

**Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for
Professional Graduate Business School**

Meiji University Professional Graduate School
Graduate School of Professional Accountancy
Professional Accountancy Program



| | |
|---|------------------------|
| Basic Information of the Institution | |
| Ownership: Private | Location: Tokyo, Japan |
| Accreditation Status | |
| Year of the Review: 2019 | |
| Accreditation Status: Accredited (Accreditation Period: April 1.2020 – March 31.2025) | |

Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for the Professional Accountancy Program, Graduate School of Professional Accountancy, Meiji University

The Professional Accountancy Program, Graduate School of Professional Accountancy, Meiji University (hereinafter referred to as the “Program”), has as its purpose “to nurture the qualities and the highly specialized skills students need to become accounting professionals such as certified public accountants, accountants in the public service or private-sector companies, and tax specialists.” Its educational objectives are “to make students understand the importance of governance and the necessity of compliance through examining examples and cases relating to professional ethics in lectures,” “to enable students to understand the basic ideas behind laws and regulations and accounting standards by not only interpreting such laws and regulations and accounting standards but also developing an understanding of the concepts that underlie the provisions thereof,” and “to enhance students’ English presentation skills and practical skills for identifying and solving business problems in preparation for an era of considerable environmental changes.” A distinctive feature of the Program is that it aims to provide students with high ethical standards, technical knowledge that is necessary for fulfilling their social mission as accounting, auditing, and tax specialists, and skills that correspond to the globalization and digitization of modern society.

In line with the abovementioned purpose and educational objectives, the Program has made the Meiji University-Yonsei University IFRS Workshop Program, a joint program with the Yonsei University School of Business in South Korea, a regular subject under the name of International Accounting Workshop with the aim of encouraging student participation. This not only contributes to the acquisition of knowledge but also greatly motivates students in their study of related subjects, and thereby represents a distinctive feature of the curriculum in line with the Program’s unique purpose and educational objectives.

A distinctive feature of the Program is that it offers meaningful information and support related to students’ careers through cooperation with the Employment and Career Support Office, a campus-wide organization, and the assignment of career coordinators unique to the Program. This is a commendable effort.

Furthermore, the Program has a system whereby education assistants, who must be an active certified public accountant or tax accountant, are hired and always made available to respond to any questions from students outside of class. Student

satisfaction regarding this endeavor is high, and it is considered as a notable feature of the Program's personal support structure that contributes to education and research.

However, there are several issues that require improvement, as described below.

First, although the Long-term/Mid-term Plan for AY2019 that was submitted this time does present a mid- to long-term plan, it only describes previous measures and the current situation, and fails to set forth a vision and formulate a corresponding strategy. The specific goals remain unclear as of the time of the survey.

Next, many of the full-time faculty members are in their late 50s, and there are no female full-time faculty members. It was pointed out in the previous certified evaluation and accreditation that some full-time faculty members are being forced to work for periods of time that exceed their scope of responsibility. The situation has not been resolved, and the overseas research personnel system and special researcher system remain underutilized. Furthermore, an adequate mechanism for evaluating the educational and research activities of full-time faculty members is not in place.

In addition, the activities of the Program's alumni association are mainly reliant on the voluntary activities of graduate volunteers, and the Program's support is insufficient in this respect.

The interviews carried out in the survey showed that a background to such enduring problems is the failure to meet the enrollment quota. This is understandable, since the Program has recently had to use much of its resources to solve this problem, and limits have been imposed in terms of human resources and budget according to the university's policy.

However, thanks to the leadership of the dean of the Graduate School of Professional Accountancy and the concerted effort of members of the graduate school (Program), the situation has clearly improved, and it seems that the Program will be able to meet the enrollment quota. Going forward, the Program should shift some of its focus from solving the issue of enrollment to establishing a system for evaluating education and research outcomes and graduate trends. In addition, the Program should immediately start formulating a strategy for the Program's future, including the ensuring of research opportunities for faculty members.

We hope the Program strives to further improve and enhance the content and environment of education and research, with reference to the results of the present certified evaluation and accreditation and the content of the opinions exchanged in the survey.