

# Japan University Accreditation Association University Accreditation Regulations

Established on June 28, 2006      Revised on September 7, 2018  
Revised on March 11, 2008      Revised on January 31, 2019  
Revised on April 24, 2008      Revised on September 27, 2019  
Revised on January 28, 2010  
Revised on May 21, 2010  
Revised on January 28, 2011  
Revised on March 9, 2012  
Revised on May 19, 2015  
Revised on January 29, 2016  
Revised on September 14, 2016

## CHAPTER I      GENERAL PROVISIONS

### Article 1      Purpose

These Regulations provide for the accreditation of universities (except for junior colleges) (“University Accreditation”) that is third-party accreditation on education and research activities, etc. in universities carried out by the Japan University Accreditation Association (“JUAA”) pursuant to Article 4, Paragraph 1, Item a, of the Japan University Accreditation Association Articles of Incorporation (the “AOI”).

### Article 2      Definitions

1. In these Regulations, “University Accreditation” means to accredit a university with respect to which at least one year has passed from its completion year of the establishment plan (“Application Eligibility Satisfaction Year”) and which desires to undergo JUAA’s University Accreditation, and to determine whether that university is accredited as meeting JUAA’s university standards.
2. A university that has received University Accreditation under these Regulations is considered to have received certified evaluation under Article 109, Paragraph (2), of the School Education Act.

### Article 3      Main Purpose of University Accreditation

The main purpose of University Accreditations is to comprehensively evaluate every aspect of universities.

### Article 4      Accreditation Period

1. The accreditation period for a university that has been awarded accreditation is seven years.
2. The accreditation commences on April 1 of the fiscal year following a University Accreditation.

Article 5            Suspension of Accreditation Decision  
Deleted

Article 6            Application for Full Membership  
A university that has been accredited as meeting the university standards may apply for full membership of JUAA.

## CHAPTER II        UNIVERSITY ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE

Article 7            Establishment  
JUAA is to establish the University Accreditation Committee under the provisions of Article 33, Paragraph 1, of the AOI in order to perform University Accreditations.

Article 8            Organization

1. The University Accreditation Committee consists of 20 committee members.
2. Of the committee members under the preceding paragraph, ten members are to be elected by the Board of Trustees from among the candidates each of whom is recommended by full member universities and appointed by the President.
3. Five of the committee members under Paragraph 1 are to be appointed by the President from among external experts through discussions at the Board of Trustees.
4. Five of the committee members under Paragraph 1 other than the members under the provisions of Paragraphs 2 and 3 are to be nominated by the Board of Trustees and appointed by the President.
5. The term of office of a University Accreditation Committee member is two years; provided, however, that a committee member may be reappointed.
6. If the post of a member of a University Accreditation Committee member becomes vacant, a committee member will be elected by the Board of Managing Trustees according to the election category and appointed by the President.
7. The term of office of a committee member appointed to fill a vacancy is the remaining term of office of his or her predecessor.

Article 9            Committee Chair and Vice Committee Chair

1. The University Accreditation Committee has one Committee Chair and one Vice Committee Chair.
2. The Committee Chair and the Vice Committee Chair are to be elected from among the committee members and appointed by the President.
3. The Committee Chair is in charge of the duties of the University Accreditation Committee.
4. The Vice Committee Chair assists the Committee Chair, and will act in his or her place if the Committee Chair is unable to perform his or her duties or the post of the Committee Chair is vacant.

Article 10 Secretary

1. The University Accreditation Committee may have a secretary as needed. The secretary is to be appointed by the President from among the candidates nominated by the University Accreditation Committee.
2. The secretary shall administer the duties of the University Accreditation Committee at the instruction of the Committee Chair.

Article 11 Holding of Committee Meetings

1. University Accreditation Committee meetings are to be convened by the Committee Chair; provided, however, that the Committee Chair must convene a University Accreditation Committee meeting if requested by one-third or more of the committee members.
2. A University Accreditation Committee meeting may not be held without the attendance of at least one half of the committee members.
3. Decisions of the Committee are to be made by a majority of the committee members present at that meeting. In case of a tie, the Committee Chair is to decide the matter.

Article 12 No Proxies for University Accreditation Committee Members

A University Accreditation Committee member may not have someone else act in his or her place.

CHAPTER III UNIVERSITY ACCREDITATION SUBCOMMITTEE AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE

Article 13 Establishment

1. The University Accreditation Committee is to establish the University Accreditation Subcommittee and the Financial Affairs Review Subcommittee.
2. The members of the University Accreditation Subcommittee and the Financial Affairs Review Subcommittee consist of the members of the University Accreditation Committee and other members.
3. The members of the University Accreditation Subcommittee and the Financial Affairs Review Subcommittee are to be appointed by the President from among the candidates nominated by the University Accreditation Committee.
4. Each of the University Accreditation Subcommittee and the Financial Affairs Review Subcommittee has one subcommittee chief.
5. The University Accreditation Committee may have panels under the Financial Affairs Review Subcommittee as needed. In that case, the composition, appointment procedures, etc. of the panels will be in accordance with the provisions of Paragraphs 2 through 4 of this Article.
6. The term of office of each member of the University Accreditation Subcommittee and the Financial Affairs Review Subcommittee (including members of panels) is one year; provided, however, that a member of the University Accreditation Subcommittee and the Financial Affairs Review

Subcommittee may be reappointed.

Article 14            No Proxies for Subcommittee Members

A member of the University Accreditation Subcommittee or the Financial Affairs Review Subcommittee (including panel members) may not have someone else act in his or her place.

CHAPTER IV        UNIVERSITY ACCREDITATION PROCEDURES

Article 15            Document Analyses and Site Visits

A University Accreditation is to be carried out through an analysis of self-study reports and other materials prepared by the university based on the evaluation items to be separately provided and through a site visit.

Article 16            Submission of Applications for University Accreditation

1. Each university shall submit an application for the University Accreditation to the President by a specified date and also submit to JUAA the materials under the preceding article by a specified date.
2. In addition to the materials under the preceding paragraph, the University Accreditation Committee, the University Accreditation Subcommittee and the Financial Affairs Review Subcommittee may request a university to additionally submit any materials necessary for the University Accreditation.

Article 17            Withdrawal of Application

1. A university may not withdraw its application on or after a specified date except for where a special circumstance has arisen that is considered to make it difficult to continue the accreditation.
2. The Board of Trustees is to decide on whether it approves or rejects the withdrawal of an application for a University Accreditation under the preceding paragraph based on a written request by the university.

Article 18            Discontinuation and Suspension of University Accreditation

The Board of Trustees may discontinue or temporarily suspend a University Accreditation if it finds grounds that are reasonable enough to determine that it is difficult to continue the University Accreditation such as the occurrence of a disaster.

Article 19            Evaluator Training

JUAA shall provide training relating to accreditation practices in an appropriate manner for the members and the secretary of the University Accreditation Committee, and the members of the University Accreditation Subcommittee and the Financial Affairs Review Subcommittee (including panel members).

Article 20            Exclusion of Interested Parties

None of the members or the secretary of the University Accreditation Committee, or the members of the University Accreditation Subcommittee and the Financial Affairs Review Subcommittee (including panel members) may participate in accreditation of a university to which such member, etc. belongs.

#### Article 21 Division of Duties

1. The University Accreditation Subcommittee shall evaluate the evaluation items specified by JUAA other than those relating to finance.
2. The Financial Affairs Review Subcommittee shall evaluate the evaluation items relating to finance.

#### Article 22 Preparation of Draft University Accreditation Results

1. The University Accreditation Subcommittee and the Financial Affairs Review Subcommittee are to prepare the University Accreditation results (subcommittee's draft) based on the results of the evaluation under the preceding article.
2. The University Accreditation results (subcommittee's draft) may include "areas of serious concern," "suggestions for improvement" or "commendation" and "rating."
3. The University Accreditation results (subcommittee's draft) must include the decision on whether the university is accredited or not accredited as meeting the university standards.
4. The accreditation or non-accreditation under the preceding paragraph is to be made comprehensively in light of the status of the areas of serious concern.
5. The subcommittee chief of the University Accreditation Subcommittee shall submit to the University Accreditation Committee the University Accreditation results (subcommittee's draft) by a specified date.
6. After receiving the University Accreditation results (subcommittee's draft) in the preceding paragraph, the University Accreditation Committee shall deliberate on the details thereof and prepare the University Accreditation results (final draft).
7. In preparing the University Accreditation results (final draft) in the preceding paragraph, the Committee Chair of the University Accreditation Committee shall hear the opinions of the university on the original draft thereof.
8. The Committee Chair of the University Accreditation Committee shall submit the University Accreditation results (final draft) to the President by a specified date.

#### Article 23 Determination of University Accreditation Results

The Board of Trustees shall deliberate on and determine the University Accreditation Results while respecting the University Accreditation results (final draft) in Paragraph 8 of the preceding article.

#### Article 24 Revocation of Accreditation

If, after the determination in the preceding article, a serious situation arises that would make it impossible to maintain the decision that the university meets the university standards such as where it is found that the evaluation reports or other materials were prepared based on false information, the Board of Trustees may revoke the accreditation after soliciting opinions of the University Accreditation

Committee even during the accreditation period.

#### Article 25 Notices

1. After the Board of Trustees determines the University Accreditation results, the President shall promptly notify the university of the results.
2. The President shall compile the University Accreditation results into a University Accreditation Results Report and report to the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.
3. The President shall publicly disclose the University Accreditation Results Report in the preceding paragraph in a publication, on the Internet, or in another appropriate manner.

### CHAPTER V APPEAL PROCEDURES

#### Article 26 Appeal Procedures

Appeal procedures are to be separately provided.

### CHAPTER VI Progress Report Review Procedures

#### Article 27 Progress Report

1. A university that has been accredited as meeting the university standards but with any areas of serious concern or suggestions for improvement must submit a progress report on those areas of serious concern or suggestions for improvement by a specified date.
2. Any university that has been accredited with limitation as a result of a University Accreditation in FY2017 or whose accreditation decision has been suspended as a result of a University Accreditation in FY2018 or FY2019 must submit a progress report (except for any matters subject to rereview) by a specified date on the matters concerning the areas of serious concern and suggestions for improvement included in the University Accreditation results.
3. Any university subject to a decision of “non-accredited” as a result of the University Accreditation may submit a progress report for review on the matters concerning the areas of serious concern and suggestions for improvement included in the University Accreditation results (except where that university applies for a supplementary review).

#### Article 28 Progress Report Review Subcommittee

1. The University Accreditation Committee shall establish the Progress Report Review Subcommittee in order to review progress reports.
2. The members of the Progress Report Review Subcommittee are to be appointed by the President from among the candidates nominated by the University Accreditation Committee.
3. The Progress Report Review Subcommittee has one subcommittee chief.
4. The term of office of each member of the Progress Report Review Subcommittee is one year;

provided, however, that a member of the Progress Report Review Subcommittee may be reappointed.

5. A Progress Report Review Subcommittee member may not have someone else act in his or her place.

#### Article 29 Preparation of Draft Review Results on Progress Reports

1. The Progress Report Review Subcommittee is to prepare the review results (subcommittee's draft) on the progress report based on the results of its review.
2. In cases such as where no improvement is observed, the Progress Report Review Subcommittee may submit another opinion to the university in the review results (subcommittee's draft) under the preceding paragraph.
3. The subcommittee chief of the Progress Report Review Subcommittee shall submit to the University Accreditation Committee the review results (subcommittee's draft) on the progress report by a specified date.
4. After receiving the review results (subcommittee's draft) in the preceding paragraph, the University Accreditation Committee shall deliberate on the details thereof and prepare its review results (final draft) on the progress report.
5. The Committee Chair of the University Accreditation Committee shall submit the review results (final draft) in the preceding paragraph to the President by a specified date.

#### Article 30 Decisions, Notices, and Public Disclosure

1. The Board of Trustees shall deliberate on and determine its review results on the progress reports while respecting the review results (final draft) in Paragraph 5 of the preceding article.
2. After the Board of Trustees determines the results in the preceding paragraph, the President shall promptly notify the university of the results.
3. The President shall publicly disclose the results in Paragraph 1 in a publication, on the Internet, or in another appropriate manner.

### CHAPTER VII REREVIEW PROCEDURES

#### Article 31 Application for Rereview

1. Any university that has been accredited with limitation as a result of a University Accreditation in FY2017 or whose accreditation decision has been suspended as a result of a University Accreditation in FY2018 or FY2019 must submit by a specified date a rereview report on the matters of concern based on which such decision was made to the President for rereview.
2. Any university that fails to undergo a rereview under the preceding paragraph by a specified date will be determined to be not meeting the university standards.

#### Article 32 Rereview Subcommittee

1. The University Accreditation Committee shall establish the Rereview Subcommittee for the purpose

of rereview; provided, however, that this does not apply where it is determined that the University Accreditation Committee can conduct a rereview in light of the details of the matters of concern based on which a decision of accreditation with limitation was made or the accreditation decision has been suspended.

2. The members of the Rereview Subcommittee are to be appointed by the President from among the candidates nominated by the University Accreditation Committee.
3. The Rereview Subcommittee has one subcommittee chief.
4. The term of office of each member of the Rereview Subcommittee is one year; provided, however, that a member of the Rereview Subcommittee may be reappointed.
5. A Rereview Subcommittee member may not have someone else act in his or her place.

#### Article 33 Document Analyses and Site Visits

A rereview is to be carried out through document analysis and a site visit; provided, however, that a site visit may be omitted at the discretion of the University Accreditation Committee if improvement can be observed through document analysis.

#### Article 34 Preparation of Draft Rereview Results

1. The Rereview Subcommittee is to prepare the rereview results (subcommittee's draft) based on the results of the evaluation under the preceding article.
2. The rereview results (subcommittee's draft) must include the decision on whether the university is accredited or not accredited as meeting the university standards.
3. The decision under the preceding paragraph is to be made based on the status of improvement on all of the matters reported in the rereview report.
4. The rereview results (subcommittee's draft) may include "areas of serious concern," "suggestions for improvement" and "rating."
5. The subcommittee chief of the Rereview Subcommittee shall submit to the University Accreditation Committee the rereview results (subcommittee's draft) by a specified date.
6. After receiving the rereview results (subcommittee's draft) in the preceding paragraph, the University Accreditation Committee shall deliberate on the details thereof and prepare the rereview results (final draft).
7. In preparing the rereview results (final draft) in the preceding paragraph, the Committee Chair of the University Accreditation Committee shall hear the opinions of the university on the original draft thereof.
8. The Committee Chair of the University Accreditation Committee shall submit the rereview results (final draft) to the President by a specified date.

#### Article 35 Determination of Rereview Results

The Board of Trustees shall deliberate on and determine the rereview results while respecting the rereview results (final draft) in Paragraph 8 of the preceding article.



Article 36 Accreditation Period

1. The accreditation period for a university that has been accredited as meeting the university standards as a result of a rereview is seven years including the period of accreditation with limitation or the period during which an accreditation decision has been suspended.
2. The provisions on revocation of accreditation under Article 24 also apply to rereview results.

Article 37 Notices

Article 25 applies *mutatis mutandis* to notices on determinations, etc. under Article 35.

## CHAPTER VIII SUPPLEMENTARY REVIEW PROCEDURES

Article 38 Applications for Supplementary Review

1. Any university that has been determined to be not meeting the university standards as a result of a University Accreditation or a rereview may apply for a supplementary review by a specified date on the matters of concern based on which that non-accreditation decision was made.
2. An application in the preceding paragraph may only be made once from the fiscal year following the fiscal year during which that university underwent the University Accreditation or rereview and in or before the fiscal year preceding the fiscal year of the next University Accreditation.
3. A university that applies for a supplementary review shall submit a supplementary review report on the areas of serious concern and suggestions for improvement.

Article 39 Supplementary Review Subcommittee

1. The University Accreditation Committee shall establish the Supplementary Review Subcommittee for the purpose of supplementary reviews; provided, however, that this does not apply where it is determined that the University Accreditation Committee can conduct a supplementary review in light of the details of the matters of concern based on which accreditation has been denied.
2. The members of the Supplementary Review Subcommittee are to be appointed by the President from among the candidates nominated by the University Accreditation Committee.
3. The Supplementary Review Subcommittee has one subcommittee chief.
4. The term of office of each member of the Supplementary Review Subcommittee is one year; provided, however, that a member of the Supplementary Review Subcommittee may be reappointed.
5. A Supplementary Review Subcommittee member may not have someone else act in his or her place.

Article 40 Document Analyses and Site Visits

A supplementary review is to be carried out through document analysis and a site visit; provided, however, that a site visit may be omitted at the discretion of the University Accreditation Committee if improvement can be observed through document analysis.

Article 41 Preparation of Draft Supplementary Review Results

1. The Supplementary Review Subcommittee is to prepare the supplementary review results (subcommittee's draft) based on the results of the evaluation under the preceding article.
2. The supplementary review results (subcommittee's draft) may include "areas of serious concern" or "suggestions for improvement" and "rating."
3. The supplementary review results (subcommittee's draft) must include the decision on whether the university is accredited or not accredited as meeting the university standards.
4. The decision under the preceding paragraph is to be made based on the status of improvement on the matters reported in the supplementary review report relating to the matters of concern based on which the non-accreditation decision was made.
5. The subcommittee chief of the Supplementary Review Subcommittee shall submit to the University Accreditation Committee the supplementary review results (subcommittee's draft) by a specified date.
6. After receiving the supplementary review results (subcommittee's draft) in the preceding paragraph, the University Accreditation Committee shall deliberate on the details thereof and prepare the supplementary review results (final draft).
7. In preparing the supplementary review results (final draft) in the preceding paragraph, the Committee Chair of the University Accreditation Committee shall hear the opinions of the university on the original draft thereof.
8. The Committee Chair of the University Accreditation Committee shall submit the supplementary review results (final draft) under Paragraph 6 to the President by a specified date.

#### Article 42 Determination of Supplementary Review Results

The Board of Trustees shall deliberate on and determine the supplementary review results while respecting the supplementary review results (final draft) in Paragraph 8 of the preceding article.

#### Article 43 Accreditation Period

1. The accreditation of a university that has been accredited as meeting the university standards as a result of a supplementary review will commence on April 1 of the fiscal year following the fiscal year during which the supplementary review was conducted; provided, however, that, notwithstanding the provisions of Article 4, Paragraph 1, the accreditation period will end on March 31 of the fiscal year that is seven years after the fiscal year following the fiscal year during which the university originally underwent the University Accreditation.
2. The provisions on revocation of accreditation under Article 24 also apply to supplementary review results.

#### Article 44 Notices

Article 25 applies *mutatis mutandis* to notices on determinations, etc. under Article 42.

### CHAPTER IX CERTIFICATE OF ACCREDITATION

Article 45 Delivery of Certificate of Accreditation

JUAA is to deliver a certificate of accreditation to a university that has been accredited as meeting the university standards as a result of a University Accreditation, rereview or supplementary review.

CHAPTER X ACCREDITATION FEE

Article 46 Payment of Accreditation Fee

A university that is to undergo a University Accreditation, rereview or supplementary review shall pay an accreditation fee to be separately provided.

CHAPTER XI MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Article 47 Revisions to and Abolishment of these Regulations

1. Any revisions to and abolishment of these Regulations is to be made by the Board of Trustees.
2. Any detailed regulations necessary for the implementation of these Regulations are to be determined by the Board of Managing Trustees.

Supplementary Provisions

1. These Regulations take effect on April 1, 2011.
2. The Detailed Regulations on the University Accreditation (June 28, 2006) are to be abolished upon the implementation of these Regulations.
3. The rereview procedures under Chapter VIII also apply to the rereview of a university that underwent a University Accreditation in or before FY2010 and whose accreditation or non-accreditation decision was suspended. In that case, “accredited with limitation” in Article 36, Paragraph 1, “when the accreditation period ends” in Paragraph 2 of the same article, and “seven years including the period under Article 4, Paragraph 2” in Article 41 will be read as “whose accreditation decision has been suspended,” “when the accreditation suspension period ends,” and “the period starting on April 1 of the fiscal year following the fiscal year during which the rereview was conducted and ending on March 31 of the fiscal year that is seven years after the fiscal year from which the accreditation suspension started,” respectively.

Supplementary Provisions (March 9, 2012)

These Regulations take effect on the date of registration of incorporation of the public interest corporation under Article 106, Paragraph 1, of the Act on Revision, etc. of Related Acts in Connection with Enforcement of the Act on General Incorporated Associations and General Incorporated Foundations and the Act on Authorization of Public Interest Incorporated Associations and Public Interest Incorporated Foundations.

Supplementary Provisions (May 19, 2015)

These Regulations take effect on April 1, 2015.

Supplementary Provisions (January 29, 2016)

These Regulations take effect on March, 1, 2016.

Supplementary Provisions (September 14, 2016)

1. These Regulations take effect on April 1, 2018; provided, however, that the provisions of Article 30, Paragraph 3 relating to the public disclosure of the review results on progress reports apply only to the universities that have undergone a University Accreditation on or after April 1, 2018.
2. In connection with the application of Article 8, Paragraph 1, notwithstanding the provisions of Article 8, Paragraph 5, the term of office of a member of the University Accreditation Committee under Chapter II appointed on or after April 1, 2017 is one year.
3. The rereview procedures under Chapter VII also apply to rereviews of universities that have undergone University Accreditation in or before FY 2017 and been accredited with limitation. In that case, “whose accreditation decision has been suspended” and “areas of serious concern and suggestions for improvement” in Article 31, Paragraph 1 will be read as “accredited with limitation,” and “areas of serious concern and suggestions for improvement,” respectively, “that fails to undergo a rereview [under the preceding paragraph by a specified date will]” in Article 31, Paragraph 2 will be read as “that fails to undergo a rereview [under the preceding paragraph by a specified date] will, upon the accreditation period ends,” “the matters of concern based on which...the accreditation decision has been suspended” in Article 34, Paragraph 4 will be read as “the matters of concern based on which the decision of accreditation with limitation was made,” and “period during which an accreditation decision has been suspended” in Article 36, Paragraph 1 will be read as “the period of accreditation with limitation.”
4. The supplementary review procedures under Chapter VIII also apply to supplementary reviews of universities that have undergone University Accreditation in or before FY2017 and been determined to be not meeting the university standards. In that case, “areas of serious concern and suggestions for improvement” in Article 38, Paragraph 3 will be read as “areas of serious concern and suggestions for improvement.”

Supplementary Provisions (September 7, 2018)

These Regulations take effect on September 7, 2018.

Supplementary Provisions (January 31, 2019)

These Regulations take effect on April 1, 2019.

Supplementary Provisions (September 27, 2019)

1. These Regulations take effect on April 1, 2020.

2. The entirety of Article 27, Paragraph 2 and Chapter VII, and the provisions of Articles 38, 45 and 46 that relate to rereviews are to be deleted when the rereviews of universities accredited with limitation as a result of the University Accreditation in FY2017 and universities whose accreditation decision have been suspended as a result of the University Accreditation in FY2018 and 2019 are fully completed.