

## Results for Certified Evaluation and Accreditation for Junior College

### Shigakkan University Junior College



Basic Information of the Institution	
Ownership: Private	Location: Aichi, 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 Shigakkan University Junior College**

### **Overview**

The educational mission of Shigakkan University Junior College (hereafter, the College) is “capacity building for global citizenship” based on the institution’s founding purpose of “fostering human abilities.” The College strives to improve its education and research activities in line with the AY2020-AY2024 Medium-term Goals and the Medium-term Plan, which were established with the aim of achieving its mission and purpose. The two departments comprising the College, the Department of Physical Education and the Department of Athletic Trainer Advanced Course, announced the suspension of new student admissions starting in AY2022 and AY2024, respectively. The College is scheduled to close upon graduation of the last class of students, with its mission and purpose to be carried on and developed into the future by the newly-launched Department of Sports and Physical Education in the affiliate Shigakkan University. It is hoped that further growth of the new department will be seen going forward.

The College established the Internal Quality Assurance Policy of Shigakkan University Junior College in AY2018 to achieve its mission and purpose through continuously assuring and enhancing the quality of its education by conducting self-studies of its education and research activities and using the results for improvement and reform. To ensure the effective implementation of this process, the College has established the Self-Improvement Committee, the University Development Committee which liaises with the Self-Improvement Committee and is in charge of education, and the Operation Council as organizations responsible for carrying out internal quality assurance.

With respect to education, the College offers courses designed to develop basic knowledge as well as practice and practical courses that impart instruction methods, techniques, and practical skills under a curriculum appropriately aligned with the diploma policy. The College measures and assesses the student learning outcomes specified in the diploma policy using a rubric and student surveys, but the assessment results are not effectively used for curriculum improvements. This is an area for improvement going forward. Moreover, there are no standard procedures in place for dealing with students who question or object to their grades, and teachers are left to their own devices when handling such cases. This situation should be improved as well.

One notable feature of the College is the open class day when teachers are

encouraged to observe each other's classes; afterwards they discuss the effectiveness of class content and teaching materials and use the experience to improve their own teaching. It is highly commendable that many teachers participate in this initiative, which has helped to improve the teaching skills of both the teachers delivering the lessons and the teachers observing them. Another commendable effort is the establishment of an on-campus PCR testing site as part of the College's Covid-19 management measures initiated under the leadership of the president. Administered by doctors, testing was made available not only to students and staff but alumni, people from nearby universities, and local community residents as well. Operated in partnership with its affiliate university, the testing clinic helped keep the College functioning through early detection of infections and close contact tracing, efforts that built community trust in Shigakkan. This initiative offers a shining example of crisis management by a community-based educational institution.

Going forward, it is expected that the College's mission, purpose, and tradition will be carried on and further developed by the Department of Sports and Physical Education of Shigakkan University.

## **Notable Strengths**

### *Faculty and Faculty Organization*

- As a teaching improvement initiative, the College distributes the course schedule and venue information to all teachers, including teachers from the affiliate university, allowing them to observe and learn from each other's classes. Many teachers participate in the open class day, which has helped improve the instruction skills of both the teachers delivering the lessons and the teachers observing them. In the Department of Physical Education, the open class is organized as part of its faculty development efforts. To ensure the experience leads to teaching improvements, certain courses are designated as faculty development courses, and the participating teachers are invited to discuss class content and teaching materials afterwards. This commendable initiative is expected to lead to the growth of the faculty organization as a whole.

### *Student Support*

- As part of its Covid-19 management effort, the College established an on-campus

PCR testing site in AY2020 under the leadership of the College's president. Administered by doctors, testing was made available to students and alumni, teachers and staff, residents of the city of Obu in Aichi Prefecture, where the College is located, and people from nearby universities. The entire Shigakkan university community, including the affiliate university, systematically conducted early detection of infections and close contact tracing; these efforts reduced the risk of cluster outbreaks and succeeded in keeping the College functioning, and allowed students to participate in practical training and off-campus extra-curricular activities. This commendable effort has helped Shigakkan win the trust of the local community as a safe and trustworthy educational institution.