

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

Graduate School of Accountancy, Waseda University



Basic Information of the Institution	
Ownership: Private	Location: Tokyo, Japan
Accreditation Status	
Year of the Review: 2024	
Accreditation Status: accredited (Accreditation Period: April 1, 2025 – March 31, 2030)	

Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for the Graduate School of Accountancy, Waseda University

The Graduate School of Accountancy, Waseda University (hereafter “Graduate School”), sets forth the objectives of “providing education that fuses academic theory and practice and fostering students with a high sense of ethics required of professionals in accounting and actuarial science, advanced specialized knowledge, and a broad range of skills,” in line with Waseda University’s founding principles of “the preservation of the independence of scholarship, the promotion of the practical application of scholarship, and the fostering of good citizens.” The Graduate School is committed to enhancing the values of professional accounting graduate schools and their organizational capabilities to achieve these principles, thereby establishing and solidifying its position as a leading professional accounting graduate school in Japan.

The curriculum is organized with the three subject groups of Basic, Core, and Practical/Applied courses based on the concepts of “Accounting + 1 (plus one)” and “Actuarial +1 (plus one)”. The Core Course Group consists of fundamental and core courses that help cultivate knowledge not only in accounting but also related fields. The Practical/Applied Course Group includes workshops that allow students to develop and expand on what they learn in the Basic and Core courses through independently organized presentations and group work, as well as courses that enable students to acquire cutting-edge knowledge and practical skills. The curriculum is designed to be systematic and sequential for students to acquire wide ranging knowledge from basic to advanced, along with the necessary skills to apply theory to practice.

The Accounting and ESG Program for Financial Managers, a non-degree program for working persons which began in AY2022, aims to utilize the Graduate School’s educational resources to offer continuing education, thereby contributing to society. The program is also expected to raise the profile of the Graduate School among participating companies and have a positive ripple effect on job-searching by the program’s alumni, which is a commendable, distinctive feature. Another unique initiative is that, by offering a large number of courses that substantially exceed the graduation requirements (60 credits), the Graduate School provides a solid foundation for career advancement as professionals after passing the professional examinations, fostering advanced skills unavailable to students who pass the examinations while enrolled in undergraduate courses. In line with the Graduate School’s objectives, the faculty is composed of full-time faculty members of diverse career and international backgrounds, full-time faculty

members responsible for multiple courses in several faculties in Waseda University, and non-full-time faculty working for various external organizations. The faculty organization allows the Graduate School to provide students with attentive services. In addition, classroom observations are available with the aim of improving the quality of faculty members. These are also distinctive initiatives.

There are several areas of improvement the Graduate School needs to address, however, as described below.

First, despite the ongoing discussions to establish the Fifth Future Strategy Committee in the near future, the medium- to long-term vision and strategy have not been updated at this point. This is an important issue to be discussed. The Fifth Future Strategy Committee is expected to update the written medium- to long-term vision and strategy as soon as possible to take over the vision and strategy and improve information sharing. With respect to the assessment of academic achievement, the syllabi of a small number of courses continue to have items for evaluating students' class performance, such as "class participation," "attendance," and "video viewing record", that could lead to misunderstandings among students. It is recognized that the Graduate School has enhanced its syllabus checking system in response to the results of the last certified evaluation and accreditation, but further refinements are needed. Regarding faculty, the overall organizational design should be clearly indicated. No particular faculty issues evident at this time seems largely due to the individual efforts of the executive committee members, but the overall design should be shared within the organization by clearly demonstrating it. Additional efforts for further improvement are also required in terms of increasing the number of younger members and promoting nationality and gender diversity in the full-time faculty members, despite certain improvements recognized so far. As for the Education Curriculum Collaboration Council, external members currently account for only half the council. The Graduate School should take action to ensure that external members constitute a majority of the council in line with the purpose of its establishment.

To address these issues, the Graduate School is expected to make good use of the results of this certified evaluation and accreditation for professional graduate business schools and continue to conduct self-studies to further ensure and enhance the quality of education, thereby further developing its unique characteristics.