

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

Tokiwa University



Basic Information of the Institution	
Ownership: Private	Location: Ibaraki, Japan
Accreditation Status	
Year of the Review: 2016	
Accreditation Status: accredited (Accreditation Period: April.01.2017 – March.31.2024)	

Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for Tokiwa University

Overview

Tokiwa University (hereafter, the University) is based on the founding spirit of its predecessor, a private kimono-making workshop established in 1909, “to develop individuals who respect practical study and have sincere attitudes.” Currently, the University has three undergraduate divisions (the Colleges of Human Science, Applied International Studies, and Community Development), as well as three graduate schools (the graduate schools of Human Science, Victimology, and Community Development) on its campus located in the city of Mito, Ibaraki prefecture.

After its accreditation review by Japan University Accreditation Association (JUAA) in 2009, the Academic Affairs Committee and the Executive Director Committee have cooperated the issues pointed out in the last accreditation. In particular, since 2011, the University has conducted systematic and continuous self-study in addition to several notable efforts, such as: implementing “university-wide self-study rules;” stipulating the second-term “Tokiwa University Mission and Vision” (hereafter, Mission & Vision) (which covers 2014 to 2018); and stipulating the “Tokiwa University’s Five-Year Plan for Improving Management” (hereafter, Five-Year Plan for Improving Management), which is the mission and action plan to achieve Mission & Vision.

These actions have led to reforms and improvements in the undergraduate and graduate programs, such as a uniformed syllabus creation and checking system as well as organized theses guidance for the master’s and doctoral programs. It is commendable that the University has taken advantage of its status as a small-scale university by implementing student support, such as support for acquiring qualifications and job-hunting, and has established cooperation efforts with the local community and engaged in social contribution activities. Conversely, fulfilling the student enrollment cap has been a long-standing issue. Given that both the average of the ratios of the last five years of enrolled freshmen to the freshman admission cap, and the ratio of enrolled students to the student enrollment cap are low in several colleges and departments, these numbers should be improved.

In regards to the declining fulfillment rate, given the Mission & Vision and the Five-Year Plan for Improving Management, the University has implemented reforms in its graduate school such as suspending student admission in two graduate schools (the graduate schools of Victimology, and Community Development) for 2016, and plans to change from three colleges and ten departments to two Colleges (the Colleges of Human Science, and the newly-established Management and Administration). While the reform of its educational organization may place a burden on enrolled students’ education and research, and implementing a series of such reforms in a short period may not be the preferred choice for a responsible educational institution, JUAA hopes that during the reform period, the University will make efforts to follow-up with enrolled students, and support them as they work to achieve their intended purposes.

Suggestions for Improvement

Enrollment

- The ratio of transfer students to the transfer student admission cap is low in all the departments, at 0.05 in the College of Human Science and 0.07 in the College of Applied International Studies, and there are no transferring students in the College of Community Development. These numbers should be improved.

Administration and Finance

- Although the balance sheet has improved, the University has not consolidated a secure

financial basis. Hereafter, the University is expected to examine each numerical target, and at the same time steadily execute concrete improvement plans formulated in the Five-Year Management Improvement Plan.

Area of Serious Concern

Enrollment

- The average of the ratios of the last five years of enrolled freshmen to the freshman admission cap is low at 0.69 in the Department of Communication in the College of Human Science, 0.62 in the Department of English and American Studies in the College of Applied International Studies, 0.85 in the entire College of Applied International Studies, 0.53 in the Department of Community Culture, 0.77 in the Department of Regional Policy, 0.55 in the Department of Human Services in the College of Community Development, and 0.61 in the entire College of Community Development. These numbers must be improved. Also, the ratio of enrolled students to the student enrollment cap is low at 0.88 in the Department of Contemporary Social Studies, 0.60 in the Department of Communication in the College of Human Science, 0.56 in the Department of English and American Studies in the College of Applied International Studies, 0.79 in the entire College of Applied International Studies, 0.50 in the Department of Community Culture, 0.70 in the Department of Regional Policy, 0.49 in the Department of Human Services in the College of Community Development, and 0.56 in the entire College of Community Development. These numbers must be improved.