

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

Kyoto Pharmaceutical University



Basic Information of the Institution	
Ownership: Private	Location: Kyoto, Japan
Accreditation Status	
Year of the Review: 2015	
Accreditation Status: Accredited (Accreditation Period: April.01.2016 – March.31.2023)	

Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for Kyoto Pharmaceutical University

Overview

Kyoto Pharmaceutical University was originally established as Kyoto Private German School in 1884, which was later renamed Kyoto Private Pharmaceutical School, and then Kyoto Pharmaceutical Professional School. In 1949, the school became a university, Kyoto Pharmaceutical University (hereafter, the University). Currently, it is a university with the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences and a Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences. With its two campuses, the main and south campuses, located in Kyoto City, Kyoto Prefecture, it has developed its educational and research activities based on its founding spirit of “Philosophia et Praktikos.”

After its accreditation review by Japan University Accreditation Association (JUAA) in 2008, the University has made its orientation clear: that it is building its ability to educate a wide range of talented persons who can take an active part in the pharmaceutical field. In particular, it set forth the second mid-term plans in 2012 based on its mid-term plans formulated in 2007.

The University has made efforts to support student learning by strengthening cooperation among various academic and administrative units. Moreover, it has undertaken initiatives to develop education in various ways involving the entire university. For example, it has defined the concept of “Pharmacist-Scientist” as one who has expertise and research ability as a scientist and who also is very compassionate in addition to possessing specialized knowledge of pharmaceutical sciences. The University has also defined the “Global Vision of Kyoto Pharmaceutical University” in which it discusses its internationalization education plans that aim to cultivate researchers who can be active across the world.

However, the University still has some issues to address. For example, it has not defined its own purpose and the criteria for examining theses of degree-seeking students. In addition, some students in the doctoral program of the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences complete all the requirements except the dissertation, and leave the University before completing their dissertation requirement. Later, when these students submit their dissertations, even though they do not have enrollment status, they are granted “course-based doctoral degrees” in the same manner as those students who earned the degree within the time limit. This procedure is stated in the regulations, but it is not an appropriate use of the system. These issues should be improved.

Notable Strength

Educational Content, Methods, and Outcome

- It is commendable that the University has made efforts to cultivate “Pharmacist-Scientists” and researchers who can play active parts globally. In particular, under the “Global Vision of Kyoto Pharmaceutical University,” both the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences and the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences have made efforts in multiple areas across the entire university. The faculty has held graduate theses presentation meetings where all the students make presentations by crafting and using posters in English. The Graduate School has offered unique initiatives to internationalize education by holding a series of seminars in which students are taught how to make presentations and write articles in English.

Suggestions for Improvements

Mission and purpose

- The Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences has defined its purpose in its graduate school rules. However, the statement is worded with the exact same language as the purpose of the graduate school as stipulated in the School Education Law, except it adds the phrase “concerning the Pharmaceutical science.” The Graduate School should improve this situation by defining its own purpose.

Educational Content, Methods, and Outcomes

- The master’s program in the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences has not clearly indicated its criteria for examining theses of degree-seeking students. The University should improve this situation by clearly stating these criteria in student handbooks such as “Graduate School Syllabi.”
- In the doctoral program of the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, some students complete all the requirements except the dissertation, and leave the University before completing their dissertation requirement within the time limit set by the University. Later, when these students submit their dissertations, even though they do not have enrollment status, they are granted doctoral degrees in the same manner as those students continuously enrolled. This is an inappropriate use of the system that should be corrected. In accordance with the purpose of having a doctoral program, the University should create measures to enhance the degree completion within the required time frame.