

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

Japanese Red Cross Kyushu International College of Nursing



Basic Information of the Institution	
Ownership: Private	Location: Fukuoka, Japan
Accreditation Status	
Year of the Review: 2022	
Accreditation Status: accredited (Accreditation Period: April 1, 2023 – March 31, 2030)	

Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for Japanese Red Cross Kyushu International College of Nursing

Overview

Japanese Red Cross Kyushu International College of Nursing defines its educational philosophy and purpose as “imparting a broad range of knowledge in the field of nursing, and teaching and researching specialized arts and sciences in depth to achieve as its founding spirit the humanitarian ideals of the Red Cross, along with the cultivation of nursing professionals with intelligence, morals, and applied abilities who can play an active role both in Japan and abroad, and the development of nursing science.” To achieve the College’s founding spirit, the graduate school sets forth the philosophy and purpose of “teaching and researching theory and expertise related to nursing practice, education, and research as a center of academic nursing; fostering advanced nursing professionals with deep academic knowledge as well as true sensitivity and humanity; and contributing to the development of nursing science, the improvement of health and welfare, and the creation of affluent lives of people around the world.” The College strives to achieve these principles and purposes based on an action plan comprised of five projects specified in its school corporation’s third medium-term plan. To enhance its educational and research activities, the College has laid out the visions of classifying medical functions, enhancing comprehensive community care, implementing a new curriculum designed to meet the growing demand for cross-cultural nursing in Japan and abroad, and providing practical education using information and communications technology (ICT).

In terms of internal quality assurance, the College has set out its college-wide policy and procedures, with the Management Meeting, Quality Assurance and IR Office, and Self-Study Committee formed as organizations responsible for internal quality assurance. The Management Meeting is specifically positioned as a quality assurance promotion organization, but the meetings’ overlapping members due to the College’s limited number of faculty have clouded the roles of the three meeting bodies. In addition, the president and the Management Meeting are only briefed on the divisions’ improvement efforts based on their inspection and assessment results, with no feedback provided as stated in the regulations. This situation should be addressed with the structure reviewed to ensure effective operation of the internal quality assurance system. Moreover, the College should

develop and articulate an improvement process to respond to the items pointed out by government bodies, certified evaluation and accreditation agencies, and other external organizations.

As for the College's education, both faculty and graduate school have appropriately established and published diploma and curriculum policies in keeping with the mission and purpose, educational objectives, and basic guidelines for formulating the diploma, curriculum, and admissions policies. The curricula are systematically designed according to the curriculum policies, with appropriate lesson subjects organized for each degree program. Specifically, the College's original "Diploma Supplement (degree certificate supplementary materials)" was created as an indicator for student learning outcomes, and the master's program uses competency indicators at the time of completion. It is highly commendable that the College is monitoring and evaluating student learning outcomes in a multifaceted way, incorporating the perspective of employers by visualizing students' campus life and levels of achievement before graduation while analyzing the results of employer surveys in combination with the Diploma Supplement.

Furthermore, the College has introduced the Academic Advisor System to provide students with comprehensive support from learning to campus life. Faculty members serving as advisors offer continuous support through seminars to students of all years from enrollment to graduation, and coordinate with various organizations on campus to actively assist students. To support student learning, advisors interview individual students using the Diploma Supplement, and these approaches based on student learning outcomes are particularly notable. As an additional outstanding initiative, the College is fulfilling its social cooperation responsibilities through active involvement in regional cooperation activities in response to the requests of Munakata City in Fukuoka Prefecture, where the College is situated.

There are several issues the College needs to address, however. The structure of the internal quality assurance system should be reviewed for more effective operation. In terms of the College's management, the Faculty Council is asked for advice after the president has made a decision at the Management Meeting, indicating there are discrepancies between the Faculty Council Regulations and the actual situation. This issue should be addressed in line with the regulations.

In the coming years, the College is expected to reexamine and revamp its internal quality assurance system and decision-making process, thereby enhancing its distinctive initiatives.

Notable Strengths

Educational Program and Learning Outcomes

- The College visualizes students' campus life and levels of achievement at the time of graduation through the Diploma Supplement created by the faculty and competency indicators at the time of program completion adopted by the graduate school's master's program. The faculty in particular incorporates the perspective of employers by conducting employer surveys and analyzing the results in light of the Diploma Supplement. It is commendable that student learning outcomes are monitored and evaluated in a multifaceted way with multiple indicators used in the Diploma Supplement.

Student Support

- Faculty members ranked assistant professor or higher are assigned as academic advisors, and students under their charge participate in small-group seminars to encourage mutual learning among students of different years. Advisors monitor the status of individual students through the seminars, and provide them with comprehensive support in cooperation with relevant student support organizations on campus. Specifically, the Diploma Supplement is used in individual interviews to offer academic assistance to students based on their career plans and learning outcomes. It is commendable that many students have expressed satisfaction with the College's timely responses in surveys.

Social Cooperation and Contribution

- The College has long engaged in activities in collaboration with Munakata City, such as the Munakata College Community Council since AY2002, and other regional contribution activities to meet the city's needs. The College took part in the city's "Health and Sport de Happy Project" to provide local residents with body measurements and stretching exercise lessons and analyze the health data. The College also offers opportunities for students, faculty, and staff to interact with community members through such events as nursing experience programs for elementary school students to promote citizens' regular exercise and good health. It is commendable that the College is returning its educational and research outcomes to meet community needs.

Suggestions for Improvement

Internal Quality Assurance

- The College has positioned the Management Meeting as an organization promoting internal quality assurance, and the Internal Quality Assurance Regulations stipulates that improvement measures based on the self-study results are discussed at the meeting before the president issues instructions to each organization. In fact, the president and the Management Meeting are only briefed by the organizations, indicating that the internal quality assurance system is not functioning as stated in the regulations. In addition, the roles of the Management Meeting, Self-Study Committee, and Quality Assurance and IR Office, in charge of promoting internal quality assurance, are unclear. This issue should be addressed with the internal quality assurance structure reviewed to ensure effective operation of the system in accordance with the regulations.

University Management and Finance

- The Faculty Council Regulations stipulates that the Faculty Council advises the president in making decisions on some items, but the Faculty Council is asked for advice after the president has made a decision at the Management Meeting. These discrepancies should be corrected to ensure the decision-making process takes place in line with the regulations.