

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

Ishikawa Prefectural Nursing University



Basic Information of the Institution	
Ownership: Public	Location: Ishikawa, Japan
Accreditation Status	
Year of the Review: 2019	
Accreditation Status: Accredited (Accreditation Period: April 1.2020 – March 31.2027)	

Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for Ishikawa Prefectural Nursing University

Overview

The philosophy of Ishikawa Prefectural Nursing University (hereinafter referred to as the “University”) is “to aim for holistic care that looks after both mind and body.” Its undergraduate school aims “to impart a wealth of knowledge on its students, to educate them with highly specialized nursing knowledge and skills, and to nurture individuals who are well-rounded with excellent innate qualities, thereby enhancing people’s health and contributing to an improvement of well-being.” Its graduate school aims “to teach students advanced nursing theory and specialist nursing skills from an academic perspective that will build on students’ noble personalities and broad horizons, and to nurture individuals with superior research abilities and excellent practical nursing skills to thereby improve people’s health and well-being and contribute to the creation of full lives.” In order to achieve its philosophy and the purposes of the undergraduate school and graduate school, the University sets three agendas, namely “enhancing university education,” “enhancing local cooperation and contributions functions,” and “enhancing governance functions,” in the Second Mid-Term plan for Ishikawa Prefecture Public University Corporations, and is making efforts to improve educational and research activities and local contribution activities for achieving its mission and purpose.

With regard to internal quality assurance, the Education and Research Council, a university-wide organization for promoting internal quality assurance, presents overall action guidelines for policies and improvements/reform related to the internal quality assurance of education. Based on these guidelines, the Self-Study Committee plans to implement internal quality assurance measures. In addition to the verification of achievement of its mid-term goals and plan for evaluation of the corporation, the University has established a rule whereby education-related self-study is performed once every two years according to an internal evaluation cycle, and once every six years according to an external evaluation cycle. Although its internal quality assurance system was only established recently, the Education and Research Council has worked closely with various departments to make improvements. Therefore, the system is expected to continue to function effectively going forward.

Regarding education, both the undergraduate school and graduate school have organized their curriculums appropriately in accordance with the degree award policy

(diploma policy) and curriculum design and implementation policy (curriculum policy). The undergraduate school enables students to take courses systematically in the proper order by presenting the overall curriculum structure and the relationship between subjects in a curriculum map and curriculum tree. In order to nurture glocal individuals, the University combines Academic Literacy subjects with Vacation Rental-type Field Training that is held in the Oku-Noto area, and also offers subjects such as International Nursing Training that is held in the U.S., Thailand, and South Korea, thereby providing students with opportunities to learn actively. By participating in the Gakuto Ishikawa Glocal Human Resources Development Program held by University Consortium Ishikawa, the University adopts a system that encourages student participation. These initiatives are highly commendable as initiatives for stimulating student learning, developing students' awareness about the current situation and health-related challenges of the region, and enabling students to acquire knowledge related to foreign healthcare systems and nursing systems.

Another remarkable feature is that the graduate school encourages graduate students to participate in seminars for faculty members and provides extensive support to students planning to participate in international conferences, aiming to develop research and practical skills with a global perspective. Furthermore, the University utilizes the "president's discretionary expenses" to cover the travel expenses for students participating in international conferences. These initiatives provide graduate students with more opportunities to participate in conferences and give research presentations, and are expected to lead to the enhancement of research capabilities and the cultivation of global competence.

There are, however, several issues that need to be resolved. Various surveys, etc. are carried out in both the undergraduate school and graduate school to measure learning outcomes, but such surveys do not appropriately measure the learning outcomes indicated in the degree award policy. This should be improved.

Going forward, we hope the University solves these issues through further enhancement of its internal quality assurance system, and accelerates its distinctive initiatives for further development of its program.

Notable Strengths

Educational Program and Outcome

- In order to nurture glocal individuals, the University combines Academic Literacy

subjects with a “vacation rental-type field training” program which is held in the Oku-Noto area and involves hands-on learning activities, and also offers subjects such as International Nursing Training that involves overseas training in the U.S., Thailand, and South Korea, thereby providing students with opportunities to learn actively. The University encourages student participation by making Vacation Rental-type Field Training and International Nursing Training open subjects in the Gakuto Ishikawa Global Human Resources Development Program held by University Consortium Ishikawa. These initiatives are commendable as initiatives that contribute to the stimulation of learning, development of students’ awareness about the current situation and health-related challenges of the region, and the acquisition of knowledge related to foreign healthcare systems and nursing systems.

Student Support

- With the aim of developing research and practical skills with a global perspective, the University encourages graduate students to participate in seminars for faculty members, such as “Advanced Literature Retrieval” and “How to Write Papers in English,” provides extensive support to students, such as assistance for registering to overseas conferences and presentation guidance, and utilizes the “president’s discretionary expenses” to cover conference-related travel expenses. These are commendable as initiatives that provide graduate students with more opportunities to participate in conferences and give research presentations, and are expected to lead to the enhancement of research capabilities and the cultivation of global competence.

Social Cooperation and Contribution

- The University's Community Health Care Center has made achievements in the areas of local cooperation and contribution, human resource development, and international contribution. In addition, the Career Development Support Center, which was established in AY2013 as a hub to support and promote the career development of nursing professionals, holds many types of mid- to long-term training programs and short-term training programs intended for nursing professionals. Certified nurse curricula are provided in the mid-term training programs in response to local needs, which contribute to the human resource development efforts of Ishikawa Prefecture and other prefectures. The questionnaire survey has shown that the mid-term training programs offer a high level of satisfaction. It is commendable that the University is

consistently contributing to society through its distinctive educational and research initiatives in response to local needs.

Suggestions for Improvement

Educational Program and Outcome

- As ways to measure learning outcomes, the undergraduate school carries out questionnaire surveys to current students and graduates, various surveys by external organizations, and interview surveys with the nursing managers of hospitals where students have been employed, while the graduate school carries out thesis examination and holds a Graduate School Education Meeting. However, these do not appropriately measure the learning outcomes indicated in the degree award policy. Improvements should be made so that the learning outcomes indicated in the degree award policy are grasped and evaluated in an effective manner and the results of the evaluation are used to improve the University's educational program and methods.