

Results for Certified Evaluation and Accreditation for Junior College

Tsu City College



| Basic Information of the Institution | |
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| Ownership: Public | Location: Mie, Japan |
| Accreditation Status | |
| Year of the Review: 2024 | |
| Accreditation Status: accredited (Accreditation Period: April 1, 2025 – March 31, 2032) | |

Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for Tsu City College

Overview

Tsu City College (hereafter “College”) sets forth the educational philosophy of “fostering well-educated students through education based on the quest for truth in line with the philosophy of the creation and devolution of knowledge, and as a knowledge hub in the region, contributing to cultural advancement and prosperity in the local community in collaboration with broad-based citizens.” The College has set forth in the Tsu City College Regulations the objectives of “providing a wide range of liberal arts education in accordance with the Basic Act on Education, and teaching and conducting research in depth to nurture specialized academic skills, thereby fostering persons of promise and contributing to cultural advancement.” To achieve its philosophy and objectives, college-wide and department-specific educational goals have been set in place. With no future plan (medium- to long-term plan) formulated to achieve its philosophy and objectives, however, the College should promptly begin discussions with the founding entity to develop a plan to ensure the promotion of internal quality assurance.

As for internal quality assurance, the Internal Quality Assurance Promotion Committee chaired by the president is responsible for promoting internal quality assurance and evaluates the summary reports submitted by individual committees as well as the FD/SD Activity Report, Tsu City College Annual Report, Annals of the Institute of Regional Studies, and Center for Community Collaboration Annual Report. Evaluation results are deliberated upon by the Development Planning Committee and then reported to the Faculty Council. If an issue arises, improvement measures are proposed to the Faculty Council for deliberation after comprehensive review by the Development Planning Committee.

Regarding education, the College and individual departments have created degree award policies (diploma policies) and curriculum design and implementation policies (curriculum policies), and each department has organized its curriculum in line with its curriculum design and implementation policy, dividing the subjects into the three categories of Basic Subjects, Common Subjects, and Special Subjects; they have also introduced educational methods that include active learning and fieldwork to stimulate student learning. The College formulated the Tsu City College Assessment Policy to monitor students’ learning progress from the first year to graduation, and to assess and

measure the learning and educational outcomes. As the Assessment Policy was recently established and the rubric not long implemented, the effectiveness of the newly introduced assessment system remains to be verified.

One of the College's strengths is that the College, faculty members, and students undertake various initiatives to achieve “to contribute to the community,” which is part of its educational philosophy. In particular, the College has concluded collaboration agreements with public high schools in Mie Prefecture and offers high school-college collaboration courses and writing courses every year. Many high school students who take these courses go on to enroll in the College. Furthermore, the Career Development Seminar involving various stakeholders in the community provides valuable opportunities for students to think about work and their career aspirations. Combined with an environment where students can easily consult with faculty members about job searching or transferring to another educational institution, these efforts have resulted in a high employment rate, which is commendable.

There are several areas of improvement the College should address, however. The average ratio of freshman enrollment to the freshman enrollment cap in the last five years is low in the Department of Law & Economics, Night Course, and the ratio of student enrollment to the student enrollment cap is also low. Measures are required to ensure thorough management of the Department's student quotas. In addition, some policies require revisions due to deficiencies in their contents or the policies themselves.

Going forward, the College is expected to make further advancements to achieve its philosophy, objectives, and educational targets by making efforts to improve the internal quality assurance system, addressing the above areas of improvement, and ensuring the more effective functioning of its internal organizations to promote internal quality assurance.

Notable Strengths

Student Support

- The close relationship between faculty members and students creates an environment where students can easily consult with faculty members regarding job searching, transferring to another educational institution, and other matters. Furthermore, the College offers the Career Development Seminar as a common course to enhance early career education for freshman students, which involves stakeholders with a variety of work experiences in the local community. With students required to submit

a review report, the seminar provides them with a valuable opportunity to think about work and their career aspirations before actual job searching. It is commendable that these careful and detailed initiatives have culminated in a high employment rate.

Social Cooperation and Contribution

- In collaboration with a company the College has hosted the essay, design and recipe competition for many years and made efforts to improve students' writing skills by reviewing and recognizing their writings on social issues and other themes. Leveraging this experience, and as an initiative to connect high school and college education, the College offers a writing course where faculty members touch up essays written by students from high schools that have concluded collaboration agreements with the College. Many high school students who participate in this course go on to enroll in the College and enter writing competitions as current college students. As shown in this positive cycle, these are significant and commendable initiatives that help expand the College's ongoing efforts.

Recommendations for Improvement

Student Enrollment

- The average ratio of freshman enrollment to the freshman enrollment cap in the last five years is low at 0.59 in the Department of Law & Economics, Night Course, and the ratio of student enrollment to the student enrollment cap is also low at 0.66. This issue should be addressed for improvement.