



University
of Otago
ŌTĀKOU WHAKAIHU WAKA

Faculty of Dentistry
Te Kaupēka Pūniho
New Zealand's National Centre for Dentistry

Application for Admission for Domestic Candidates to the Degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery with Advanced Standing

Applications close on 30 September in the year preceding intended entry to the course and should be submitted by email to: dentistry@otago.ac.nz
Subject line - BDS Advanced Standing Domestic Application

Applicants wishing to express an interest in this programme should submit an application by 30 September, late applications are not considered.

GUIDELINES FOR ADMISSION WITH ADVANCED STANDING

Candidates in this category will only be admitted if space is available in the appropriate year. Applicants who have qualified with a BDS in another country may apply but are strongly urged to contact the Dental Council (New Zealand) to inquire about alternative means of gaining registration to practice dentistry in New Zealand.

- (a) This category is for domestic candidates (*New Zealand citizens (or a citizen of the Cook Islands, Tokelau, or Niue), or New Zealand residents (holding a valid residence-class visa), or an Australian citizens or permanent residents*) who have a degree in Dentistry awarded by a university outside of New Zealand and Australia or a Medicine degree awarded from a New Zealand or Australian University.
- (b) Applications will be considered by the Advanced Standing Dental Admissions Sub-committee who will shortlist candidates to be interviewed.
- (c) Applicants will be considered on the basis of the similarity of the undergraduate programme undertaken to that at the University of Otago, their grades, any postgraduate qualifications, their recency of clinical practice in dentistry, and experience in the dental field New Zealand.
- (d) Interviews will normally take place in November prior to the year for which admission is sought.
- (e) All candidates will be ranked and the list will be considered by the Dental Admissions Committee.
- (f) Candidates who have not been selected for interview will be advised as soon as possible that their application has been unsuccessful.
- (g) When the number of places in third year available for advanced standing applicants, is known (**if there are any**), as early as possible in February, candidates who were interviewed will be advised of the result of their application. Please note that this notification may occur as late as the end of February.

Notes:

- We may not be able to admit any candidates with Advanced Standing in any one year because of the limitation of enrolment for domestic students within the Bachelor of Dental Surgery programme ([regulation 1\(a\)](#)). Candidates with a degree in dentistry are strongly advised to apply to the Dental Council (New Zealand) to sit the registration examinations. Further information is available at the [Dental Council of New Zealand website](#).

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING CAREFULLY

Please also work through the checklist at the end of this document to ensure you have enclosed all the necessary information needed to accompany your application.

English Language Requirements

All applicants, where English is not your first language, must supply evidence of their competence in English for entry into the Bachelor of Dental Surgery with Faculty of Dentistry. This should be included with the application form or forwarded to the Faculty of Dentistry Admissions Committee as soon as possible. The tests listed below are the only ones we will accept. Failure to supply the results of one of these tests, to the required standard, will mean that your application will not be successful.

Candidates will be required to have demonstrated an acceptable level of English language proficiency prior to admission to any year of the undergraduate dental course. This may be achieved by:

- (i) The International English Language Testing System (IELTS), academic module, with an overall score of no less than 7.5 with a score of 7.0 or better in each of the individual components (bands):
or
- (ii) A B pass or better in each of the four individual components of the Occupational English Test (OET).

Curriculum Vitae

All applications must be accompanied by an up-to-date Curriculum Vitae. This must include name, qualifications with dates of that the qualification(s) were awarded as well as the awarding institution(s), distinctions (such as prizes, scholarships); present position and dates held, previous positions held and experience (including the dates and details of clinical experience); details of any research activities, publications, or scientific or clinical presentations; memberships of professional organisations.

Academic Transcripts and Certificate of Good Standing

Applicants must send or arrange to have sent to the Faculty of Dentistry Admissions Committee, certified transcripts of their University academic record(s) which must include the grades and/or marks awarded. Also required is a Certificate of Good Standing issued by the applicant's most recent registration authority attesting to their registration and good standing status.

Citizenship

Applicants must include with their applications certified evidence of their New Zealand or Australian citizenship or permanent residence status.

Evidence of eligibility to study dentistry as a domestic student is required should a place be offered, therefore applications will not be processed unless satisfactory proof of residence status or citizenship is provided.

Completing the Application Form

Ensure all questions are answered neatly and correctly and all supporting documents are attached and correctly certified. You must complete all sections. You must sign the appropriate declarations yourself: no-one else may sign for you.

Certified Documentation

Where you are asked to provide documentation including academic achievement, evidence of English requirements and citizenship, please ensure you submit scans which are suitably certified as copies of the originals. The certification must be done by a person of some standing in your community, for instance Solicitor of the High Court, or Justice of the Peace. Please see [here](#) on our website for an approved list of people who can certify documents that are accepted by the University.

You should retain the information pages and submit the application form, along with all requested documentation.

Please inform us if you change your address or telephone number, and

PLEASE ENSURE YOU INCLUDE A RELIABLE EMAIL CONTACT ADDRESS

All applications should be submitted to: dentistry@otago.ac.nz.

Please place in the subject line of your application email 'BDS Advanced Standing Domestic Application'.

Please contact dentistry@otago.ac.nz if you have an enquiry about your application.

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION WITH ADVANCED STANDING TO THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF DENTAL SURGERY (OTAGO)

Personal Details

Family Name (Dr/Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms)

First Name(s)

Male / Female / Gender Diverse / Other (circle/highlight your answer)

Address

Phone (work) _____ (home) _____ (mobile) _____

Email _____

Ethnicity _____

Citizenship _____

Country of Birth _____

(tick your answer)

Are you a New Zealand or Australian citizen?	YES	<input type="radio"/>	NO	<input type="radio"/>
Do you have NZ or AUS permanent resident status?	YES	<input type="radio"/>	NO	<input type="radio"/>

If not born in New Zealand or Australia, please give date of arrival:

Qualifications

First Degree or Diploma:

College or University:

Dates of Attendance:

Date of Graduation:

Postgraduate Degrees or Diplomas: _____

College or University: _____

Dates of Attendance: _____

Date of Graduation: _____

3. Have you been accepted by the Dental Council (New Zealand) to sit their registration examinations?

YES / NO (circle your answer)

If yes, what examinations have you sat and what were your results?

4. Evidence of competency in spoken English (if English is your second language).

Describe what method (eg IELTS or OET) you are using to satisfy the English language requirements (see page 3). Certified evidence of English competency must accompany your application.

5. Describe what steps you have taken to become familiar with the practice of dentistry in New Zealand.

6. Please give the names, email address and postal address of two people whom you have asked, if required, to supply confidential references to support your application. People you have worked with in a professional capacity are preferred.

Name 1:

Address:

Email:

Name 2:

Address:

Email:

First Aid Certificate

All candidates who accept a place as an advanced standing student must have a certified copy of an appropriate New Zealand first aid certificate before the start of the programme. This qualification must be gained through an NZQA-registered training provider who is authorised to assess NZQA first aid standards.

The certificate should include at least NZQA Standard 6401 and NZQA Standard 6402 but students are recommended to obtain a qualification that includes the higher NZQA Standard 6400.

The following are a selection of recommended training courses:

- OUSA (Comprehensive First Aid)
- St John (First Aid Level Two)
- New Zealand Red Cross (Comprehensive First Aid Course)
- MediTrain (Comprehensive First Aid Course)

Children's Act 2014

The Children's Act 2014 is aimed at providing better protection for vulnerable children. One of the ways it aims to do this, is by introducing “safety checking”.

If you will work with vulnerable children – as part of a specified organisation that provides regulated services – the Act requires you to be “safety checked” at least once every three years.

The safety check involves:

- Identify verification
- New Zealand Police vetting
- Reference checking
- An interview
- A risk assessment

Applicants who enter the programme will receive further information regarding the timing of these checks.

[University of Otago Child Protection Policy](#)

[Oranga Tamariki](#) (Ministry for Children)

[Children's Act Requirements](#) (Oranga Tamariki website)

Culturally sensitive issues

All students must participate in laboratory, practical, and clinical activities, including those that may be unusual in some cultures. In Dentistry, some aspects of the teaching will require individuals to practice certain techniques on each other that may involve partially undressing or body contact with other students. Training occurs under close supervision and all students are required to participate, as it is essential for their acquisition of clinical skills.

Immunity status

All applicants who are offered and accept a place into the third year of Dentistry, will be required to provide evidence of their serology status.

Because of the nature of their practice, health professionals are required to take steps to ensure they neither acquire infections from their patients nor transmit infections to patients.

Immunity testing arrangements will be made known during the formal admissions process, preceding the start of the programme. It is the responsibility of the applicant to cover all costs associated with completion of immunisation screening and vaccinations.

INFORMATION FOR INTENDING HEALTH SCIENCES PROFESSIONAL STUDENTS REGARDING INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Students are required to read, understand and comply with this [policy](#).

HEALTH SCIENCES PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMME DECLARATION FORMS

Students must read, understand and comply with these [requirements](#).

CHECKLIST

HAVE YOU ANSWERED EVERY QUESTION, AND INCLUDED ALL DOCUMENTATION?

<input type="radio"/>	Curriculum Vitae
<input type="radio"/>	Certified copy of academic transcripts
<input type="radio"/>	Certified copy of Certificate of Good Standing from your current governing Dental Authority (or can be sent directly from your governing authority to dentistry@otago.ac.nz if needed)
<input type="radio"/>	Certified copy of passport
<input type="radio"/>	Certified copy of English language proficiency test
<input type="radio"/>	Name of your referees and provided email addresses
<input type="radio"/>	Signed Declaration Form (With both Part 1: Health and Conduct Self-Declaration Form and Part 2: Declaration of Immunisations and Infectious Disease Status completed)

Please ensure all required documentation is certified correctly before submitting.