

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

HOSHI 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 Hoshi University

Overview

Hoshi University (hereafter “the University”) has its origin in the staff education division of Hoshi Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd., which was established in 1911, and was founded in 1950 with a school philosophy of “Our university is a ‘cradle’ in which talents who will serve the world are fostered through pharmacy.” The University currently has a campus in Shinagawa Ward, Tokyo, and consists of the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences and the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Since its accreditation review by Japan University Accreditation Association (JUAA) in 2010, the Staff Meeting, an advisory body to the President, has played a central role in not only addressing the issues raised in that review, but also making several improvements and reforms, and it has achieved results. With respect to the promotion of international exchanges, which was one of the issues raised in the previous accreditation review, the University has executed academic exchange agreements with multiple overseas universities, promoting international exchanges centering on exchanges of faculty members and students. In particular, the University has provided Overseas Advanced Practical Training since 2014, seeking to foster international-minded pharmacists who can respond to globalization. It also clarified the direction the University should take by formulating Hoshi University Vision 2025-2030 in the same year. That vision sets five goals, and the University formulates business plan each year and reports its actual achievements in written business reports based on that vision. Those achievements are then verified and reflected in business plans to be formulated for subsequent years, and this takes place in a cyclical manner. In particular, it can be highly acclaimed that the Advanced Life Science Research Center established in 2014 based on one of the goals – “to be Japan’s leading world-class university specializing in research” – has been producing results such as acquiring significant research funding by creating a cutting-edge research environment and working to enhance its basic and clinical research.

On the other hand, with respect to the number of professors required in principle under the Standards for Establishment of Universities, this accreditation review found that the University was short by eight professors as of May 1, 2016 and

at the time of the site visit conducted in September 2017. It was also found that there was a shortage of several professors over time before that. In response to this, the University implemented the Educational Personnel Challenge Promotion System and other schemes aiming to recruit staff internally, appoint young faculty members and stimulate human resources development, and as a result it has met the required number as of January 1, 2018. However, the above issue was not recognized until this accreditation review and it cannot be said that the University was in compliance with laws, so the University must keep this in mind. Further, at the Drug Discovery Science Course of the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, the ratio of student enrollment to the student enrollment cap and the average of ratios of freshman enrollment to the freshman enrollment cap over the last five years are high, and there is no limit on the number of credits for which students can register in a year, so those issues also need to be rectified.

In the future, under the regime of the new self-study to be implemented in 2018, the University is expected to move forward with further improvements and reforms by establishing an internal quality assurance system in which it can conduct university-wide comprehensive self-study and ensuring that that system functions properly.

Notable Strengths

Education and Research Organization

- Based on one of the five goals set in the Hoshi University Vision 2025-2030 – “to be Japan’s leading world-class university specializing in research” – the University established the Advanced Life Science Research Center, and the University is working to enhance basic and clinical research by creating a cutting-edge research environment in the Advanced Life Science Research Center within that institute, which allows for cross-disciplinary advanced and integrated research. It is commendable that, through those efforts, the University has produced results such as acquiring large-scale project funding including MEXT-Supported Program for the Strategic Research Foundation at Private Universities and the Project of NARO Bio-oriented Technology Research Advancement Institution.

Educational Content, Methods, and Outcome

- The University offers Overseas Advanced Practical Training as an optional course for fifth-year students at the Pharmaceutical Course of the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences for the purpose of broadening their view as medical professionals and fostering international-minded pharmacists who can respond to globalization. The students who enroll in this practical training can directly experience overseas health systems and pharmacist duties by taking part in practical training for one month in Vancouver, Canada. It is commendable that the University is training students who have a broad perspective and deep knowledge with an international mindset.

Suggestions for Improvement*Educational Content, Methods, and Outcome*

- At the Drug Discovery Science Course of the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, there is no limit on the number of credits for which students can register in a year. This issue should be addressed in light of the purpose of the credit system.

Enrollment

- There are no separate admission policies for master's program and doctoral program at the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences. This needs to be addressed.

Area of Serious Concern*Enrollment*

- At the Drug Discovery Science Course of the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, the average of ratios of freshman enrollment to the freshman enrollment cap over the last five years and the ratio of student

enrollment to the student enrollment cap are high at 1.37 are 1.34, respectively.
This issue must be addressed.