

**Results for Certified Evaluation and Accreditation
for Professional Graduate School of Public Health**

**Division of Public Health,
Teikyo University Graduate School of Public Health**



Basic Information of the Institution	
Ownership: Private	Location: Tokyo, Japan
Accreditation Status	
Year of the Review: 2020	
Accreditation Status: accredited (Accreditation Period: April.1.2021 – March.31.2026)	

**Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results
for Teikyo University Graduate School of Public Health
Division of Public Health**

The Division of Public Health, Teikyo University Graduate School of Public Health (hereinafter referred to as the “Division”) states the purpose of the Graduate School is “to protect people's lives, promote their health, and contribute to the sustainable development of a sound health care system, the continuous improvement of the quality of medical care, and creation of a society that maintains good health.” To achieve this, the purpose of the professional degree program is to “train highly specialized professionals who can solve problems based on scientific judgment on various public health issues from a leadership stand point.” Along with developing capable students in doctoral courses, “the educational purpose of the graduate school is to contribute to society through such development of capable students in public health.”

The Division has established a more tangible mission, vision, values, and goals to achieve their distinct purpose, and these are shared with faculty and students as guidelines in places of education. What is more, it is commendable that by using “competency,” which is the qualification and ability suitable for professional work, as a keyword and by listing the elements that constitute competency, the Division is promoting sharing, including the above guidelines, and building an environment that facilitates smooth communication with even and open relationships between faculty and students.

As for the system to support students in their studies and such, the Division has a dual research supervision system consisting of academic advisors in charge of cross-disciplinary advice and research supervisors in charge of professional advice. Additionally, the Division provides step-by-step and systematic research guidance for research projects through a subgroup system in which research advisors from several different disciplines are grouped with assigned students. In this way, the Division cultivates cross-disciplinary communication skills and problem setting skills necessary for public health professionals while embodying the mission of “practical learning”, which is the spirit of foundation. Moreover, the Division has steadily achieved a track record in responding to globalization by promoting collaboration with universities in the United States and the United Kingdom, holding seminars, conducting international exchanges in Asia, and exchanges between faculty and students.

In this way, while the Division promotes distinct initiatives in the educational

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program and educational method, the following must be pointed out as issues to be improved.

First, although the curriculum covers five basic specialized areas, the number of required credits for Health and Behavioral Sciences, Health Policy and Medical Management, and Industrial and Environmental Health Sciences is fewer than the number of required credits for Epidemiology and Biostatistics. Balance is needed for the courses in these five areas. Thus, moving forward, improvements such as setting the minimum number of compulsory and elective compulsory credits are desirable.

Second, regarding the members of the “Curriculum Collaborative Council” (Advisory Board) established in AY2019, because 5 members are related to nursing care facilities for the elderly but others are related to the department of Teikyo University School of Medicine, in order to involve “persons other than faculty members and other staff members of the University where the graduate school is located” as required by law, the Division must meet the statutory requirements in its selection of new members starting in 2021 and add members from administrative governments and industries.

Third, as an environment where students are exposed to a wide range of knowledge required for public health professionals, the Division has developed a rich environment for books and information retrieval and plans are underway for joint lectures with other graduate schools on the campus. Further efforts are hoped for, such as making use of their resources as a comprehensive university with medical graduate schools that are closely related to this field, and enabling students to obtain credits by taking courses at other graduate schools according to their research and career paths.

Fourth, the number of credits for research projects in this Division has increased since AY 2020, and the number of credits required for completion has changed accordingly. The Division states that the increase in the number of credits is in keeping with the actual situation with enhanced teaching content and greater efforts required for both faculty and students than before. However, because it accounts for nearly 30% of the number of credits required for completion, verification of the current situation and investigation into its validity are greatly required, keeping in mind the kind of capable students to be trained and the degree award policy. In particular, since students in courses that are completed in one year need to secure study hours equivalent to the number of units (42 units) required for completion including research projects in about 10 months, validity should be considered from the perspective of appropriate number of study hours and amount of learning.

Fifth, regarding the unfulfilled enrollment quota, the enrollment has improved

through strengthened public relations and the introduction of the “rolling admission method.” However, in recent years, the enrollment has been significantly higher than the enrollment quota, so appropriate quota management from the perspective of optimizing the number of students to ensure quality of education is greatly required.

Although issues such as those mentioned above are present, the Division is continuously reviewing the content and methods of the courses with the full-time teachers preparing and submitting a “Course Assessment and Improvement Plan Sheet” for their subjects based on the results of the course assessment questionnaire, and some cases were found where this actually led to improvement. Moving forward, the Division will further expand its distinct features by sharing improvement plans among teachers, etc., and by striving to improve the issues that have been pointed out here. Further development as a public health professional graduate school established as Japan's first independent graduate school of public health, with a presence in Japan and overseas that is greatly anticipated.