

University Accreditation Results
(Results for Certified Evaluation and Accreditation for university)

Showa Pharmaceutical University



Basic Information of the Institution	
Ownership: Private	Location: Tokyo, Japan
Accreditation Status	
Year of the Review: 2016	
Accreditation Status: accredited (Accreditation Period: April.01.2017 – March.31.2024)	

Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for Showa Pharmaceutical University

Overview

Showa Pharmaceutical University (hereafter, the University) was established as the Showa Women's Pharmaceutical Junior College in 1930. In 1950, the college was renamed Showa Pharmaceutical University, and was established as a co-educational university under the new post-war education system. Currently, the University is a pharmaceutical university with a single faculty, the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, and a graduate school, the Research Division in Pharmaceutical Sciences. Its campus was relocated in 1990 from Setagaya Ward, Tokyo, to the city of Machida, and based on its founding spirit, "Independence and integration," as well as its mission, "Contribution to humanity through medicine," the University has developed its educational and research activities.

After its accreditation review by Japan University Accreditation Association (JUAA) in 2009, the University, under the president's leadership, has taken actions that exceed what the accreditation identified and have led to consistent improvements. In particular, the University has actively implemented social cooperation and contribution activities including those to the local community through its accumulated achievements in education and research. For example, the University holds science education lectures for high school students and hosts programs such as the "Open Lecture for Citizens" program. Above all, it is commendable that the University has continued to offer citizens a variety of learning opportunities, such as "Plant Garden Practice" and "Herb Classroom," which focus on activities in the medicinal plant garden.

In regards to self-study, several standing committees have continuously conducted their self-studies and evaluations, which the Self-Study Committees in the faculty and graduate school summarize and publish as the Yearbook on Education and Research. However, the University still has several issues to address. The low ratio of enrolled students to the student enrollment cap in the master's program for the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences should be corrected. Moreover, while each faculty and department has established its own Self-Study Committee, the University has not sufficiently developed its internal quality assurance system to broadly and constantly conduct self-study of the entire University. JUAA expects that the University will improve this issue by making a substantial effort to enable the system to function properly, which ideally will lead to further improvements and reforms.

Notable Strengths

Social Cooperation and Contribution

- It is commendable that the University has contributed to the local community by returning the results of education and research through a variety of actions. In particular, as an effort to represent its mission, "Contribution to humanity through medicine," the University has built one of the largest medicinal botanical gardens in Japan, where practical trainings for classes are conducted, and "Medical Herb Class" is continuously offered for the purpose of communicating knowledge about medicinal plants to the general public.

Suggestions for Improvement

Enrollment

- The ratio of enrolled students to the student enrollment cap is low at 0.10 in the

master's program in Research Division in Pharmaceutical Sciences. This should be improved.

Internal Quality Assurance

- While a Self-Study Committee is installed in undergraduate and graduate school respectively, the internal quality assurance system that oversees the self-study of the entire University and leads to improvements from a systematic perspective has not been fully developed. The University should develop a functional quality assurance system that works towards reforms and improvements.