

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

Chubu Gakuin University



Basic Information of the Institution	
Ownership: Private	Location: Gifu, Japan
Accreditation Status	
Year of the Review: 2017	
Accreditation Status: accredited (Accreditation Period: April.01.2018 – March.31.2025)	

Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for Chubu Gakuin University

Overview

Chubu Gakuin University (hereafter, the University) was founded in 1997 in the city of Seki, Gifu Prefecture. Originally incorporated as a women's junior college (currently Chubu Gakuin College) by the educational institute Gifu Seibi Gakuin, the University underwent expansion and reorganization before developing into an institution with four undergraduate schools (Faculties of Human Well-Being, Education, Nursing and Rehabilitation, and Management) and a graduate school (Graduate School of Human Well-Being). In 2017, the Faculty of Management was restructured to create the Faculty of Sports and Health Sciences.

The University opened in 2006 a second campus in adjacent Kakamigahara City at the city's request. The two campuses provide a base from which the University carries out education and research with an emphasis on character development rooted in evangelical Christian values and guided by the founding principle of "Fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge."

After its accreditation review by Japan University Accreditation Association (JUAA) in 2010, the University, under the leadership of the president, established the "President and Vice President Council" tasked with governance as well as the "University Education Reform Committee" in charge of promoting self-study. In cooperation with the Faculty Development Committee, these organizations have worked systematically to address the issues identified in areas such as education content and methods, student admissions, research environment, and faculty organizations. To ensure orderly execution of these improvement activities, the University formulated the University Action Plan in 2013, which was later updated in 2015 and used as the basis to develop the "First Medium-Term Action Plan 2015 – 2019."

In the latest review, JUAA noted that the University has distinctive social cooperation and contribution programs, including collaborative projects with local communities, namely the Center for Child Rearing Support (Lalula), the Counseling Center for Human Well-Being, and an international cooperation program to foster nurses in Vietnam.

The University is expected to make further efforts to address such problems as

the inappropriate combination of coursework and research work offered in the doctoral program curriculum of the Graduate School of Well-Being; the thesis evaluation criteria for the master's course being almost identical to that of the doctoral course; and the average ratio of freshman enrollment to the freshman enrollment cap over the past five years, the ratio of student enrollment to the student enrollment cap, and the ratio of transfer students to the transfer enrollment cap being low in several faculties and departments.

Notable Strengths

Social Cooperation and Contribution

- The support center for families with children, La Rula, and the Human Well-Being Counseling Center, both located on campus, provide a place for local children, parents, and care-givers to gather and socialize. These centers not only serve the local community through child development, parenting, and mental health counseling, but also disseminate research results for the benefit of the community, with data collected from consenting parents on parenting practices, case studies conducted on real-life patient experiences, and regular public presentations held to share the findings. La Rula also serves as a place of learning where students can observe first-hand parents nurturing their children in a home-like environment. The facility's activities are commended for combining and integrating social contribution, research, and education on an on-going basis.
- The elderly care program in Da Nang, Vietnam, is a program that imparts the knowledge and skills of Japanese elderly care practices to local nurses. The program is designed to train a broad base of senior care providers by having trained nurses holding training sessions of their own and passing on their knowledge and skills to other nurses. The University is commended for its international cooperation program, and for investing resources and knowledge to help develop health care providers overseas and working to spread the benefits widely among local communities.

Suggestions for Improvement

Educational Content, Methods, and Outcome

- The combination of research work and course work in the doctoral course curriculum of the Graduate School of Human Well-Being is not appropriate. The school is advised to make improvements to ensure their education program is suitable and in line with the purpose of the program-based graduate school system.
- The thesis evaluation criteria for the master's course are almost identical to that of the doctoral course. A separate set of criteria should be developed for each program and stipulated in the course guidelines.

Enrollment

- The ratio of student enrollment to the student enrollment cap is low at 0.85 in the Department of Child Education, Faculty of Education, and should be improved.
- The ratio of transfer students to the transfer student enrollment cap was low in 2017 at 0.10 in the Department of Human Well-Being, Faculty of Human Well-Being; 0.15 in the Department of Child Education, Faculty of Education; and 0.20 in the Department of Management, Faculty of Management. These ratios should be improved.

Area of Serious Concern

Enrollment

- The average ratio of freshman enrollment to the freshman enrollment cap over the past five years and the ratio of student enrollment to the student enrollment cap were low in 2017 at 0.75 and 0.72, respectively, in the Faculty of Human Well-Being, and the same ratios were low at 0.73 and 0.72, respectively, in the Department of Human Well-Being. The University is advised to improve its enrollment management.