

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

Hiroshima Shudo University



Basic Information of the Institution	
Ownership: Private	Location: Hiroshima, Japan
Accreditation Status	
Year of the Review: 2025	
Accreditation Status: accredited (Accreditation Period: April 1, 2026 – March 31, 2033)	

Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for Hiroshima Shudo University

Overview

Hiroshima Shudo University has established three diploma, curriculum, and admission policies for its undergraduate and graduate schools to realize its mission and purpose, formulates policies for degree programs, and designs and implements curricula appropriate for each degree. The University sets forth the educational goal of “fostering individuals who can contribute to the development of the local community from a global perspective,” with social cooperation and contribution positioned as the core of its educational and research activities. To clarify its overall direction, the University announced the Social Contribution and Cooperation Policy comprising the three pillars of “cultivating human resources contributing to the development of the local community and local community contribution,” “an industry-academia-government collaboration policy,” and “developing global talent and promoting internationalization.”

To provide and upgrade education aimed at achieving student learning outcomes, the University Self-Assessment and Evaluation Committee conducts university-wide inspections and assessments based on the reports of the Self-Assessment and Evaluation Committee under each faculty, graduate school, and administrative division (hereinafter, the “Divisional Self-Assessment and Evaluation Committee”). The University Management Council issues improvement instructions, while the Academic Management Committee is tasked with university-wide coordination that involves teaching and learning. On the education and research structure level, the Divisional Self-Study Committee inspects and assesses annual project plans and educational activities, and undertakes improvements based on the results. As for the subject class level, faculty members make efforts to improve their teaching methods based on class surveys as well as reports from other faculty and staff members who observe open classes. Under these mechanisms, the University constantly improves its curricula and teaching methods. In addition, the University reflects the inspection and assessment results of external evaluation committee members as well as student opinions and other comments from the student union’s student surveys in teaching and learning, while working to visualize the learning outcomes through the Learning Portfolio. The University is expected to advance its university-wide educational quality assurance using these learning outcomes and

institutional research (IR) data.

In regard to the University's social cooperation and contribution positioned as the core of its educational and research activities, the Center for the Co-creation of Hiroshima's Future plays a pivotal role in signing comprehensive partnership agreements with local municipalities, companies, and other organizations to promote the student-led Community Connection Project. The Project was upgraded through the introduction of a preparatory stage in AY2021 and developed into "Discovery-Based," "Problem-Based," and "Open-Ended" types in AY2025 in response to the needs of the local community and students. The University continues to receive many community requests regarding challenges to be addressed as a result of helping to resolve regional issues and producing numerous positive outcomes. An increasing number of students also participate in these activities to experience social contribution and practical learning. These are highly commendable initiatives that serve as outstanding examples of the University undertaking education in collaboration with society.

The graduate schools, however, have low ratios of student enrollment to the student enrollment cap, with quota fulfillment remarkably insufficient in the doctoral programs. The University formed the Graduate School Reform Working Group in AY2024 and began in the following year to adopt improvement measures, such as reviewing the enrollment quotas. Continuous efforts should be made to resolve the enrollment shortfalls.

The University promotes education, social cooperation, and contribution efforts based on its mission while maintaining the appropriate internal quality assurance structure. In the years ahead, the University is expected to progress further by resolving various issues under the internal quality assurance promotion organization and advancing its distinctive initiatives.

Outstanding Initiatives

Social Cooperation and Contribution

- As a social cooperation initiative to realize its mission, the University launched the Community Connection Project in AY2010, under which students tackle community challenges identified on their own. The University sustains the Project through improvement efforts, such as attracting various types of students through the introduction of the "Discover-Based" type as a preparatory stage and the "Problem-Based" type designed to address issues raised by the community in response to the needs of students interested in community engagement but unsure of how to identify

challenges. Numerous positive outcomes have led to the University earning deep trust from the local community and businesses, with the Problem-Based type continuing to receive many requests regarding challenges to be addressed. The Project is advancing its operations in a systematic way to promote community outreach activities and to provide students with opportunities for self-directed and practical learning. These are outstanding initiatives through which the University undertakes education in collaboration with society.

Suggestions for Improvement

Student Enrollment

- The ratios of student enrollment to the student enrollment cap are low at 0.48 in the master's program in the Faculty of Humanities and Human Sciences, Graduate School, 0.27 in the doctoral program in the Faculty of Humanities and Human Sciences, Graduate School, 0.47 in the master's program in the Faculty of Law, Graduate School, 0.13 in the master's program in the Faculty of Economic Sciences, Graduate School, 0.08 in the doctoral program in the Faculty of Economic Sciences, Graduate School, and 0.15 in the master's program in the Faculty of Commercial Sciences, Graduate School. No students are enrolled in the doctoral program in the Faculty of Commercial Sciences, Graduate School. The Graduate School Reform Working Group was formed in AY2024 to begin discussions on the future roles of the graduate schools, and initiates various efforts that include reducing the enrollment caps in the master's and doctoral programs starting in AY2025. These discussions and efforts should be continued to improve student enrollment.