Diploma in Health Sciences endorsed in Cognitive Behaviour Therapy.

November

- Sunday 1 Bachelor of Social Work programme at Third Stage.
 Master of Social and Community Work (Applied), Postgraduate Certificate in Pregnancy and Medical Gynaecology, and Postgraduate Diploma in Obstetrics and Medical Gynaecology.
 Sunday 15 Bachelor of Surveying programme, and SURV 201, 207, 298, 299 taken for other programmes.
 Monday 30 Final application deadline for the Bachelor of Teaching.

December

- Tuesday 1 Postgraduate programmes in Wildlife Management, domestic applicants
 Thursday 10 Most honours programmes
 Most masters' degrees for study beginning at the start of the following academic year
 Most postgraduate diplomas and certificates

Closing dates for applications for awards

January

- Thursday 15 N. G. Stewart Scholarship (students with disabilities)
Kraft Heinz Food Science Scholarship
New Zealand Superannuation Fund Sustainable Finance Scholarship
Robertson Scholars Leadership Program (Universities New Zealand)
- Saturday 31 Neville Bain Travel Award (intake 1 of 3)
Pathway | Te Huarahi Scholarship (intake 1 of 3)

February

- Sunday 1 New Zealand Law Foundation Ethel Benjamin Scholarship (for women)
(Universities New Zealand)
William Georgetti Scholarship
- Tuesday 10 Barbara Heslop Memorial Scholarship (Honours students in BBioMedSc or BSc)
John M. Stewart Scholarship
- Sunday 15 Bee Nilson Award
Graduate Women Otago Centenary Award (Māori)
Graduate Women Otago Centenary Award (Pacific)
Faculty of Biomedical Sciences Māori Postgraduate Scholarship
Faculty of Biomedical Sciences Pacific Peoples Postgraduate Scholarship
- Friday 20 Chris Burks Memorial Bursary
Reese McKinnon and Avenal McKinnon Award
- Saturday 28 Brenda Shore Award for Women
The Robinson Dorsey Postgraduate Scholarship
Noni Wright Postgraduate Scholarship in Theatre Studies

March

- Sunday 1 Dr E. C. Grant and Mrs H. M. Grant Memorial Medical Scholarship
June Rita Medical Scholarship
Newick and Springford Scholarship
Kiwi Music Scholarship (Universities New Zealand)
- Wednesday 4 University of Otago New Frontiers Entrance Scholarships
- Sunday 15 University of Otago General Staff Association Award
- Friday 20 Northland Pharmacist Pathway Scholarship
- Monday 23 The Sophia McMillan Crestani Memorial University Scholarship
The Sophia Michelle McMillan Crestani Memorial Scholarship
- Tuesday 31 Āwhina Scholarship
Campbell-White Scholarship
Class of 79 Undergraduate Medical Scholarship
Dr Emily Hancock Siedeberg Scholarship
Dr Nancy Butt Memorial Scholarship
E. Rewa Begg Scholarship
James Henry Scholarships
Miles and Jillian Hursthouse Scholarship
Philippa Sweetman Scholarship in Consumer and Applied Sciences
Robert James Jenkins Memorial Award
U3A Dunedin 150th Postgraduate Award
University of Otago Pathway | Te Huarahi Scholarship (intake 2 of 3)
Westpac Southland Scholarships

April

- Wednesday 1 Claude McCarthy Fellowship (Universities New Zealand, intake 1 of 2)
Ernest William File Scholarship (Universities New Zealand)
LB Scholarship (Universities New Zealand)
Shirtcliffe Fellowship (Universities New Zealand)
- Saturday 4 Energy Education Trust NZ Masters Scholarship
Energy Education Trust NZ Undergraduate Scholarship
- Thursday 30 Neville Bain Travel Award (intake 2 of 3)
Total Surveying Solutions (TSS) Scholarship

May

- Sunday 31 FMB Reynolds Scholarship in Law to Oxford (Universities New Zealand)
Westpac Travelling Scholarships (From Dept)

June

- Monday 1 Elman Poole Travelling Scholarship
- Tuesday 30 Diane Campbell-Hunt Memorial Award

July

- Wednesday 1 Dr J. F. Hare Music Scholarship
- Friday 31 Marks' Ecology Award
Neville Bain Travel Award (intake 3 of 3)
Six60 Scholarship

August

- Saturday 1 Cambridge-Rutherford Memorial PhD Scholarship (pure or applied science)
Fulbright New Zealand Graduate Student Awards (Fulbright New Zealand)
Rhodes Scholarship (Universities New Zealand)
Woolf Fisher Trust (Universities New Zealand)
- Saturday 15 150th Entrance Scholarships
71-73 Alumni Frank Leong Entrance Scholarship
Academic Excellence Entrance Scholarships
Alumni Appeal Entrance Scholarship
Alumni in America Inc. Entrance Scholarship
Anne Doolin (nee Scanlan) Bachelor of Oral Health Entrance Scholarship
Callis Trust Performance Scholarship
Donna-Rose McKay Entrance Scholarship
Dr John F. Ward Southland Entrance Scholarship
Dunedin City Council | kaunihera a-rohe o Ōtepoti Entrance Scholarship
John Steele Memorial Music Entrance Scholarship
Law Alumni Scholarship
Leaders of Tomorrow Entrance Scholarships
Māori Entrance Scholarships
Pacific Peoples' Entrance Scholarships
Performance Entrance Scholarships
Ralph Moir Memorial Entrance Scholarship
Richard and Diana Somerville Commerce Entrance Scholarship
Richard and Diana Somerville Pacific Entrance Scholarship
R. and E. Seelye Trust Academic Excellence Entrance Scholarships
S. & G. Higgs Entrance Scholarship
Sir Murray Brennan Entrance Rowing Scholarship

- Sunday 16 Elman Poole Southland Boys' High School and Southland Girls' High School Science and Music Scholarships
Elman and Alfred Poole Southland Boys' High School and Southland Girls' High School Health Sciences Scholarship
Elman and Alfred Poole Southland Boys' High School and Southland Girls' High School Science Scholarships

September

- Tuesday 1 Alan Musgrave Scholarship in Philosophy
Dunedin Symphony Scholarship for Orchestral Performance
Girdlers' Scholarship (Universities New Zealand)
Sir Douglas Myers Scholarship (Universities New Zealand)
- Tuesday 15 University of Otago Academic General Practitioner Registrar PhD Scholarship
- Wednesday 30 University of Otago Pathway | Te Huarahi Scholarship (intake 3 of 3)

October

- Thursday 1 Bing's Scholarship (Universities New Zealand)
Brooker Travel Doctoral Travel Scholarship
Claude McCarthy Fellowship (Universities New Zealand, intake 2 of 2)
Edward and Isabel Kidson Scholarship (Universities New Zealand)
Henry Kelsey Scholarship (Universities New Zealand)
Joan, Arthur & Helen Thacker Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Postgraduate Scholarship
Prince of Wales Cambridge International Scholarship (Universities New Zealand)
- Tuesday 6 Barbara Heslop Memorial Scholarship (BMedSc(Hons))
Bishara Scholarship in Neurology
Brian Hardy Memorial Scholarship
Dr Andrew Greer Excellence in Māori Research Scholarship
James Hodge Maurice and Phyllis Paykel Scholarships in Medical and Health Sciences
James Renfrew White Scholarship
Phyllis Paykel Memorial Scholarship
Tassell Scholarship
- Saturday 10 Jolene Patuawa-Tuilave Māori Leadership in Law Scholarship
- Saturday 24 Trimble Karahihi Hangarau/Technology Scholarship
- Saturday 31 HOPE Foundation Scholarship for Research on Ageing
Lumino – Bachelor of Oral Health Scholarship
Philip Ashton Smithells Memorial Scholarship
Yarrow South Entrance Scholarship

November

- Sunday 1 Angus Ross Travel Scholarship in History
Eamon Cleary Trust Postgraduate Study Scholarship
New Zealand Medical Women's Association Elective Scholarship
Otago Council Postgraduate Scholarship in Commerce
University of Otago Study Grants for Māori and Pacific Island Students
- Friday 20 Geddes Postgraduate Awards in Social Anthropology
Maria Marsh Memorial Postgraduate Scholarship in Mental Health
- Monday 30 Dr Judith Johnston Scholarship for Women
Dr Judith Johnston Scholarship in Geography
Jan Riddell Memorial Scholarship
Sir Murray F. Brennan Scholarship in Rowing

December

Tuesday	1	Alexander Leith Bagpipe and Drum Scholarship David A. Grant Memorial Scholarship Donald Scott Memorial Scholarship in Freshwater Ecology Frank Knox Memorial Fellowships at Harvard University (Universities New Zealand) Isaac Conservation Scholarship Kauri Museum Mervyn Sterling Scholarship (Universities New Zealand) Kiwi Rail Scholarships (Universities New Zealand) Maritime Union Scholarship (Universities New Zealand) Sullivan Scholarship (Universities New Zealand)
Monday	7	Fastier Postgraduate Scholarship
Thursday	10	John Steele Doctoral Scholarship in Musicology John Steele Honours Scholarship in Musicology John Steele Master's Scholarship in Musicology
Tuesday	15	John Edwards Scholarship

Dates of Senate and Council Meetings

February

Wednesday 25 Senate 12:15pm

March

Tuesday 10 Council 10am
Wednesday 25 Senate 12:15pm

April

Thursday 30 Council 10am
Wednesday 29 Senate 12:15pm

May

Tuesday 6 Council 1pm
Wednesday 27 Senate 12:15pm

June

Tuesday 9 Council 10am
Wednesday 24 Senate 12:15pm

July

Tuesday 4 Council 10am
Wednesday 29 Senate 12:15pm

August

Wednesday 26 Senate 12:15pm

September

Tuesday 8 Council 10am
Wednesday 30 Senate 12:15pm

October

Tuesday 13 Council 10am
Wednesday 28 Senate 12:15pm

November

Tuesday 24 Council 10am
Wednesday 25 Senate 12:15pm

These dates are subject to change. Additional and amended dates will be advertised on the University's website.