

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

Tokai University



Basic Information of the Institution	
Ownership: Private	Location: Tokyo, 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 Tokai University

Overview

Tokai University (hereafter, the University) was originally established in 1943 as the Aerial Science College and opened as a comprehensive higher education institution in 1946. The University currently operates eight campuses (Shonan Campus in Hiratsuka City, Kanagawa; Yoyogi Campus in Shibuya Ward and Takanawa Campus in Minato Ward, Tokyo; Shimizu Campus in Shizuoka City, Shizuoka; Isehara Campus in Isehara City, Kanagawa; Kumamoto Campus in Kumamoto City and Aso Campus in the Aso district, Kumamoto; and Sapporo Campus in Sapporo City, Hokkaido), 18 undergraduate schools (Letters, Political Science and Economics, Law, Humanities and Culture, Physical Education, Science, Information Science and Technology, Engineering, Tourism, Information and Telecommunication Engineering, Marine Science and Technology, Medicine, Health Sciences, Business Administration, Industrial and Welfare Engineering, Agriculture, International Cultural Relations, and Biological Sciences), and 21 graduate schools including professional graduate schools (Letters, Political Science, Economics, Law, Human Environmental Studies, Arts, Physical Education, Science, Engineering, Information and Telecommunication Engineering, Oceanography, Medicine, Health Sciences, Agriculture, Industrial Engineering, Science and Technology, Earth and Environmental Science, Bioscience, Law School, Regional Development Studies, and Science and Engineering).

In continuing to uphold the spirit of founder that urges students to “cultivate your thoughts in your early days, nurture your body in your early days, develop your intellect in your early days, and aim your hopes towards the stars in your early days,” the University carries out education and research activities with these ideals of building a balanced civilized society, and educating today’s youth to carry on with the mission of writing tomorrow’s history in a spirit of pure humanitarian mind.”

After its accreditation review by Japan University Accreditation Association (JUAA) in 2010, the University has worked to address issues identified during the review under the leadership of the University Evaluation Committee, focusing especially on strengthening the internal quality assurance system. The University also developed in 2014 the second-term medium-term objectives, which establish education, research, social contribution, international cooperation, and management and support structure as the five key priority areas, and evaluates the achievement of the targets in each of these areas using the “Mission Sharing Sheet.”

Furthermore, the Management Planning Division was established under the president to oversee governance across the institution, while the Office for Strategy & Project Development, Office for Higher Education Affairs, and Office of Institutional Research were created under the headquarters to implement improvement and reform, including the strengthening of systematic activities developed in response to the self-study results.

In the latest review, the “Inter-Campus Study Program,” which allows students to take advantage of the University’s great diversity of research and study area options, and the “To-Collabo Program,” a social contribution and cooperation program run by the Center for Community Engagement, were recognized as prominent features of the University.

Areas of improvement identified by the review include enrollment management at undergraduate and graduate schools, and the formulation and evaluation of the degree award policy, curriculum design and implementation policy, and admissions policy. Also, some graduate schools need to provide better student access to research instruction plans.

It should be mentioned that the Law School underwent the Japan Law Foundation’s certified evaluation and accreditation for professional graduate schools in the second half of FY2013, and this review was performed focusing on the improvements made in the intervening years according to the university evaluation (institutional evaluation) criteria.

Notable Strengths

Educational Content, Methods, and Outcome

- The Inter-Campus Study Program divides the eight campuses into four districts and allows students to take courses offered on campuses located outside their own enrollment district. The program has a scholarship program that many students use to fund their study. The Study Program is commended for providing a wide range of learning opportunities to students by leveraging the University’s strengths as a comprehensive university characterized by its great diversity of research and study areas, and for realizing the University’s vision to develop individuals with “a broad knowledge base in literature and science, coupled with a broad-minded global outlook.”

Social Cooperation and Contribution

- The Center for Community Engagement organizes the “To-Collabo Program (short for Tokai University Community Linking Laboratory)” consisting of eight projects in four domains. The program’s activities undertaken at each campus are compiled into a database of case studies (“To-Collabo Case”) and made available to the public. These case studies are used to develop effective themes for addressing local issues, which are then incorporated into community cooperation initiatives that attract numerous inquiries from local governments and private companies. The laboratory program is implemented in line with the four social cooperation and contribution promotion policies developed based on the University’s founding spirit and is commendable for returning the benefits of its research outcomes to society.

Suggestions for Improvement

Educational Content, Methods, and Outcome

- The following department, programs, and schools should stipulate the principles of teaching content and methods in their curriculum design and implementation policies: Course of Navigation, Department of Navigation and Ocean Engineering Navigation, School of Marine Science and Technology; Master’s Program of the Graduate School of Letters; Doctoral Program of the Graduate School of Political Science; Master’s and Doctoral Programs of the Graduate School of Economics; Master’s and Doctoral Programs of the Graduate School of Law; and Graduate Schools of Arts, Science, Oceanography, Science and Technology, and Earth and Environmental Studies.
- The following programs and schools should improve student access to research instruction plans: Master’s and Doctoral Programs of the Graduate School of Letters; Doctoral Program of the Graduate School of Political Science; Doctoral Program of the Graduate School of Economics; Master’s and Doctoral Programs of the Graduate School of Law; Graduate Schools of Human Environmental Studies, Science, Information and Telecommunication Engineering, the Graduate School of Oceanography; and Master’s and Doctoral Programs of the Graduate School of Medicine.

- The Graduate School of Medicine is advised to establish thesis assessment criteria for its Master's and Doctoral Programs.

Enrollment

- The Graduate Schools of Letters (all programs except Tourism), Political Science, Economics, Law, and Medicine are advised to develop an admissions policy for each of their programs.
- In FY2016, the ratio of student enrollment to the student enrollment cap was high in the Department of Medicine, School of Medicine (1.01), and low in the Master's and Doctoral Programs of the Graduate School of Political Science (0.15 and 0.20, respectively), Master's Program of the Graduate School of Economics (0.25), Doctoral Program of the Graduate School of Law (0.07), Doctoral Program of the Graduate School of Earth and Environmental Science (0.07), and Doctoral Program of the Graduate School of Bioscience (0.27), while the Doctoral Program of the Graduate School of Economics and the Master's Program of the Graduate School of Law have no student enrollment. These ratios should be improved.

Area of Serious Concern

Enrollment

- In FY2017, 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 the Department of Navigation and Ocean Engineering, School of Marine Science and Technology (0.75 and 0.83, respectively), Department of Tourism Management, School of Business Administration (0.71 and 0.69, respectively), School of Industrial and Welfare Engineering (0.81 and 0.74, respectively), Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, School of Industrial and Welfare Engineering (0.64 and 0.56, respectively), School of International Cultural Relations (0.88 and 0.84, respectively), Department of International Communications, School of International Cultural Relations (0.82 and 0.78, respectively), and Department of Design and Culture, School of International Cultural Relations (0.62 and 0.59, respectively). Also, the ratio of student

enrollment to the student enrollment cap was low at 0.88 in the School of Business Administration. These ratios should be improved.