



School of Pharmacy

He Rau Kawakawa

International Students Admission

About Us

The University of Otago's School of Pharmacy is the oldest in Aotearoa New Zealand. It has a strong commitment to teaching and research excellence, and Otago is New Zealand's top-ranked university for research quality in Pharmacy (2018 PBRF Quality Evaluation).

The Bachelor of Pharmacy (BPharm) and BPharm(Hons) are fully accredited by the Pharmacy Council of New Zealand, and are recognised degrees by the Pharmacy Board Malaysia and the Singapore Pharmacy Council.

Otago accepts up to 20 international students into the second year of the Bachelor of Pharmacy, under two categories: **direct entry** and **competitive entry**.

Direct entry: Otago accepts 10–15 high-performing international students directly into the Pharmacy programme at Year 1 - Health Science First Year (HSFY). This is restricted to outstanding students, based on their Pre-U performance, who wish to study only Pharmacy, and is restricted to students with recognised pre-university qualifications or who are completing the University of Otago Foundation Year. An overall IELTS of 6.0 or higher is required. These students progress to the second year of the programme, provided they pass all compulsory papers in HSFY with an average of B- (65%) or better.

Competitive entry: Otago accepts further international students into Pharmacy programme at Year 2 via the competitive entry pathway, following completion of Health Sciences First Year (HSFY). Students in this category would need to score an average grade of B- in HSFY to be considered for selection into the second year of the BPharm.

Applications

Applications for the direct entry category close on 31 October each year. A special Pharmacy application form is required, in addition to the standard application for admission into a HSFY programme. You will need to obtain this from pharmacy.admissions@otago.ac.nz – complete the form and return it to the same email address with your Pre-U academic results. Acceptances will be made on a rolling basis following application.

Other Information

It is expected that any international student who enters the programme via direct entry is committed to completing the Bachelor of Pharmacy. If, in the first year, the student applies for entry into the second year of any other Health Sciences Professional Programme (e.g. Dentistry, Physiotherapy) he/she will sacrifice his/her place in the direct entry category and will only be considered via competitive category.