

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

OSAKA GAKUIN UNIVERSITY



Basic Information of the Institution	
Ownership: Private	Location: Osaka, Japan
Accreditation Status	
Year of the Review: 2017	
Accreditation Status: accredited (Accreditation Period: April.01.2018 – March.31.2025)	

Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for Osaka Gakuin University

Overview

Osaka Gakuin University (hereafter, the University) began as Kansai Accounting Institute in 1940 and was established as a single faculty university with the Faculty of Commerce in Suita City, Osaka in 1963. It has since added several faculties and graduate schools and is currently organized into seven faculties (Faculty of Commerce (including distance learning), Faculty of Business Administration, Faculty of Economics, Faculty of Law, Faculty of Foreign Languages, Faculty of International Studies and Faculty of Informatics) and five graduate schools (Graduate School of Commerce, Graduate School of Economics, Graduate School of Law, Graduate School of International Studies and Graduate School of Computer Science).

As the results of its accreditation review by Japan University Accreditation Association (JUAA) in 2010 were deferred, the University was reviewed again in 2013 and granted accreditation because it showed improvement from the previous review mentioned above. The University has built a system for periodic self-study led by the Self-study Basic Vision Committee and for continuous educational improvement led by the Dean's Meeting under the University Council. It has also been striving to establish a system for educational quality assurance by developing university-wide educational systems and supporting improvement in educational activities under the Educational Development and Teaching Center.

It is unique in its efforts to increase the number of outgoing international exchange students by focusing on English language education, mainly in the Faculty of Foreign Languages and Faculty of International Studies, and collaborate with and contribute to society with the Regional Collaboration Office and other facilities as a platform. It is expected that these efforts will bear fruit in the future.

On the other hand, issues have continuously been found in the University's student enrollment and financial affairs. These need to be improved radically.

As far as student enrollment is concerned, the University has overhauled its entrance examination system and advertising activities to fulfill enrollment quota across the board. It has also reduced or changed the enrollment quota for undergraduate programs, and there are positive signs of improvement. However, the number of students who enroll through recommendation examination and AO

examination occupy a large proportion in the whole university and this leads to drop-out issue. Drop-out rates in the first and second year are particularly high, and the University has been collecting and analyzing information and developing improvement plans led by Educational Development and Teaching Center based on the results of the previous review. However, outcomes remain inadequate. To address this problem, the University should take systematic action such as providing thorough learning support and reviewing how students are selected.

In the case of financial affairs, although the University has tried to reduce labor cost and expenses based on the suggestions made in the previous review and re-review, it has not yet been able to build a financial base sufficient to conduct education and research because student enrollment is low and drop-out rates are high. The University needs to build a financial base by securing steady income from tuition and other student fees along with radically reviewing its financial plan so that incomes exceed expenditures and considering measures to reduce expenses.

To address these issues, it is important that the University links the periodic self-study system to a mechanism for constant educational improvements and activates an internal quality assurance system led by the University Association. The University should increase the effectiveness of its internal quality assurance system and implement improvements and reforms with all faculty members and staff working as a unit.

Suggestions for Improvement

Educational Content, Methods, and Outcome

- The University has not formulated the examination criteria for special assignments in the Master's Courses in the Graduate School of Commerce, Graduate School of Economics, Graduate School of Law and Graduate School of International Studies. This issue should be addressed.

Enrollment

- The University has not formulated ideal student profiles for each major in its admission policy of the Graduate School of Commerce, Graduate School of Economics, Graduate School of Law and Graduate School of International Studies.

This issue should be addressed.

- The ratios of student enrollment to the student enrollment cap in 2017 were low at 0.87 and 0.88 in the Department of Business Administration, Faculty of Business Administration and the Department of Economics, Faculty of Economics respectively. This should be rectified.
- The ratios of student enrollment to the student enrollment cap in Master's courses were low at 0.40 in the Graduate School of Commerce, 0.32 in the Graduate School of Economics, 0.40 in the Graduate School of International Studies and 0.05 in the Graduate School of Computer Science. This should be improved. Moreover, the same ratios for the Doctoral Courses were also low at 0.02 in the Graduate School of Commerce and 0.02 in the Graduate School of Economics, while there are no students in the Graduate School of Law and the Graduate School of International. This issue should be addressed.
- As many students dropout due to a decline in the desire to learn, the University should further verify the enrollment of students, including a radical review of how students are selected, and connect the outcomes to improvement.

Student Support

- Although the University has been seriously addressing this issue by collecting and analyzing information and developing improvement plans led by the Educational Development and Teaching Center, the number of students who have less than 10 credits at the end of the first semester in the first year remains large and results in a high drop-out rate due to decline in interest to learn. This indicates that the University has not been able to take sufficient measures to control drop-outs. This issue should be addressed systematically to ensure radical solutions.

Area of Serious Concern

Enrollment

- In 2017, the average of ratios of freshman enrollment to the freshman enrollment

cap and student enrollment to the student enrollment cap over the last five years were low at 0.67 and 0.70 respectively in the Department of Commerce of the Faculty of Commerce. This should be rectified.

Administration and Finance

- Due to a reduction in income from tuition and other student fees, the ratio of the Excess Expenditure Carried forward to the Next Year to Operational Revenue (imputed income) is remarkably high, and the ratio of the financial assets to the required reserve fund is extremely low, indicating that the University is unable to establish the necessary financial base. The University needs to build a financial base by securing steady income from tuition and other student fees, along with radically reviewing its financial plan so that incomes exceed expenditures, and considering measures to reduce expenses.