

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

Niigata Seiryō University



Basic Information of the Institution	
Ownership: Private	Location: Niigata, Japan
Accreditation Status	
Year of the Review: 2014	
Accreditation Status: accredited (Accreditation Period: April.01.2015 – March.31.2022)	

Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for Niigata Seiryō University

Overview

Niigata Seiryō University (hereafter, the University) was established as a college in 2000 to house a single faculty, the Faculty of Nursing, Social Welfare, and Psychology, to cultivate highly specialized professionals in the areas of health, nursing, and welfare. It was built on the idea of making efforts to teach practical scholarship for meeting the contemporary society by applying academic knowledge and making progress everyday, which is, indeed, the founding spirit of Seiryō School, a legally incorporated educational institution. After its establishment, it became a university by adding a graduate school. Currently it operates as a university with several academic units, including the Faculty of Nursing, Social Welfare, and Psychology, and the Graduate School of Clinical Psychology. In 2014, it added a new graduate school, the Graduate School of Nursing. The University conducts research and offers education, based on its founding spirit, at its campus, which is located in the Niigata city, Niigata Prefecture.

After its accreditation review by Japan University Accreditation Association (JUAA) in 2007, the University has gone through a transition period to reorganize its Faculty and Graduate Schools, and there have been commendable efforts to promote social cooperation and contribution and to promote the quality development of administrative staff members. However, there still remain some issues to be addressed, including policies for curriculum organization and implementation. JUAA hopes that the University will make improvements that address these issues.

Notable Strengths

Social Cooperation and Contribution

- It is commendable that the University has made efforts to disseminate its intellectual resources to the wider society. For example, at the University the “Extension Center” plays the central role in social cooperation and contribution. Through the Extension Center, the University offers public lectures in the areas of liberal arts and Internet technologies to local residents as well as lectures on topics such as elder care and teaching certification renewal for professionals. In particular, the public lectures have been well received with a high satisfaction rate by a wide range of local residents from a variety of professional backgrounds. Moreover, the University has made efforts to cooperate with industries and local governments. In particular, it has continuously offered joint lectures with the local television station and the Niigata city’s public lectures.

Administration and Finance

- It is commendable that the University has made efforts to revitalize its administrative organization beyond each administrative unit. For example, in order to develop the abilities of administrative staff members, the University not only offers opportunities for internal staff development but also encourages staff to participate in external “Joint Staff Development Conferences.” The University holds joint staff development opportunities with other universities of different specializations, and offers mutual staff-exchange opportunities with other universities. Moreover, it has introduced a job rotation system, and has made it routine for the University to host a yearly presentation meeting in which each unit reports on the past year’s accomplishments and the new year’s plans.

Suggestions for Improvement

Educational Content, Methods, and Outcome

- In the Faculty of Nursing, Social Welfare, and Psychology and the Graduate School of Clinical Psychology, the curriculum design policies have been set; however, the policies do not state the basic ideas for educational content and methods. This situation should be improved.
- The maximum number of credits students can register for per year has been set high at 50 in the Department of Social Welfare and Psychology in the Faculty of Nursing, Social Welfare, and Psychology. This should be improved in accordance with the purpose of having a credit system.
- The Faculty of Nursing, Social Welfare, and Psychology and the Graduate School of Clinical Psychology do not have their own faculty development programs to improve educational content and methods. This should be improved.
- In the Graduate School of Clinical Psychology, criteria for examining degree-seeking thesis have not been clearly stated for students. This situation should be improved, by clearly stating them in the student handbook (and other handbooks).

Student Support

- In order to prevent sexual harassment, the University has developed “Guidelines to Prevent Sexual Harassment” and has made efforts to disseminate them. However, to prevent other kinds of harassment, it has not defined guidelines clearly and so has not made efforts to make such guidelines available. This situation should be improved.