

Japan University Accreditation Association University Accreditation Regulations

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CHAPTER I GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1 Purpose

These Regulations set forth the “University Accreditation”, which is the accreditation of universities, other than junior colleges, conducted by the Japan University Accreditation Association (“JUAA”) as part of its third-party evaluation of educational, research, and other institutional activities in universities, pursuant to the provisions of Article 4, Paragraph 1, Item a, of the Japan University Accreditation Association Articles of Incorporation (the “AOP”).

Article 2 Definitions

1. In these Regulations, “University Accreditation” means to accredit a university seeking to undergo University Accreditation, and to determine whether that university is accredited as meeting JUAA’s University Standards.
2. A university is eligible to undergo University Accreditation in or after the second fiscal year following the year of its completion.
3. A university that has undergone University Accreditation under these Regulations is deemed to have undergone Certified Evaluation and Accreditation 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 accredited as a result of a University Accreditation is seven years, commencing on April 1 of the fiscal year following the University Accreditation and ending on March 31, seven years thereafter.
2. Notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding paragraph, if a university is accredited as a result of the Supplementary Review specified in Chapter 7, the accreditation period for that university shall be from April 1 of the fiscal year following the Supplementary Review until March 31 of the fiscal year seven years after the fiscal year following that in which the original University Accreditation was conducted.

Article 5 Evaluator Training

JUAA shall provide, in advance in an appropriate manner, training relating to accreditation practices to the members and secretaries of the University Accreditation Committee specified in Chapter 2, as well as members of the various subcommittees and panels established under that committee.

Article 6 Exclusion of Interested Parties

Any persons affiliated with or otherwise interested in the university that has applied for a University Accreditation shall not participate in any part of the deliberation or decision-making process related to the accreditation of that university.

CHAPTER II UNIVERSITY ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE

Article 7 Establishment

JUAA shall establish the University Accreditation Committee under the provisions of Article 33, Paragraph 1, of the AOI in order to conduct University Accreditation.

Article 8 Duties

The University Accreditation Committee shall perform the following duties:

- (1) Determination of the accreditation policy
- (2) Preparation of the University Accreditation Results (Final Draft)
- (3) Deliberation and other matters concerning University Accreditation

Article 9 Composition and Term of Office

1. The University Accreditation Committee shall consist of 20 committee members.

2. Of the committee members under the preceding paragraph, ten members shall be elected by the Board of Trustees from among the candidates nominated by full member universities, with each university nominating up to one candidate, and appointed by the President.
3. Five of the committee members under Paragraph 1 shall be appointed by the President from among external experts upon resolution of 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 shall be nominated by the Board of Trustees and appointed by the President.
5. The term of office of a University Accreditation Committee member shall be 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 shall be elected by the Board of Managing Trustees according to the category of the member and appointed by the President.
7. The term of office of a committee member appointed to fill a vacancy under the preceding paragraph is the remaining term of office of the predecessor.

Article 10 Committee Chair and Vice Committee Chair

1. The University Accreditation Committee shall appoint one Committee Chair and one Vice Committee Chair.
2. The Committee Chair and the Vice Committee Chair shall be elected by the committee members from among themselves 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 shall assist the Committee Chair, and shall act on behalf of the Committee Chair if the Committee Chair is unable to perform the duties of the Committee Chair or the position becomes vacant.

Article 11 Secretary

1. The University Accreditation Committee may have a secretary as necessary.
2. The secretary shall be appointed by the President from among the candidates nominated by the University Accreditation Committee.
3. The secretary shall perform the duties of the University Accreditation Committee at the instruction of the Committee Chair.

Article 12 Operation

1. University Accreditation Committee meetings shall be convened by the Committee Chair; provided, however, that the Committee Chair shall convene a University Accreditation Committee meeting if requested by one-third or more of the committee members.
2. A University Accreditation Committee meeting shall not be held without the attendance of at least one half of the committee members.
3. Decisions of the Committee shall be made by a majority of the committee members present at that

meeting. In case of a tie, the Committee Chair shall decide the matter.

Article 13 No Proxies for University Accreditation Committee Members

A University Accreditation Committee member shall not appoint a proxy to perform their duties.

CHAPTER III SUBCOMMITTEES

Article 14 Establishment

1. The University Accreditation Committee shall establish the University Review Subcommittee and the Financial Affairs Review Subcommittee.
2. The University Review Subcommittee shall evaluate the standards other than those related to finance, based on the University Standards established by JUAA.
3. The Financial Affairs Review Subcommittee shall evaluate the standards related to finance.

Article 15 Composition, Operation, and Term of Office of University Review Subcommittee

1. The University Review Subcommittee shall consist of five members (including the subcommittee chief).
2. The members set forth in Paragraph 1 (including the subcommittee chief) shall be selected from among members of the University Accreditation Committee, persons nominated by universities as subcommittee member candidates, and other experts.
3. The University Review Subcommittee shall appoint one subcommittee chief.
4. The subcommittee chief and members of the University Review Subcommittee shall be appointed by the President from among the candidates nominated by the University Accreditation Committee.
5. The University Review Subcommittee shall be convened by the subcommittee chief at the instruction of the Committee Chair of the University Accreditation Committee.
6. The term of office of the subcommittee chief and each member of the University Review Subcommittee shall be one year; provided, however, that they may be reappointed.

Article 16 Composition, Operation and Term of Office of Financial Affairs Review Subcommittee

1. The Financial Affairs Review Subcommittee shall consist of the number of members (including the subcommittee chief) appropriate to the number of universities to be evaluated, their type of establishment, their categories of faculties, and other educational units.
2. The members set forth in Paragraph 1 (including the subcommittee chief) shall be selected from among members of the University Accreditation Committee, persons nominated by universities as candidates for subcommittee members, or other experts, and shall include persons with

practical experience and other experts in university finance.

3. The Financial Affairs Review Subcommittee shall appoint one subcommittee chief.
4. The subcommittee chief and members of the Financial Affairs Review Subcommittee shall be appointed by the President from among the candidates nominated by the University Accreditation Committee.
5. The Financial Affairs Review Subcommittee shall be convened by the subcommittee chief at the instruction of the Committee Chair of the University Accreditation Committee.
6. The University Accreditation Committee may establish panels under the Financial Affairs Review Subcommittee as necessary. In that case, each panel shall appoint a panel chief, and the provisions of Paragraphs 2 through 4 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* with respect to the composition of the panel, the appointment procedures, and other related matters of the panel chief and members.
7. The term of office of the subcommittee chief and each member of the Financial Affairs Review Subcommittee and each panel shall be one year; provided, however, that they may be reappointed.

Article 17 No Proxies for Subcommittee Members

The subcommittee chief and each member of the University Review Subcommittee or the Financial Affairs Review Subcommittee (including panels) shall not appoint a proxy to perform their duties.

CHAPTER IV UNIVERSITY ACCREDITATION PROCEDURES

Article 18 Accreditation Method

University Accreditation shall be conducted through an evaluation of self-assessment report and other materials prepared by the university based on the University Standards and evaluation items separately prescribed and through a site visit.

Article 19 Submission of Applications for University Accreditation

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

Article 20 Withdrawal of Application

1. A university shall not withdraw its application on or after the designated date; provided, however, that this shall not apply in cases where a special circumstance has arisen that is considered to make it difficult to continue the accreditation process.

2. The Board of Trustees shall 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 submitted by the university.

Article 21 Discontinuation and Suspension of University Accreditation

1. The Board of Trustees may discontinue or suspend a University Accreditation if it finds sufficient grounds to determine that it is difficult to continue the University Accreditation, such as in the event of a disaster.
2. In the preceding paragraph, “discontinue” refers to ceasing to conduct the University Accreditation after the relevant decision has been made, while “suspend” refers to temporarily halting the University Accreditation until it is determined that the University Accreditation can be resumed.

Article 22 Preparation of Draft University Accreditation Results

1. The University Review Subcommittee shall conduct a document analysis and a site visit, and the Financial Affairs Review Subcommittee shall conduct a document analysis and (if necessary) a site visit. Based on these results, the subcommittees shall prepare the University Accreditation Results (Subcommittee’s Final Draft) and submit them to the University Accreditation Committee by the designated date.
2. The University Accreditation Results (Subcommittee’s Final Draft) may include “Recommendations,” “Suggestions for improvement,” “Notable strengths” and “Outstanding initiatives.”
3. The University Accreditation Results (Subcommittee’s Final Draft) shall include ratings as well as 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 shall be made comprehensively in light of the status of recommendations.
5. After receiving the University Accreditation Results (Subcommittee’s Final Draft), the University Accreditation Committee shall deliberate on the contents thereof and prepare the University Accreditation Results (Final Draft).
6. In preparing the University Accreditation Results (Final Draft) as provided in the preceding paragraph, the Committee Chair of the University Accreditation Committee shall request that the university submit its comments on the original draft thereof.
7. The Committee Chair of the University Accreditation Committee shall submit the University Accreditation Results (Final Draft) to the President by the designated 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).

Article 24 Revocation of Accreditation

If, after the determination under the preceding article, serious circumstances arise that make it impossible to uphold the decision that the university conforms to the University Standards, for example, if it is found that the self-assessment report or other materials were prepared based on false information, the Board of Trustees may, after obtaining the opinions of the University Accreditation Committee, revoke the accreditation even during the accreditation period.

Article 25 Notice, Report and Public Disclosure of the University Accreditation Results

1. After the Board of Trustees determines the University Accreditation results, the President shall promptly notify the applicant university of the results in writing.
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 under the preceding paragraph through the Internet or other appropriate means.

CHAPTER V APPEAL PROCEDURES

Article 26 Appeal Procedures

Appeal procedures shall be separately prescribed.

CHAPTER VI Progress Report Review Procedures

Article 27 Progress Report

1. A university that has been accredited as meeting the University Standards but to which any areas of “Recommendations” and/or Suggestions for Improvement” have been attached shall submit a Progress Report on these matters by the designated date.
2. Any university that has been determined to be not meeting the University Standards as a result of the University Accreditation may submit a Progress Report on the matters concerning the “Recommendations” and “Suggestions for improvement” included in the University Accreditation Results and request its review (except where the 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 Progress Report Review Subcommittee shall appoint one subcommittee chief.
3. The subcommittee chief and members of the Progress Report Review Subcommittee shall be appointed by the President from among the candidates nominated by the University Accreditation

Committee.

4. The term of office of the subcommittee chief and each member of the Progress Report Review Subcommittee shall not exceed one year; provided, however, that they may be reappointed.
5. The subcommittee chief and members of the Progress Report Review Subcommittee shall not appoint a proxy to perform their duties.

Article 29 Preparation of Draft Review Results on Progress Reports

1. The Progress Report Review Subcommittee shall prepare the Progress Report Review Results (Subcommittee's Draft) based on its review of the Progress Report.
2. In cases such as where no improvement is observed, the Progress Report Review Subcommittee may provide further comments or opinions to the university in the Progress Report Review Results (Subcommittee's Draft) under the preceding paragraph.
3. The subcommittee chief of the Progress Report Review Subcommittee shall submit the Progress Report Review Results (Subcommittee's Draft) to the University Accreditation Committee by the designated date.
4. After receiving the Progress Report Review Results (Subcommittee's Draft) under the preceding paragraph, the University Accreditation Committee shall deliberate on the contents thereof and prepare the Progress Report Review Results (Final Draft).
5. In preparing the Progress Report Review Results (Final Draft) under the preceding paragraph, the Committee Chair of the University Accreditation Committee shall request that the university submit its comments on the original draft thereof.
6. The Committee Chair of the University Accreditation Committee shall submit the Progress Report Review Results (Final Draft) to the President by the designated date.

Article 30 Determination, Notices and Public Disclosure of the Review Results

1. The Board of Trustees shall deliberate on and determine the Progress Report review results while respecting the Progress Report Review Results (Final Draft).
2. After the Board of Trustees determines the Progress Report Review results under the preceding paragraph, the President shall promptly notify the university of the results.
3. The President shall publicly disclose the results under Paragraph 1 through the Internet or other appropriate means.

CHAPTER VII SUPPLEMENTARY REVIEW PROCEDURES

Article 31 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 may undergo a Supplementary Review by the designated date on the matters of concern based on which that non-accreditation decision was made
2. An application for a Supplementary Review under the preceding paragraph may only be made

once from the fiscal year following that in 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 "Recommendations" and "Suggestions for Improvement".

Article 32 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 a supplementary review can be conducted without establishing the Supplementary Review Subcommittee in light of the details of the matters of concern based on which accreditation has been denied.
2. The Supplementary Review Subcommittee shall appoint one subcommittee chief.
3. The subcommittee chief and members of the Supplementary Review Subcommittee shall be appointed by the President from among the candidates nominated by the University Accreditation Committee.
4. The term of office of the subcommittee chief and each member of the Supplementary Review Subcommittee shall not exceed one year; provided, however, that they may be reappointed.
5. The subcommittee chief and each member of the Supplementary Review Subcommittee shall not appoint a proxy to perform their duties.

Article 33 Supplementary Review Method

A Supplementary Review shall be conducted 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 confirmed through document analysis.

Article 34 Preparation of Draft Supplementary Review Results

1. The Supplementary Review Subcommittee shall 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 "Recommendations" or "Suggestions for Improvement."
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 shall 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 the Supplementary Review Results (Subcommittee's Draft) to the University Accreditation Committee by the designated date.

6. After receiving the Supplementary Review Results (Subcommittee's Draft) under the preceding paragraph, the University Accreditation Committee shall deliberate on the contents thereof and prepare the Supplementary Review Results (Final Draft).
7. In preparing the Supplementary Review Results (Final Draft) under the preceding paragraph, the Committee Chair of the University Accreditation Committee shall request that the university submit its comments on the original draft thereof.
8. The Committee Chair of the University Accreditation Committee shall submit the Supplementary Review Results (Final Draft) to the President by a designated date.

Article 35 Determination, Notice and Public Disclosure of Supplementary Review Results

1. The Board of Trustees shall deliberate on and determine the supplementary review results while respecting the Supplementary Review Results (Final Draft).
2. After the Board of Trustees determines the Supplementary Review results under the preceding paragraph, the President shall promptly notify the university of the results.
3. The President shall report the results in Paragraph 1 to the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.
4. The President shall publicly disclose the results in Paragraph 1 through the Internet or in other appropriate means.

Article 36 Revocation of Accreditation

The provisions on revocation of accreditation under Article 24 shall also apply to Supplementary Review results.

CHAPTER VIII CERTIFICATE OF ACCREDITATION

Article 37 Delivery of Certificate of Accreditation

JUAA shall deliver a certificate of accreditation to a university that has been accredited as meeting the University Standards as a result of a University Accreditation or Supplementary Review.

CHAPTER IX ACCREDITATION FEE

Article 38 Payment of Accreditation Fee

A university that is to undergo a University Accreditation or Supplementary Review shall pay an accreditation fee as separately prescribed.

CHAPTER X MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Article 39 Revisions and Abolition

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

Supplementary Provisions

1. These Regulations come into effect on April 1, 2011.
2. The *Detailed Regulations on the University Accreditation* (June 28, 2006) shall be abolished upon the implementation of these Regulations.
3. The rereview procedures under Chapter VIII shall also apply to the rereview of any university that underwent 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 come into effect on the date of registration of incorporation of the public interest corporation under Article 106, Paragraph 1, of the Act on Arrangement of Relevant Acts Incidental to 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 come into effect on April 1, 2015.

Supplementary Provisions (January 29, 2016)

These Regulations come into effect on March 1, 2016.

Supplementary Provisions (September 14, 2016)

1. These Regulations come into effect on April 1, 2018; provided, however, that the provisions of Article 30, Paragraph 3 relating to the public disclosure of 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 shall be 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 limitations. In that case, “whose accreditation decision has been suspended” and “Recommendations” and “Suggestions for Improvement” in Article 31, Paragraph 1 will be read as “accredited with limitation,” and “Recommendations” 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 shall 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 shall 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 shall 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, “Recommendations” and “Suggestions for Improvement” in Article 38, Paragraph 3 shall be read as “Recommendations” and “Suggestions for improvement.”

Supplementary Provisions (September 7, 2018)

These Regulations take effect on September 7, 2018.

Supplementary Provisions (January 31, 2019)

These Regulations come into effect on April 1, 2019.

Supplementary Provisions (September 27, 2019)

1. These Regulations come into 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 shall be deleted once all the rereviews of universities accredited with limitations as a result of the University Accreditation in FY2017 and universities whose accreditation decisions were deferred as a result of the University Accreditation in FY2018 or 2019 are fully completed.

Supplementary Provisions (January 31, 2024)

These Regulations come into effect on April 1, 2025.

Supplementary Provisions (March 17, 2025)

These Regulations come into effect on April 1, 2025.