Postgraduate Diploma in Medical Laboratory Science (PGDipMLSc)

Study the Postgraduate Diploma in Medical Laboratory Science (PGDipMLSc)

Overview

The Postgraduate Diploma in Medical Laboratory Science (PGDipMLSc) is open to well-qualified BMLSc graduates, and other medical laboratory scientists who can demonstrate an interest and aptitude for research. The Diploma is designed to prepare candidates for full-time research and thesis preparation for a Master of Medical Laboratory Science (https://www.otago.ac.nz/study/qualifications/master-of-medical-laboratory-science) (MMLSc) degree, and thus includes a mix of course work and basic research. Both the Diploma and the Masters degree may be taken part- or full-time. There are special requirements to be met, and candidates are advised to consult with their potential supervisor, and with the BMLSc Course Director as early as possible.

If you do not meet the entry requirements for the PGDip MLSc, but are a qualified and experienced Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT), please contact us to find out about our bridging pathway.

Study level

Postgraduate

Duration

1 year

Location

Dunedin, Christchurch

Estimated fees

Domestic fee 2026: NZ $14,000

International fee 2027: NZ $55,125

Programme details

Programme structure

Papers
MELS 510 Advanced Medical Laboratory Practice (45 points)
MELS 580 Research Project (45 points)
Approved research methods paper(s) (30 points)

Fees and scholarships

Estimated annual tuition fees

Domestic 2026	International 2027
NZ $14,000	NZ $55,125

Please note: The yearly tuition fees listed above are only a guide and may vary based on your final paper selection. They exclude living expenses and may not reflect the total cost of your programme of study. Students are responsible for any additional fees beyond the estimated amount displayed.

Important fees notes

The University of Otago is required by Government regulation to ensure a range of support services are available to students. These are funded through the charging of the Student Services Fee, which varies by campus, location, and mode of study.

Australian citizens and permanent residents pay the same fees as New Zealand citizens if they are studying in New Zealand. If they are studying distance learning papers from outside of New Zealand they will need to pay international fees.

International Students studying at Otago pay international tuition fees. Study Abroad students pay a flat fee per semester.

- Read more about domestic and international

fees (https://www.otago.ac.nz/study/fees)

Scholarships

There are a number of scholarships, grants and awards that can help pay for your study – find yours by searching or browsing through the links below.

- Scholarships at Otago (https://www.otago.ac.nz/study/scholarships)
- Scholarships for international students (https://www.otago.ac.nz/international/future-students/fees-scholarships/international-scholarships)

Student loans and allowances

Student loans and allowances provide financial support to domestic students via StudyLink.

- Government student loans and allowances (https://www.otago.ac.nz/first-year-students/finances/student-loans-and-allowances)

Explore more in Medical Laboratory Science

Learn where this subject can take you and discover the full range of study options, from undergraduate programmes to postgraduate pathways.

Study Medical Laboratory Science at Otago (https://www.otago.ac.nz/apply/postgraduate/medical-laboratory-science)

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Regulations on this page are taken from the 2026 Calendar and supplementary material.