

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

**Osaka University of Health and Sport Sciences**



<b>Basic Information of the Institution</b>	
Ownership: Private	Location: Osaka, Japan
<b>Accreditation Status</b>	
Year of the Review: 2022	
Accreditation Status: accredited (Accreditation Period: April 1, 2023 – March 31, 2030)	

## **Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for Osaka University of Health and Sport Sciences**

### **Overview**

Osaka University of Health and Sport Sciences, founded on the spirit of “cultivating mind, virtue, and body through ceaseless effort in order to serve society,” defines its mission as “To educate and encourage students to devote themselves to peace and the happiness of human society by striving both to acquire profound and extensive knowledge and develop physical strength.” Based on its founding spirit and mission, the University sets forth its purpose as “teaching and conducting research on scientific theories and technologies related to physical education, sports and school education, cultivating practical and creative individuals with rich knowledge and broad views, and contributing to the improvement of Japanese people’s health, sports culture, and school education.” To pursue its mission and purpose, the University has developed the Midterm Goal and Plan for Osaka University for Health and Sport Sciences and the Osaka University for Health and Sport Sciences Vision for 2031 as its long-term plan. It can be said that the University is committed to improving its educational and research activities.

With respect to the internal quality assurance policy, the University developed the Basic Policy on Internal Quality Assurance in AY2021. In accordance with this policy, a system was put in place to promote internal quality assurance, with the president assuming overall responsibility for internal quality assurance and the Internal Quality Assurance Promotion Committee, a university-wide organization, responsible for promoting internal quality assurance, linked to the departments, sections, and other committees. In this system, the individual departments and sections are expected to use the Improvement Planning Sheet to make improvements as instructed by the committee. However, the University has conducted a university-wide self-study only once in AY2018 after the last certified evaluation and accreditation in AY2015, and the University as a whole has not undertaken any improvements based on the self-study results. For these reasons, it cannot be said that the University’s internal quality assurance system is functioning effectively and thus improvements are required.

Regarding education, all of the University’s undergraduate schools and graduate school design their own curricula appropriately based on the diploma and curriculum policies. The University seeks to enhance its learning support mechanism

for students who miss classes due to extracurricular and other activities. As a distinctive feature, the University has advanced efforts to encourage more active student learning by introducing academic guidance and teaching assistant (TA) systems to create an appropriate learning environment. Although the learning outcomes stipulated in the diploma policy are measured by the undergraduate schools and graduate school through the DP Achievement Survey, it is desirable that the learning outcomes be measured by several other methods described in the assessment plan.

One notable effort is setting up the Strength & Conditioning Room and Athletic Training Room in the Sports Science Center, along with the Sports Counseling Room in the Student Counseling Room, as facilities to enhance its support for students aspiring to become athletes. It is also highly commendable that as part of its social cooperation and contribution activities, the University operates the Good Coach Training Seminar, a project to dispatch students training to be coaches to high school athletic clubs.

In addition to the internal quality assurance issues described above, the school corporation that established and manages the University has long suffered financial difficulties at its affiliated school. The University itself faces no financial challenges, but the school corporation should review the situation and implement the necessary measures to establish a stable financial base.

Going forward, JUAA expects the University to promote internal quality assurance by supporting the new internal quality assurance system and organically applying the results of the university-wide self-study, and the checks and reviews of the undergraduate schools, graduate school, and committees, to undertake improvements and enhancements. It is also expected that the University will examine whether the improved internal quality assurance system is functioning effectively to further enhance the mechanism that promotes a number of activities based on the founding spirit.

## **Notable Strengths**

### *Student Support*

- The University has set up the necessary facilities in the Sports Science Center to provide multifaceted guidance and advice for students to improve their athletic abilities by aligning the five fields of athletic training, strength and conditioning,

psychology, nutrition, and measurement evaluation. It also established the Sports Counseling Room and the Student Counseling Room to provide careful support for maintaining students' mental health while improving their athletic abilities. This support is provided through the student support policy, and it is commendable that these efforts are functioning effectively and contributing to the development of students aspiring to become athletes.

#### *Social Cooperation and Contribution*

- To support the coaching of athletic club activities of secondary schools in Osaka Prefecture, the University holds the Good Coach Training Seminar, dispatching students as club instructors and external coaches who receive comprehensive training on the basics of coaching, sport ethics, and how to respond to accidents in a uniquely developed education program. It is commendable that this effort is leading to students' practical learning as they study to become sport instructors as well as contributes to reducing the burden on secondary school teachers and to establishing a sustainable operating structure for club activities in the local school education system.

### **Suggestions for Improvement**

#### *Internal Quality Assurance*

- The University conducted self-study only once in AY2018 after the last certified evaluation and accreditation in AY2015, and has failed to conduct activities for improvements and enhancements based on the results of the regular self-study initiatives made by individual sections. Accordingly, it cannot be said that the University's internal quality assurance system is functioning effectively. Going forward, the University should undertake improvements for the new internal quality assurance system established in AY2021 to work more effectively by conducting internal quality assurance self-studies on a regular basis and implementing improvement and enhancement measures based on the self-study results.

*University Management and Finance*

- In addition to the continued financial imbalance of its affiliated school, the ratio of financial assets to the required reserve fund is low due to the relocation of the affiliated school, although the University has maintained the favorable position in the balance sheet for its operating activities. The University is required to set specific numerical targets and measures to establish and maintain a strong financial base for the entire school corporation.