

Tauira Māori Guide



Ōtākou
Whakaihu Waka
UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO



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Nau mai, haere mai

Kia ora and a very warm welcome to all taura Māori and your whānau who are about to become part of Ōtākou Whakaihu Waka – University of Otago. Our vision is to be a Te Tiriti-led university. This is built on a strong foundation of partnerships with mana whenua and Kāi Tahu whānui.

Otago is New Zealand's first and finest university. We are highly committed to teaching and research excellence. Our students are taught by experts who are internationally recognised in their field. We are also especially renowned for our campus environment and student experience. Employers clearly value the all-encompassing education that this university provides, and many of our graduates say that they came to Otago, loved it and made friends and whānau connections for life.

We are also committed to making sure that the experience of taura Maori is welcoming and supportive. Although our main campus is based in Ōtepoti, nearly half of all our Māori students come from the North Island and we are proud to welcome young people from many iwi throughout Aotearoa.

For more than a century, Otago has valued its strong links with Māori. Our first Māori graduate, Te Rangi Hiroa (Sir Peter Buck), qualified as a doctor in 1904. Like Te Rangi Hiroa, many of our distinguished Māori graduates in the early years trained as health professionals, but today we attract students from throughout Aotearoa in all fields.

We are proud of our history and traditions and are looking to a future that builds on these to be a university that helps shape Aotearoa and the world's future.

We look forward to welcoming you to take your place in that journey.

Hon Grant Robertson
Te Tumu Whakararae
Vice-Chancellor





Te Huka Mātauraka

The Māori Centre

Ka mate kāika tahi, ka ora kāika rua.
Ko te Huka Mātauraka ka noho hei
kāika rua mō ka tauira Māori katoa ka
tau mai ki Ōtākou Whakaihu Waka.

Mai i te purapura o te hiahia kia
haere mai koe, tae noa ki te hui
whakapūmau me ka mahi ka whai ake,
ko Te Huka Mātauraka tērā ka poipoi,
ka ārahi, ka āwhina i ka tauira Māori
katoa.



Michelle Taiaroa-McDonald
Kāi Tahu, Tumuaki

All year, every year, Te Huka Mātauraka offers a home away from home for our tauira Māori.

Te Huka Mātauraka is the heart of Māori life on campus, providing services, support, motivation and encouragement. We are an iwi-diverse whānau packed with mātua and whāea who are dedicated to serving our tauira and ensuring they have access to a welcoming place throughout their academic hikoi.

We are a hub for tauira Māori to gather, seek support and advice, and access a rich community of iwi networks and whakawhanaukataka. Our services range from academic and tutorial expertise, tuakana teina support, and Year 13 to first-year support through to clinical and therapeutic care when challenges require more than encouragement and awhi.

This guide will help you understand the depth of tautoko and mahi Te Huka Mātauraka provides. It includes information about transitioning from secondary school to university and will introduce you to the support available at Te Huka Mātauraka.

Ko ngā pou tautoko i tō haerenga

Supporting your journey to Otago

Our Kaitakawaeka Māori may be your first contact with us. Tama Walker is based in the Māori Centre on campus in Dunedin. He can provide information about scholarships and advise taura Māori and their whānau on courses of study. Tama also visits secondary schools, careers evenings, community events and iwi forums.

Tama attends a range of events up and down the motu and is keen to connect with whānau, hapū and kura, so please make contact to plan an individualised visit for your rakatahi.

He works closely with the Schools' Liaison team and often joins them on secondary school visits. Tama manages the Kia Ita programme (page 8) and organises campus tours for individuals, whānau and school groups.

The transition to studying at university can feel huge for both taura and whānau, so please contact Tama if you have any questions.



Tama Walker, *Ngāti Porou*, Kaitakawaeka
021 279 8505 | tama.walker@otago.ac.nz



Whai wheako ki te noho ki te papa taurima

Experience campus life

Did you know you can sample university life while still at school? We run a number of programmes and events to help you figure out if university is for you.

Tertiary Open Days

Tertiary Open Days feature academic presentations and activities, residential college tours, as well as displays and activities from University clubs and services. It's a showcase of what university life looks like at Otago. Held across two days on a Sunday–Monday in May.

otago.ac.nz/open-days

Hands-On at Otago

Hands-On is a week-long summer camp held at Otago during the school holidays in January. We offer Poutama scholarships nationwide for students of Māori descent entering Year 12 or 13 to participate in Hands-On. The scholarship covers all costs, including travel to and from Dunedin.

otago.ac.nz/hands-on-at-otago

REACH Otago Scholarship

Aimed at Year 13 Māori students from across New Zealand who are interested in a career in health. You'll spend three days living in residential colleges, attending lectures, meeting current students and learning about the various health sciences study options on offer at Otago. Applications open 1 May and close 20 June.

otago.ac.nz/mhwdu/tearahauora

On-Campus Experience (OCE)

This fully funded scholarship provides an amazing opportunity for senior secondary students of Māori descent to sample living and learning at Otago. Over three to four days, you'll attend lectures in your areas of interest, meet academic staff and students, experience life in a residential college, visit the Māori Centre and familiarise yourself with Dunedin.

If you're currently in your final year of study at a New Zealand secondary school, are of Māori descent, and have acquired NCEA Level 2 with merit endorsement (or an equivalent for CIE and IB students), consider applying.

otago.ac.nz/future-students/oce

Science Wānanga

Science Wānanga is a three-day, hands-on experience for Māori secondary students. Staying on marae with university students, scientists and kaumatua, you'll get to carry out real science in your local community.

otago.ac.nz/science-wananga

Ngā karahipi Scholarships

Scholarships are an award of money to help pay for your university study. While some scholarships are awarded for academic achievements, others recognise leadership qualities, ethnicity, financial and life challenges, disabilities, and excellence in sporting, cultural or community pursuits. We strongly encourage you to explore all the scholarship opportunities available to you.

University of Otago Māori Entrance Scholarships

Each year, the University offers many scholarships to students of Māori descent looking to begin their first year of tertiary study. These scholarships have a standard value of \$15,000. Some applicants of exceptional calibre may be awarded this scholarship at a higher value and longer tenure.

otago.ac.nz/entrance-scholarships

WHAi Physics Scholarship – JumpStart Physics

This scholarship supports Māori students to prepare for the PHSI 191 Biological Physics paper, as part of Health Sciences First Year (HSFY).

otago.ac.nz/mhwdu/kahikatea

WHAi Chemistry Scholarship – Concepts of Chemistry

This scholarship supports Māori students to prepare for the CHEM 150 Chemical Basis of Biology and Human Health paper, as part of Health Sciences First Year (HSFY).

otago.ac.nz/mhwdu/kahikatea

Other scholarships

There are many scholarships available from a wide range of sources. Visit givME, the GenNZ website that provides information on more than 4,000 scholarships and awards to find out more.

generosity.org.nz/giv-me

You can also talk about scholarship opportunities with careers advisers at your school or with your iwi. Or, email us for further advice.

maori-centre@otago.ac.nz


Iwi verification

Māori ancestry verification must be completed by taura Māori to accept Māori-specific scholarships, e.g., Māori Entrance Scholarship, and competitive entry programmes, e.g., Dentistry. If you don't have verification yet, please don't let this put you off applying.

An iwi registration document is the primary and preferred method the University of Otago uses to verify your Māori ancestry. If you have multiple iwi you only need to provide a registration document for one of your iwi.

If you are not registered with your iwi you will need to apply directly to them. Most iwi have either an online application process or a form that can be downloaded from a website. Registration with your iwi may take time. If you are pursuing options that require Māori ancestry verification with the University of Otago start the process with your iwi early.

maori-ancestry-verification@otago.ac.nz



Arahina Kirifi

Ngaati Whanaunga

Studying Health Sciences First Year

“Moving to university not knowing a single person was a daunting experience, but on my first day in Dunedin, my parents and I stumbled across Te Huka Mātauraka and from that moment I connected with support systems that I would use later in the year. I was able to get advice on issues I had at the start of the year regarding my residential college and just get overall tips on how to go about starting uni and where I could get help if I needed it.

“HSFY has been the best year of my life. In all honesty, I probably wouldn't be able to say the same thing if I wasn't engaged with Te Huka Mātauraka. Through them I was able to stay on track with my papers and find friends.”

Te tautoko i a koe ki Ōtākou

Supporting you at Otago

Kia Ita: Preparation programme for Māori students

Kia Ita is a free six-week Summer School paper that will help prepare you for university life. This programme of lectures, workshops and social activities is for Māori students who are about to begin their first year of study. It is all about whakawhanaukataka and providing taura with the tautoko and awhi to make the transition to university less daunting and easier to navigate. It will also help you form long-lasting friendships and bonds with the whānau of Te Huka Mātauraka

What's in it for you?

- Whakawhanaukataka and the benefits and opportunities that creates.
- Learn university-level study skills and habits.
- Gain credits towards your degree through this paper.
- Get to know what university is about and how it works.
- Experience the Otago campus and facilities.
- Make new friends, connect with whanauka.
- Meet University staff, form bonds with the whānau at Te Huka Mātauraka and learn about our support.

When and where?

Two weeks of distance learning starting early January, followed by four weeks on campus with free accommodation.

otago.ac.nz/kiaita





Hear from some current students about their Kia Ita experience:

Brooke Manion

Ngāpuhi

“Living, eating, attending classes and participating in activities together allowed our cohort to build a strong sense of community that gave me valuable friendships and made Dunedin feel like a second home.”

Raukura Kahukiwa

Ngāti Whakaue, Ngāpuhi, Ngāti Porou, Waikato

“Because no one was around on campus yet, we got to spend a lot of time with the staff at the Māori Centre. As a result, we learned about their roles and who to connect with when we’re struggling. I look at everyone at the Māori Centre like they’re aunties and uncles, and I probably wouldn’t feel that way had I not done the programme. I know so many other taura who are too scared to go into the Māori Centre because of the stigma of not feeling “Māori enough”, however, this experience gave me the confidence to know my place at this university.”

Heni Walker Paringatai

Ngāti Porou

“Transitioning directly from kura to university felt daunting, but being part of Kia Ita gave me the confidence I needed to continue with my studies and my life here in Dunedin. I met some amazing people, from support staff to new friends, and I was lucky enough to connect with flatmates who share my values and mindset.”

Te tautoko i a koe ki Ōtākou

Supporting you at Otago

Tūraka Hou / Māori Orientation

Delivered during O Week, Tūraka Hou assists with the transition from whānau to university, providing a strong foundation for taura Māori to settle into their first year of study. The programme focuses on making sure you're aware of the support and resources available and how to activate them when needed.

Monday: Pōwhiri for first-year taura Māori.

Thursday: Kai Māori Festival.

Monday–Friday: Te Huka Mātauraka open for taura and whānau to connect with staff.

Pōwhiri

The programme begins with a pōwhiri at one of the local marae – Ōtākou or Puketeraki. You'll have the opportunity to meet taura studying in the same field and support staff available in that department. Plus, you'll learn about the wonderful support at Te Huka Mātauraka. Transport will be provided and whānau are encouraged to attend.

Kai Māori Festival

The Kai Māori Festival aims to give taura a reminder of the flavours of home, plus a taste of the unique flavours of the south.



How can whānau be involved?

Many whānau, especially those in the North Island, come to Dunedin at the start of the year to help their children settle in. It can be a long way to travel, but try to attend the pōwhiri for first-year students at one of our local papatipu maraes.

Whenever whānau are in town, they're always welcome to come and see us. And parents can call or email if they have any concerns or wish to understand more about the University.

He taurā mātou mōu We've got your back

“Tertiary-level education can be hard for taura. Especially those that have moved away from the security of their whānau. This is a time full of new spaces and experiences and sometimes it goes somewhere you have never experienced before. We have years of experience of when these things occur, why they occur and how to move through it well, however what taura might do is try and figure it out by themselves – something we ask taura to never do.”

“I’m a Māori Chaplain at the University of Otago and Otago Polytechnic. I take an holistic approach in supporting the wellbeing of students and staff – mentally, physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Tikanga Māori drives my kaupapa of encouraging people of all faiths and none. I am honoured to meet the needs of Māori in this tertiary space to promote student and staff success.”

“I’m the Colleges Programmes Co-ordinator at Te Huka Mātauraka. My role focuses on strengthening connections between Māori taura and the support available to them. I work closely with college kaimahi and other kaimahi to organise events, create resources, and co-ordinate initiatives that enhance hauora. I’m passionate about helping taura feel connected, supported, and empowered during their time at university. If you need assistance navigating university life or just a friendly kōrero, I’m here to help you feel more at home. Feel free to reach out!”



Terry Monga, *Ngāti Maniapoto, Ngāti Whātua-o-Ōrākei, Rarotonga, Kai Honohono*
terry.monga@otago.ac.nz



Te Ata Roy, *Ngāpuhi, Te Rarawa, Te Minita Māori*
maori.chaplain@otago.ac.nz



Krystle van der Salm, *Ngāti Pūkenga, Ngai te Rangi, Ngāti Ranginui, Ngā Pōtiki, Kaitiuiti*
krystle.vandersalm@otago.ac.nz

Hōtaka mātauranga

Academic programme

We invite and encourage you to register for the academic programme. Our programme successfully delivers expert tutorials for first and second-year taura Māori in a wide range of subjects and papers. Attending our supplementary tutorials are integral to you reaching your academic goals.

We pride ourselves on our highly qualified and personable tutors and our supportive whānau learning environment. Attending tutorials will help link you with a support network that can last for the duration of your study. We follow attendance and will help you stay on track, linking you to support within Te Huka Mātauraka and the wider university.

Many of our taura Māori aspire to postgraduate study and professional and leadership roles. We are proud of helping to be a part of their hīkoi of success.

otago.ac.nz/maoricentre/academic



Alley Laird, Kaituitui Matauraka
alley.laird@otago.ac.nz



Martha Dewey, Kaituitui Matauraka Tuarua
martha.dewey@otago.ac.nz

Kā Rikarika o Tāne

Mentoring programme

Kā Rikarika o Tāne aims to enhance educational and social outcomes for taura Māori and alleviate the stress involved in the transition to university.

First-year taura (teina) are matched with a senior taura (tuakana). The tuakana is assigned the task of guiding the teina through their first year of study. These pairs are then clustered together to create whānau groups which are led by more senior taura – the Matāmua and Ahi kā. Throughout the year, the whānau groups compete in competitions to build whanaungatanga, rangatiratanga and enjoyment.

The literal translation of Kā Rikarika o Tāne is “the Hands of Tāne”. Tāne being Tāne-Mahuta, Tāne-nui-a-Rangi, Tāne-o-te-wananga, father of the forest and birds, creator of woman and knowledge seeker.

Underpinning the programme is the story of Tāne Mahuta and the three baskets of knowledge, where Tāne ascends to the highest heaven of Tikitiki-o-rangi in the search for great knowledge to bring back to mankind.

Like Tāne, our taura are on a journey for knowledge and must overcome many obstacles and trials along the way.

Teina can expect a weekly catch-up via text or over coffee with their tuakana who has been trained to provide timely accurate advice – if they don't have the answers, they will know who does.

Nau mai, haere mai ki roto i te korowai o Kā Rikarika o Tāne.

otago.ac.nz/maoriculture/academic



Jeremy Wara, *Waikato Te Arawa*, Kaitiuiti
jeremy.wara@otago.ac.nz

Kaitohutohu Māori Counselling

Our taura have access to experienced counsellors for free, confidential advice and guidance.



Jenny Miller, *Te Ātiawa*
Kaitohutohu
jenny.miller@otago.ac.nz

After completing a Bachelor of Physical Education at Otago in the 1990s, Jenny lived in Auckland and gained a Diploma of Herbal Medicine. She later returned home to Dunedin and worked as a personal trainer before a decade at Araiteuru Whare Hauora. In 2018 she completed Te Taketake, Diploma of Applied Addictions Counselling and worked in Youth Addictions and Mental Health before coming to Te Huka Mātauraka.

“My counselling work is trauma-informed and draws on various models of practice from Te Whare Tapa Whā and Pōwhiri Poutama to somatic and mindfulness approaches to therapy.

“I am available to kōrero about any issue that is bugging you, including anxiety, homesickness, grief, stress, social issues, relationship issues with friends/whānau, sexuality, gender, low mood, trauma or whatever it is you may be struggling with. I am only too happy to have you reach out and make a time to come kōrero. I can see you kanohi ki te kanohi, or we can Zoom as needed.”



Amber Kalinowski, *Kāi Tahu*, *Taranaki*
Kaitohutohu
amber.kalinowski@otago.ac.nz

Ko Taranaki me Takitimu ōku maunga
Ko Hungatehua me Aprima ōku awa
Ko Kurahoupo me Takitimu ōku waka
Ko Taranaki me Kāi Tahu ōku iwi
Ko Amber Kalinowski tōku ingoa

Amber Kalinowski comes from “a big beautiful, dynamic and complicated whānau” who inspired and supported her to be adventurous and curious about the world, people and their experiences.

“My philosophy is deeply rooted in social justice, social construction (society and the messages it tells us) and narratives.

“How terrifyingly exciting that you are coming to Otago. This can be a wondrous place full of potential, new experiences, learnings and relationships. Sometimes these things can be challenging to navigate and being away from whānau and whenua can be hard.

“So come have a kōrero, a laugh and tangi in a pretty chill space. Let us be your whānau away from home.”

Kaiāwhina Māori

Kaiāwhina Māori are based in each division of the University. They can provide advice on scholarships, connect you with academics or senior students, and help you access support services.

Kaiāwhina Business

otago.ac.nz/business/studentactivities/resources/te-kura-pakihi-otago-business-school-kaiawhina-network

Kaiāwhina Humanities

otago.ac.nz/humanities/maori-at-humanities/kaiawhina-maori-support-for-maori-students

Kaiāwhina Sciences

otago.ac.nz/sciences/maori/kaiawhina-network

Māori Health Workforce Development Unit

otago.ac.nz/mhwdu

Ngā rōpū Māori

Māori student associations

Te Rōpū Māori (TRM) represents all taura Māori alongside the Otago University Students' Association. They are the political and advocacy body for taura Māori on campus, and also provide cultural and social support, organising social and sporting events throughout the year.

Te Rōpū aims to support and encourage education for taura Māori enrolled at the University of Otago, encourage tertiary education amongst taura Māori, and liaise with the broader Māori community at local, regional and national levels. Every student who registers at Otago as a Māori taura automatically becomes a member of TRM.

teroopu.maori@otago.ac.nz or
tumuaki@trm.org.nz

 **TRMOTAGO**



Ngā Taura o Te Kete Aronui


There are various other groups for Māori students, providing support, events and activities:

Te Oranga ki Ōtākou (TOKO)
Māori Medical Students' Association

 **teoranga.aotearoa**

Te Rōpū Whai Pūtake
Māori Law Students' Association
whai.putake@otago.ac.nz

Te Tai Tuarā (TTT)
Māori Commerce Students' Association

 **ttt_otago**

Physical Education Māori Students' Association (PEMA)
pema@otago.ac.nz

Ngā Raukura o Tāne Whakapiripiri (NROTW)
Māori Physiotherapy Students' Association

 **nrotw**

Ngā Taura o Te Kete Aronui (NTKA)
Māori Humanities Students' Association

 **NTKA2021**

Ngā Mōkai o Ngā Whetū
Māori Dental Students' Association
teaomarama.org.nz/career-pathways/nga-mokai-o-nga-whetu

Te Puna Kaitaka
Māori Pharmacy Students' Association
tepunakaitaka@gmail.com

Te Rōpū Pūtaiao (TRP)
Māori Science Students' Association
maorisupport.sciences@otago.ac.nz

Ngā Puna Hauora (NPH)
Māori Health Professionals Students' Association

 **ngapunahauora**

Te Rōpū Mātai Hauora (TRMH)
teroopu.maori@otago.ac.nz



Te Arikirangi Paekau

Waikato, Ngāti Mahuta, Ngāti Māhanga

Studying for a Bachelor of Biomedical Sciences

“I have the privilege of being the tumuaki tuarua / vice-president for Te Rōpū Pūtaiao. Our aim is to create a welcoming and safe environment for all Māori Science students. We provide academic and non-academic support, by hosting different events throughout the year. One event that I really enjoyed taking the lead on was our Quiz X Dessert night, where I created quizzes based on our exec members, Science at Otago and worldwide trivia. As someone who loves a good quiz, I really enjoyed hosting one, and the atmosphere that night was great. Great kai, great quizzes and, most importantly, great taurira.”

Hui Whakanui Celebrations

At the Māori Centre, we find many opportunities to celebrate – it's all part of helping you feel welcome, encouraged and valued during your studies. There is nothing like the pride whānau feel when their tamariki make it through their years of study and achieve their degrees, and we make sure this milestone is celebrated.

The Māori Centre co-ordinates the Māori pre-graduation ceremony before the formal events at the Town Hall. All whānau are invited, and there is time for kōrero, waiata, photographs and plenty of laughter (and a few tears!). The event is a highlight on our calendar and is remembered by many taurira as one of the best days of their lives.







Taunaki ākonga

University student support

Support and wellbeing

Otago offers a range of support services to make your time here as stress-free and successful as possible. These include:

- Disability Information and Support
- Student Health Services
- Pacific Islands Centre
- Career Development Centre
- Otago University Students' Association
- Student Learning Development
- Campus Watch

otago.ac.nz/first-year-students/support

Be active

Entry into Unipol Recreation is free with your current student ID card. There are spaces for table tennis, basketball, foosball, netball, volleyball, futsal, group fitness, and functional, weights and cardio training.

otago.ac.nz/recreation

Student exchange

Tūrangawaewae, Pōkai Whenua gives Māori students the opportunity to travel and study overseas at one of our partner universities. You'll receive funding towards your accommodation at your host institution, and you'll also be eligible for financial assistance through the Otago Global Student Exchange Programme.

otago.ac.nz/student-exchange

Library resources

Library kaiāwhina

If you need help navigating the Library or finding the right books, the Library kaiāwhina can help.

otago.ac.nz/library/hocken/librarykaiaawhina

Te Aka a Tāwhaki / Māori Resources Collection

The University's Central Library has a special study area to house Te Aka a Tāwhaki.

Te Aka a Tāwhaki provides core Māori resources that are required reading for many courses across the University, and a relaxed friendly place to get some work done.

Uare Taoka o Hākena / Hocken Collections

This specialist collection of Māori, New Zealand and Pacific material includes artworks, photographs, music, books, journals, maps, newspapers, archives and manuscripts.

There is a specialist Māori research and consultation service, and classes and tours available to help with your research.

He tau i te whare wānanga

The university year

ORIENTATION

Orientation is packed with gigs, sports days, and events to help you settle into university life.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMME

Our academic programme will help you develop strong study skills.

FIRST SEMESTER ENDS

The first semester ends with exams in early June. Once exams are over, there's a two-week break.

JAN

FEB

MAR

APR

MAY

JUN

Tūraka Hou begins with a pōwhiri and the opportunity to meet other taura.

PŌWHIRI

This is a busy time for study, followed by mid-semester break.

MID-SEMESTER BREAK

Semester 1 starts at the end of February.

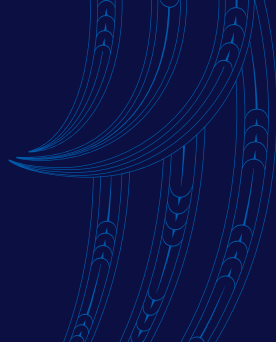
SEMESTER 1 STARTS

Kia Ita starts in early January. This free, six-week programme will help prepare you for university.

KIA ITA

The lead-up to exams can be an anxious time. College staff and support services are on hand to help.

LEAD-UP TO EXAMS



SCHOLARSHIPS EXPOS

The Māori Centre holds scholarships expos to help you find out about financial help available.

EXAM RESULTS

Semester 2 exam results come out at the beginning of December.

JUL

AUG

SEP

OCT

NOV

DEC

One-week mid-semester break.

MID-SEMESTER BREAK

Semester 2 is winter in Dunedin. There is a Winter Orientation for taura Māori, hosted by the Māori Centre.

WINTER ORIENTATION

End of year exams start in mid-October and finish in early November.

END OF YEAR EXAMS

Te hūnuku ki Ōtepoti

Moving to Dunedin

Ka nōhia tēnei rohe whakahirahira o Ōtepoti e ngā Papatipu Rūnaka o Ōtākou, o Kāti Huirapa ki Puketeraki, o Moeraki. He pou whenua, he pou kōrero, he pou herenga tangata.

Located on the southeast coast of the South Island, Dunedin is an urban hub surrounded by beaches, hills and harbour waters. Around 21,000 students call the campus and its surrounding streets home, creating a lively buzz and a real community feel.

If you're into the outdoors, you'll find plenty to keep you occupied. Mountain bike, walking and running trails crisscross the city's hills. Explore the Otago Peninsula or head to St Clair to surf, hang out on the beach, or swim in the heated salt water pool.

Dunedin is well known for its changeable weather but the climate is milder than its reputation suggests! Daily highs are typically 18–22°C in summer and 10–12°C in winter. We also get considerably less rainfall than most New Zealand centres.

Getting here is easy, with daily direct and connecting flights from all over New Zealand. You can drive to Dunedin from anywhere in the South Island within a day. And bus routes connect us to all of the South Island's main cities and towns.



Ka noho au ki hea? Where will I live?



Residential colleges

Most first-year students live in one of our 15 residential colleges, which are located on or close to campus. More than just a room, each college offers three catered meals a day, a strong support network, and a lively social calendar.

You'll be part of a tight-knit community from the day you arrive, making it easier to meet new people and transition to student life.

You can apply online for a place in a residential college from 1 August each year. Applications should be made before the end of September for consideration in the first round of offers.

otago.ac.nz/colleges

Flatting

Flatting is popular with a second-year and above students, although some first-years also choose to flat. Dunedin has a wide range of rental accommodation – from studio rooms and character houses to multi-unit purpose-built complexes. When looking at a flat, consider what it will be like in the middle of winter – a cold and damp flat may lead to health issues that can affect your studies.

The Student Accommodation Centre offers support to students looking for rental accommodation.

otago.ac.nz/accommodation

96% of students give their college experience a positive assessment!

He aha te utu?

What will it cost?

Study fees

Programme fees range from approximately \$6,000 to \$17,000 depending on what degree and papers you study.

There are additional administration and service fees to plan for. You'll also need to budget for textbooks, field trips, and all the social, sporting, community and cultural events Otago has to offer.

otago.ac.nz/tuition-fees

Student loans and allowances

If you cannot pay all of your costs yourself, StudyLink can help you arrange a Government Student Loan. The service can also help you apply for a student allowance (conditions apply), and assist with budgeting and other financial advice.

studylink.govt.nz

Is university worth it?

Yes. Statistics tell us graduates generally earn the best salaries. They also find a range of jobs available, as a degree is evidence of being hard-working and adaptable.

And the university experience helps people grow, influencing every aspect of their lives and affecting the way they bring up and educate their own whānau.

Going to university is not a guaranteed door to success – but it's a path that leads in the right direction.

Living costs

	Residential college	Flatting	Studio room
Annual accommodation fee	\$19,266–\$21,373	-	-
Average rent	-	\$10,400	\$14,040
Groceries (40 weeks @ \$100)	-	\$4,800	\$4,800
Electricity/internet (52 weeks @ \$35)	-	\$2,000	-
Personal costs (40 weeks @ \$80)	\$3,200	\$3,200	\$3,200
Entertainment (40 weeks @ \$55)	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
Total	\$25,466–\$27,573	\$23,400	\$25,040

Based on 2024 figures. Residential college contracts are normally for 38 weeks. Some colleges may charge a higher fee than the fee listed in the table. In addition to the accommodation fee, the residential colleges charge a placement and activity fee (\$921–\$1,500). Personal costs vary considerably depending on lifestyle. This estimated budget does not include travel costs or any significant personal expenditure items.

E pehea au e uru atu ai?

How do I get in?

To enrol at Otago, you'll need to be at least 16 years old by the start of classes, meet English language requirements, and hold one of the following university entrance (UE) qualifications:

NCEA Level 3

- At least 14 credits in each of three approved subjects.
- Numeracy – 10 credits at Level 1 or higher.
- Literacy – 10 credits at Level 2 or above (five in reading and five in writing).

International Baccalaureate (IB)

- IB diploma with 24 points minimum.
- Meet literacy and numeracy requirements.

Cambridge Assessment International Education (Cambridge International)

- At least 120 points on the UCAS Tariff, with a grade of D or better at AS or A level in syllabuses from at least three different syllabus groups, broadly equivalent to the NCEA-approved subject list.
- Meet literacy and numeracy requirements.

Overseas secondary school qualifications

- Australian Secondary School Ranking.
- General Certificate of Education (GCE) Advanced Level.
- International Baccalaureate (IB) taken overseas.
- Other overseas qualifications.

Preferential Entry

Preferential Entry guarantees a place at Otago. As a Māori applicant you may qualify for Preferential Entry if you:

- gain UE and meet the minimum age and language requirements
- apply by the due date
- have not previously studied at a tertiary institution
- are applying for a programme subject to the Entry Pathway system.

otago.ac.nz/entrance

Te Tumu

School of Māori, Pacific and Indigenous Studies

Te Tumu is a voice for an indigenous understanding of the world and the place of all peoples within it. It's a progressive School at Ōtākou Whakaihū Waka, offering a Bachelor of Arts in Māori Studies, Pacific Islands Studies, and Indigenous Studies.

Beyond the BA, Te Tumu offers various postgraduate programmes at honours, master's and PhD levels in Māori Studies, Pacific Studies, and Indigenous Studies. A Master of Indigenous Studies is also available to distance students.

Staff at Te Tumu come from a variety of academic and cultural backgrounds, and include members who identify as Māori, Pacific and Pākehā.

Te Tumu has a strong commitment to Pacific communities and a unique association with the Ngāi Tahu people of the Otago region; Ngā Rūnanga o Te Tai o Arai-te-uru. This acknowledges the location of Te Tumu within Te Wai Pounamu and the relationship the school has with Ngāi Tahu, Ngāti Māmoē and Waitaha as the tangata whenua (people of this land).

otago.ac.nz/tetumu



Whakapā mai

Contact us

Te Huka Mātauraka / Māori Centre

515–519 Castle Street
Dunedin
03 479 8490
maori-centre@otago.ac.nz

AskOtago

AskOtago can help with all your questions about studying at Otago. You can find answers instantly with our searchable knowledgebase, or call, email or chat with us.

ask.otago.ac.nz
0800 80 80 98
university@otago.ac.nz

Schools' Liaison

Auckland office
09 373 9704
auckland.liaison@otago.ac.nz

Wellington office
04 460 9805
wellington.liaison@otago.ac.nz

Dunedin office
03 479 8247
liaison@otago.ac.nz

Key dates

31 July

Applications encouraged for the Bachelor of Teaching (for first round of interviews).

1 August

Residential college applications open online.

14 August

Applications due for first-year courses in Dental Technology, Oral Health, and Radiation Therapy.

15 August

Applications close for most University of Otago entrance scholarships.

1 September

Performance audition applications due in Music and Performing Arts.

30 September

Residential college applications due.

15 November

Applications due for international students.

30 November

Final application deadline for the Bachelor of Teaching.

10 December

Closing date for applications for all new students taking Summer School, semester 1 or full-year papers or courses.



Tāmaki Makaurau
Auckland

Pōneke
Wellington

Ōtautahi
Christchurch

Ōtepoti
Dunedin

Waihōpai
Invercargill