



ousa

BUDGET 2027

Introduction

The Otago University Students' Association (OUSA) provides advocacy and services to students at the University of Otago. The majority of OUSA's funding comes from a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with the University. The SLA funding comes from Students and is collected by the University in the form of the Compulsory Student Services Fee (CSSF) to fund both University and the Associations own. To make up the rest of OUSA's operational costs, additional income is derived from a range of student-focused and commercial streams.

Since the Voluntary Student Membership was introduced in 2012, the CSSF, which ultimately funds OUSA, is no longer set by students. The University currently sets this fee, and the proportion given to OUSA is negotiated based off consultation with students. The SLA then forms the basis for OUSA's budget for the following year.

Other income streams include event ticketing, advertising sales and building leases. The majority of OUSA's services are not designed to make a profit. However, the Association actively looks into alternative income streams to strengthen our financial security, in the event that University funding is cut.

OUSA is committed to providing the best advocacy and services for our students. We annually assess our expenditure to ensure students are getting the most from their money. We regularly provide opportunities for feedback the biggest being our annual survey on OUSA services which goes out during second semester.

The budget has been prepared according to the values of OUSA and the interests of University of Otago students.



Student Support

Student Support is OUSA's free and confidential service that helps students navigate university life. The Student Support team provide advice and advocacy on tenancy issues, financial hardship, academic disputes, wellbeing, relationships, queer support, and more. Students can access support for matters such as budgeting, food assistance, flatting guidance, or personal challenges.

For 2027, \$811,115 is budgeted for Student Support, an increase of \$70,888 from 2026. This reflects the addition of a full-time student voice coordinator and a new support service for those located at satellite campuses.



Events

OUSA runs a wide range of events each year that bring students together and shape campus life. These include major traditions such as Orientation Week, Re-Orientation, and the Hyde Street Party, as well as community focused programmes like Volunteer Week, Flatting Week, Speed Flatting, Winter Wellbeing Week, Mental Health Awareness Week, and Diversity Week.

For 2027, \$587,098 slightly down from \$588,812 in 2026. Hyde Street continues to be a large success helping offset the cost for two new events! The OUSA Annual Leaders Debate & a Health and Wellbeing Day.

Student Executive

The OUSA Student Executive governs the Association and represents students' interests at university, local, and national levels. It advocates on academic, welfare, and policy issues, ensuring students have a strong voice in decisions that affect their education and campus experience.

For 2027, \$258,491 is budgeted for the Student Executive, an increase of \$8,515 from 2025. This reflects new campaign initiatives, more Memorandum of Understanding funds to continue assisting equity groups on campus! This new budget reflects the commitment to fighting for student wellbeing!



Clubs & Societies

The OUSA Clubs & Societies Centre is a central part of student life at Otago. In 2024 it welcomed over 166,000 visits and supported more than 160 student clubs across sports, culture, and special interests. The Centre also provides everyday services such as free breakfasts, \$5 lunches, study spaces, recreational programmes, and facilities including hot showers and a sauna.

For 2027, \$1012,607, is budgeted for Clubs & Societies, an increase of \$92,744 from 2026. This is due to the \$30,000 increase in Club Grants putting the total pool at \$90,000 the first increase post covid helping further assist clubs to develop a strong social community on campus. Other increases are due to increasing costs to provide our services and deferred maintenance. Clubs & Societies is funded by the SLA.

Student Media

Radio One 91FM is OUSA's student radio station, operating since 1984. It provides students with a platform to share their voices, gain broadcasting experience, and connect with Dunedin's arts and music scene. The station supports new and emerging artists, offers hands on media training, and delivers independent journalism and diverse programming.



Critic Te Ārohi is New Zealand's longest running student magazine and a key part of Otago's campus culture. It provides an independent platform for students to share ideas, report on issues, and showcase writing, art, and design. The magazine also offers students hands on experience in journalism and publishing.

For 2027 Student Media funding is increasing from \$695,479 to \$797,466. This increase is due to some awesome developments in the digital media content space with increasing funding towards social media & Filming staff. This budget also restores Critic pages to 32 every edition for 2027.



OUSA 2026 Budget

	Department	Dept code	FY Budget 26	FY Budget 27	Change
Income	University contribution	1600	-\$ 5,165,087.60	-\$ 5,552,474.52	-\$ 387,386.92
	Planet Media	9100	-\$ 43,618.77	-\$ 67,812.82	-\$ 24,194.05
			-\$ 5,208,706	-\$ 5,620,287	-\$ 411,581
Expenses	Admin General	1100	\$ 175,110	\$ 180,962	\$ 5,852
	Admin Mant	1200	\$ 900,441	\$ 1,015,435	\$ 114,994
	External service	1400	\$ 120,000	\$ 120,000	\$ -
	Maintenance	1700	\$ 2,500	\$ 11,950	\$ 9,450
			\$ 1,198,051	\$ 1,328,347	\$ 130,296
	Marketing and Coms	2000	\$ 468,260	\$ 485,467	\$ 17,207
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	Exec general	3100	\$ 247,776	\$ 258,491	\$ 10,715
	Exec campaigns	3200	\$ 2,200	\$ -	-\$ 2,200
			\$ 249,976	\$ 258,491	\$ 8,515
	Student Support	4100	\$ 740,267	\$ 811,155	\$ 70,888
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	Events				
	Events General	5100	\$ 606,808	\$ 627,663	\$ 20,855
	Orientation	5200	\$ 28,205	\$ 16,912	-\$ 11,293
	Hyde Street	5300	-\$ 90,720	-\$ 111,286	-\$ 20,566
	Capping Show	5400	-\$ 4,959	-\$ 5,776	-\$ 817
	Battle of the Bands	5500	\$ 11,214	\$ 11,580	\$ 366
	Re:Ori	5600	\$ 21,954	\$ 21,694	-\$ 260
	Future DJ	5700	\$ 2,390	\$ 2,390	\$ -
	Art week	5800	\$ 13,920	\$ 13,920	\$ -
	Other Events	5900	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
			\$ 588,812	\$ 587,098	-\$ 1,714
Clubs and Socs	7100	\$ 759,045	\$ 810,475	\$ 51,429	
Aquatic Centre	7200	\$ 86,208	\$ 101,283	\$ 15,075	
Clubs Development	7500	\$ 74,580	\$ 101,040	\$ 26,460	
Recreation	7700	\$ 30	-\$ 190	-\$ 220	
		\$ 919,863	\$ 1,012,607	\$ 92,744	
Student Media					
Radio One	9200	\$ 357,267	\$ 437,517	\$ 80,250	
Critic	9300	\$ 338,212	\$ 359,949	\$ 21,737	
		\$ 695,479	\$ 797,466	\$ 101,987	
Depreciation			\$ 283,550	\$ 278,382	-\$ 5,168
Net Profit/Loss			-\$ 64,448	-\$ 61,274	\$ 3,174