

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

Tsukuba International University



Basic Information of the Institution	
Ownership: Private	Location: Ibaraki, 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 Tsukuba International University

Overview

Tsukuba International University (hereafter, the University) was established in 1994 as a college with a single faculty of Industrial Researches and Social Services with two departments (Industrial Information and Social Services). After establishing the Faculty of Health Sciences, the University currently has two faculties and eight departments. Its two campuses, the Tsukuba International University Campus and the Second Campus, are located in the city of Tsuchiura, Ibaraki Prefecture. Under the guidance of its five missions, “internationality,” “sociality,” “interdisciplinarity,” “futuraity,” and “problem solving,” the University has conducted education and research activities.

After its accreditation review by Japan University Accreditation Association (JUAA) in 2009, as well as its re-review in 2012, the University has actively worked on issue such as student enrollment and organization for faculty members and has made improvements in many areas. In this accreditation, the University’s initiatives have been recognized in university-wide efforts for improvements in educational content and methods, and efforts in the area of team medicine. It is commendable that the University has utilized students’ expertise in such fields as welfare, nursing and medicine to vitalize social cooperation and contribution, and volunteer activities.

However, the University still has several issues to address. In regards to student enrollment, the average of the ratios of the last five years of enrolled freshmen to the freshman admission cap is low in the Department of Health and Nutrition in the Faculty of Health Sciences. This issue must be improved. Moreover, because several questions exist concerning policy on degree award in the Faculty of Health Sciences and in the upper limits of credits students are allowed to register for annually, JUAA expects that the University will make efforts to improve these issues for its further development.

Notable Strengths

Social Cooperation and Contribution

- It is commendable that the University has cooperated with the local society by distributing a manual to citizens with disability certificates. The University prepared the “Disaster Prevention Action Manual to Help People in Disasters,” in cooperation with the city of Tsuchiura and organizations for the disabled, in 2008 and revised the publication in 2012 by reviewing its contents and adding items as lists of emergency and welfare shelters in the aftermath of the Great East Japan Earthquake.
- It is commendable that the number of students who plan and participate in volunteer activities increases dramatically every year, as student volunteer activities are gradually developed from small circle-based efforts to university-wide initiatives with the support of faculty and staff members. In particular, there has been several volunteer outreach activities based on the educational content of each department, and the scale and frequency of these events has increased. For example, “pink ribbon” activities by the medical visualization circle (an extracurricular activity organization), participation in “Hoshasen Ten” (an exhibition on radiation), and conditioning activities for a marathon competitions (conducted by the Tsukuba International Trainers Society Conference).

Suggestions for Improvement

Educational Content, Methods, and Outcome

- In the policy on degree award of each department in the Faculty of Health Sciences, the required learning outcomes for the completion of the degree are not indicated. This should be improved.
- The maximum number of credits students are allowed to register for per year has not been set in the Department of Health and Nutrition in the Faculty of Health Sciences. This should be improved in line with the purpose of the credit system.

Area of Serious Concern

Enrollment

- The average of the ratios of the last five years of enrolled freshmen to the freshman admission cap is low at 0.69, and the ratio of enrolled students to the student enrollment cap is also low at 0.62 in the Department of Health and Nutrition in the Faculty of Health Sciences. These numbers must be improved.