

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

GIFU COLLEGE OF NURSING



Basic Information of the Institution	
Ownership: Public	Location: Gifu, 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 Gifu College of Nursing

Overview

Gifu College of Nursing (hereafter, the College) was founded in 2000 as a single faculty university with the Undergraduate School of Nursing. It became a public university corporation in 2010 after the Master's Course of Graduate School of Nursing was established in 2004 and the Doctorate Course of Graduate School of Nursing was established in 2006. The College conducts educational and research activities based on its mission and purpose of “educating nursing professionals who can contribute to human health and welfare and engage in high-level practical research for improvement and reform in everyday nursing services provided by nursing professionals.”

Under the guidance of its Academic Affairs Committee, the College is taking prompt actions on the suggestions made in the previous accreditation review by Japan University Accreditation Association (JUAA), including announcing the results of class evaluations to students, content descriptions in the syllabus, and the method to assess academic achievement, which was not made sufficiently clear to students. Moreover, its Graduate School Committee is deliberating upon and formulating degree award policy for the Doctorate Course of Graduate School of Nursing. To promote research activities, the College is studying a system that enables students to focus on research and plans to implement it along with other improvements and reforms.

The College is undertaking Faculty Development (FD) under the guidance of its Faculty Development Committee. It holds active discussions on themes that can help make real contribution to education and presents the results in the form of a report. This has created an effective cycle for improvement in educational program and instruction. Moreover, the College has established an “Integrated Seminar on Nursing” subject for final year students at the Undergraduate School of Nursing based on the issues drawn out from FD. In this subject, students compare the goal (to be attained) at the time of graduation to their status and themselves propose a learning plan to be followed until graduation, independently carrying out activities to deepen learning. It is commendable that the College uses this unique educational method to strengthen abilities that serve as the base for lifelong learning. The College also contributes to society through collaborative research projects, practical research training in nursing and supports for nursing research in Gifu Prefecture carried out by the Nursing

Research and Collaboration Center. It is commendable that these activities, including collaboration and joint studies with nursing professionals, development of supervision and research training methods in response to the actual situation and promotion of lifelong learning among nursing professionals in the prefecture, connect to improvement in the quality of nursing services in the prefecture and enhancement of practical abilities of nursing professionals. However, the College needs to address some issues. The admission policies of the Graduate School of Nursing are not separate for the Master's Course and the Doctorate Course. This should be rectified, and separate admission policies should be formulated for each Course. The College should also formulate separate examination criteria for the Master's theses and the research reports for the Certified Nurse Specialist course, which are the same at present.

The College is set to complete 20 years in 2020. It is in the process of formulating the Third Mid-Term Plans with its vision for the next 10 years. It is expected that these efforts will lead to effective self-study and the university will continue contributing to improvement in nursing services in the community by developing nursing professionals who can play a role in advancing human health and welfare.

Notable Strengths

Educational Content, Methods, and Outcome

- To enable students to work on improving their abilities, the University clarifies the goal (to be attained) by the time of graduation and holds active discussions between faculty members, as part of its FD activities led by the Faculty Development Committee, based on survey results related to practical training for nursing professional after graduation. As a result, it set up the Integrated Seminar on Nursing for the fourth-year students, in which students themselves create a learning plan to follow until graduation, self-check the status of achievement through activities undertaken in the seminar with regard to the goal (to be attained) by the time graduation, hold consultations with faculty members, clarify issues and take next actions. It is commendable that students are able to foster the ability to keep improving their skills as nursing professionals independently and throughout their life by repeating this process.

Social Cooperation and Contribution

- The Nursing Research and Collaboration Center aims to promote joint research by

conducting research activities directly related to nursing professionals and everyday nursing work at hospitals and clinics in the prefecture, practical research training in nursing with the objective to encourage lifelong learning among nursing professionals in the prefecture and collaborative study with nurses in Gifu Prefecture in which nurses engage in practical improvement and research and share the experiences with each other. In the practical research training in nursing project in particular, the Center supports improvement in management skills of nurse administrators to increase specialization in nursing. It develops appropriate methods of instruction keeping in mind practical situation on-site and encourages independent problem-solving by nursing professionals. It is commendable that these activities connect to improvement in nursing services through collaborations between nursing professionals in the prefecture and improvement in practical skills of nursing professionals.

Suggestions for Improvement

Educational Content, Methods, and Outcome

- The University should also formulate separate examination criteria for the Master's theses and the research reports for the Certified Nurse Specialist course of the Graduate School of Nursing, as the existing criteria are same for both.

Enrollment

- The admission policies of the Graduate School of Nursing are not separate for the Master's Course and the Doctorate Course. This should be rectified, and a separate admission policy should be formulated for each Course.