

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

Ryutsu Keizai University



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

## Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for Ryutsu Keizai University

### Overview

Ryutsu Keizai University (hereafter, the University) was established in 1965 as a college with a single department, the Department of Economics in the Faculty of Economics. A distribution and logistics company, Nippon Express Inc., along with wide-ranging support from industries and businesses, was the core driving force to establish the University. After its establishment, the University received both support and requests from industries and local governments and expanded its programs of faculties and graduate schools. Currently, it operates as a university with five faculties and five graduate schools. With two campuses, Ryugasaki Campus, located in Ryugasaki City, Ibaraki Prefecture, and Shin-matsudo Campus, located in Matsudo City, Chiba Prefecture, the University engages in research and educational activities based on its founding spirit.

After its accreditation review by Japan University Accreditation Association (JUAA) in 2007, the University has actively promoted projects that make social contributions to the local communities. However, it has several issues to address, including educational content, methods, and outcomes and a high rate of student withdrawal. JUAA asks the University to fully examine and consider these issues.

### Notable Strengths

#### *Educational Content, Methods, and Outcome*

- It is commendable that the Faculty of Sociology actively makes a variety of effective and practical efforts to extend its education by offering a practicum which promotes an exchange between the University and society. This effort helps realize the Faculty's policy on degree award to give back practical and empirical knowledge and skills to society. For example, the Faculty has engaged in the opinion surveys on various issues affecting Ryugasaki citizens, exchange programs with nursery schools, and other types of fieldwork.

#### *Student Support*

- The University's support for students seeking employment is commendable. In particular, the "Center for Career Development" and the "Steering Committee of the Center for Career Development" communicate closely to form a collaborative system. Through the system, the information and issues identified during the center's counseling and advising sessions for those seeking employment are reported to the Committee. The information is regarded as "feedbacks" to instruct the next cohort of students in their career subjects and practical job-hunting support programs. That is, career education instruction is offered during the early stages of student life. In addition, following its policies, the University ensures the equivalency of career support systems for both its two campuses by having the Center directly communicate with each and every student to offer information and advice.

#### *Social Cooperation and Contribution*

- It is commendable that the University has initiated useful measures to enhance the university-industry cooperation, not only the education front but also the research front, by establishing a system to take responsibility for continuous operation. In

particular, the University has formed the “Joint Effort of Industry and Academia for Human Resource Development Programs of Logistics at Ryutsu Keizai University,” which aims to develop effective and sustainable collaborative programs. This unique effort clearly demonstrates the University’s mission and purpose, practice-oriented education and research.

- It is commendable that the University has engaged in new activities that utilize its unique character, which can be regarded as the active embodiment of the University’s mission and purpose. In particular, the University has used its material and human resources to support and play a central role in the activities of Ryugasaki General Regional Sports Club (“Club Dragons”), a sports club run by the Non-Profit Organization. This has helped promote local revitalization, local residents’ interactive activities, and life-long and continuing education.

### **Suggestions for Improvement**

#### *Educational Content, Methods, and Outcome*

- In the Graduate School of Economics, the Graduate School of Sociology, the Graduate School of Distribution and Logistics Systems, and the Graduate School of Law, the policies for awarding degrees do not state learning outcomes at the time of program completion. This should be improved.
- Each faculty defines its curriculum design policy and lists its classes in the “Course Taking Guidebook”; however, a number of classes are listed but not offered. That is, there is a discrepancy between the policies and actual practices of the curriculum. This should be improved.
- In the graduate schools, criteria for examining degree-seeking theses and dissertation have not been clearly stated for the students. This situation should be improved, by clearly stating them in the “Graduate School Registration Guides” and other student handbooks.

#### *Enrollment*

- The admission policies in the Graduate School of Law offer no clear “images” or descriptions of expected students. This should be improved.
- In the last five years, the average of the ratios of enrolled freshman to the freshman admission cap is high at 1.25 in the Department of Economics in the Faculty of Economics, and at 1.24 in the Faculty of Sport and Health Science. This should be improved.
- The ratio of enrolled students to the student enrollment cap is low at 0.35 in the master’s program and at 0.00 in the doctoral program in the Graduate School of Economics. The ratio is also low at 0.20 in the doctoral program in the Graduate School of Distribution and Logistics Systems and at 0.35 in the master’s program in the Graduate School of Law. This situation should be improved.
- The ratio of enrolled transfer students to the transfer student admission cap is low at 0.28 in the Faculty of Sociology as a whole and at 0.18 in the Department of Tourism in that Faculty. The ratio is also low at 0.00 in the Faculty of Law as a whole and at 0.00 in the Department of Business Law and in the Department of Local Government in that Faculty. Moreover, it is low at 0.13 in the Faculty of

Distribution and Logistics Systems. This situation should be improved.

*Student Support*

- At the University, the retention rate is low. That is, there is a high rate of students who withdraw without completing their programs. The University should analyze and study the cause of this problem.