

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

Niimi College



Basic Information of the Institution	
Ownership: Public	Location: Okayama, Japan
Accreditation Status	
Year of the Review: 2016	
Accreditation Status: accredited (Accreditation Period: April.01.2017 – March.31.2024)	

Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for Niimi College

Overview

Niimi College (hereafter, the College) was established as the city-run Niimi Women's College in 1980. The College was incorporated as a public college in 2008, and, in 2010, the four-year College was established with a single faculty for nursing after organizational reforms of the three-year nursing department and the one-year community health nursing course. The College established the Graduate School of Nursing in 2014, and has conducted its education and research activities in the city of Niimi, Okayama prefecture.

Because the College was established in 2010, this is the first accreditation review by Japan University Accreditation Association (JUAA). Since its establishment, the College, as a public college, has conducted education and research focusing on the local community. Under the leadership of the presidents, all faculty members have cooperated to develop the College and have made efforts towards educational improvements that aim to produce nursing experts of high quality.

It is a characteristic of the College to enable practical and experiential learning experiences. For example, in "Nursing Practice for Life Support" in the School of Nursing, students, through their practices in the local community, explore the way health care works in the community and learn life experiences and life wisdom from locals.

However, the College has several issues to address. In the Graduate School of Nursing, the internal criteria for faculty member's qualification in the College have not been developed, and the criteria required to examine theses are not shown clearly. JUAA expects that hereafter, the College, will make efforts to further improve its educational quality by conducting improvement actions based on self-study in cooperation with the Education and Research Council (which conducts self-study) and the Evaluation and Future Planning Committee (which plans and considers the College's overall structure).

Notable Strengths

Educational Content, Methods, and Outcome

- It is commendable that the College introduces practical and experiential learning methods, in addition to classroom learning. In particular, in the School of Nursing, the subject "Nursing Practice for Life Support" focuses on meaningful practice in the community and offers "Satellite Day," which is an effort for health promotion and care prevention for local elderly citizens at the city of Niimi's community centers and citizen centers. During "Satellite Day," students plan and manage local events and offer services to local citizens. Through this practice, students not only integrate the expertise and techniques they have learned and apply them on-site, but they also have a chance to learn life experiences and life wisdom from citizens and study the way health care works in the community.

Suggestions for Improvement

Faculty and Faculty Organization

- In the Graduate School of Nursing, the criteria for hiring and promoting faculty members are not developed. This should be improved.

Educational Content, Methods, and Outcome

- In the Graduate School of Nursing, the criteria for examining theses are not clearly indicated. These criteria should be stated clearly in the graduate student handbook.

Education and Research Environment

- Although certified librarians are hired for the College library, they work under a temporary assignment contract. The College should hire professional librarian or the other staff as regular staff.