



Ref: OI/19/00792

31 July 2019

Level 9, 44 The Terrace  
PO Box 27048  
Wellington, New Zealand 6141  
P +64 4 462 5200  
www.tec.govt.nz

9(2)(a)

Dear 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your request, received on 13 June 2019, for the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*Could I please make a request to receive for the following information – as soon as it is able to be made available, or under the Official Information Act if absolutely necessary:*

- *How many students were granted fees-free funding since January 1st 2018?*
- *How many students were over the age of 30?*
- *How many students were over the age of 60?*
- *How much money has been paid for fees-free funding since January 1st 2018?*
- *How many students have not proceeded onto second year study because they failed the required assessments?*
- *How many students have been required to repay their fees-free funding for any reason*
- *What were the top-10 courses for which fees-free funding has been paid?*
- *How much money was paid for each of those courses?*
- *What were the top 10 education providers where fees-free funding was provided?*
- *How much money was given to each of those providers?*
- *Was funding provided to any of the following courses, if so how much and for how many people:*

- *Diploma in Golf Coaching*
- *Diploma in Tournament Golf*
- *Certificate in Holistic Pulsing*
- *National certificate in real estate*
- *National diploma in Embalming*
- *Diploma in Sport and Recreation*
- *Diploma in DJ and Electronic Music Production*
- *New Zealand certificate in brewing*
- *Diploma in commercial skydiving*
- *Diploma of yoga*
- *Diploma in Ayurvedic Lifestyle Management*
- *Diploma in Professional Scuba Instruction*



I have numbered your questions for ease of reference. In regards to question one and four, this information is publically available on the TEC website:

<http://www.tec.govt.nz/about-us/information-releases/ministerial-papers/>

In response to questions two, three, and seven through to eleven, this information is included in the tables below.

As a number of your requests are similar in wording to your earlier requests under the Act; we have provided this information in a way that is comparable with your earlier requests, to ensure that the information is consistent and comparable.

In response to question five, the TEC does not hold this information. While we do report on completion data, at this stage the TEC does not break it down to whether a student was in receipt of fees-free tertiary education.

In response to question six, fees-free education is eligibility based and students are not provided with a payment. Our relationship is directly with the providers, and payments are made to providers not students. As such, no students have been required to repay fess-free funding to TEC. If a student is found to not be eligible for fees-free, it is up to the student to arrange alternative funding (such as a Student Loan) with their provider.

I am therefore refusing these parts of your request under section 18(e) of the Act, as the information does not exist.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

The TEC intends to publish its response to this request on our website with your personal details removed. Consistent with the Act, we are publishing responses in the interests of transparency and accountability, and to improve access to official information.

Yours sincerely



John Soulis  
Deputy Chief Executive – Corporate and Finance Directorate  
Tertiary Education Commission

### Fees-free student data by age

How many students were over the age of 30	3392
How many students were over the age of 60	131

### Top ten courses by fees-free course enrolment

Tertiary Education Organisation	Course Code	Course Description	Total Course Fees Including GST
University of Otago	CELS191	Cell and Molecular Biology	1,718,032
University of Otago	CHEM191	The Chemical Basis of Biology and Human Health	1,614,187
University of Otago	HUBS191	Human Body Systems 1	1,593,418
University of Otago	PHSI191	Biological Physics	1,299,921
University of Otago	HUBS192	Human Body Systems 2	1,282,299
The University of Auckland	BUSINESS101	Business and Enterprise 1	919,965
The University of Auckland	ACCTG101	Accounting Information	907,036
University of Otago	BIOC192	Foundations of Biochemistry	1,136,064
University of Otago	PUBH192	Foundations of Epidemiology	1,133,655
The University of Auckland	ECON151	Understanding the Global Econo	879,562

### Top ten Tertiary Education Organisations by fees-free student enrolment

Tertiary Education Institution	Total Course Fees Including GST
The University of Auckland	34,926,330
Auckland University of Technology (AUT)	21,395,945
University of Otago	23,824,277
Victoria University of Wellington	21,642,231
University of Canterbury	17,379,082
Massey University	14,313,926
University of Waikato	9,850,139
Ara Institute of Canterbury	7,469,624
Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology	5,954,554
Unitec New Zealand	4,975,284

## Fees-free funding provided in relation to specific courses

Qualification Code	Qualification Description	Students Enrolled	Total Course Fees Including GST
NC1543	National Certificate in Real Estate (Salesperson) Level 4	124	51,303.50
PC1775	Diploma in Professional Scuba Instruction (Level 5)	74	909,041.00
NZ3111	New Zealand Certificate in Real Estate (Salesperson) (Level 4)	68	124,726.00
NZ3414	New Zealand Certificate in DJ and Electronic Music Production (Level 4)	52	163,654.84
ST4864	Diploma in Sport and Recreation	26	65,253.48
NT4538	Diploma in Sport and Recreation	7	5,172.17
PC9023	Diploma in Commercial Skydiving	5	53,220.00
PC9266	Diploma of Yoga	5	30,075.00
NZ1943	New Zealand Diploma in Embalming (Level 5)	3	13,320.00
AK3246	Diploma in Sport and Recreation	-	-
BP3287	Diploma in Sport and Recreation	-	-
NC5244	National Certificate in Real Estate	-	-
PC2280	Diploma in Golf	-	-
PC9639	Diploma in Golf (level 5)	-	-
PC9733	Diploma of Ayurvedic Lifestyle Management	-	-
PC9820	Certificate in Holistic Healthcare	-	-
WC3002	Certificate in DJ and Electronic Music Production	-	-
WC3427	Advanced DJ and Electronic Music Production (Level 5)	-	-
WK2491	Diploma in Sport and Recreation	-	-

Please note, that qualifications NC1543 and NZ3111 are different durations.

We note that some courses now have fewer enrolments than included in our responses to your earlier requests. This may be due to a number of reasons, not limited to student course transfers or student course withdrawals.