

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

Yokohama College of Pharmacy

Basic Information of the Institution	
Ownership: Private	Location: Kanagawa, Japan
Accreditation Status	
Year of the Review: 2012	
Accreditation Status: not accredited	
Related Links	
Yokohama College of Pharmacy: http://www.hamayaku.jp/english/split_e.html	
Full Text of the Accreditation Results (in Japanese): http://www.juaa.or.jp/accreditation/university/result_2012.html	
Accreditation Standards, Process and other related information (in English): http://www.juaa.or.jp/en/accreditation/university.html	

Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for the Yokohama College of Pharmacy

Areas of Serious Concern

Faculty and faculty organization

- The Yokohama College of Pharmacy's regulations stipulate that the Academic Staff Screening Committee selects candidates for academic faculty positions above the rank of lecturer and that faculty meetings are to deliberate on the finalist. But the Academic Staff Screening Committee has never convened, so the screenings have not followed the set procedures. In addition, the Dean and a few other members of faculty make decisions on the re-appointment of retired faculty members, and the deliberation is not referred to the faculty meetings. This lack of transparency and fairness in hiring and re-appointment must be rectified.

Educational content, methods, and outcome

- Although the college accepts transfer students, the maximum number of credits these students can register for in a year has not been stipulated in the regulations. The faculty meetings have the authority to approve credits the transfer student brings with him/her; however, at present this is left to the discretion of the faculty in charge of particular courses in question. This must be rectified at the earliest opportunity.

Enrollment

- The college stipulates that it hopes to enroll students who have sufficient academic ability and motivation to study pharmacy; however, the Admissions Screening Committee, founded on the college's regulations, does not appropriately examine applicants' academic abilities, which has resulted in accepting many freshmen without the necessary abilities to study pharmacy. This has brought about a serious problem that many students have failed to progress to the next year, or that they have dropped out. This must be rectified at the earliest opportunity.
- In the Faculty of Pharmacy, in the last five years, the average of the ratios of enrolled freshmen to the freshman admission cap is low at 0.71 in the Department of Health Medicine Pharmacy and 0.80 in the Department of Eastern Medicine Pharmacy. On the other hand, the average ratio is high at 1.66 in the Department of Clinical Pharmacy. Since many freshmen fail to progress to the sophomore year or drop out, the ratio of enrolled students to the student enrollment cap in the undergraduate program is low at 0.87 overall, and specifically 0.54 in the Department of Health Medicine Pharmacy and 0.64 in the Department of Eastern Medicine Pharmacy. On the other hand, the ratio is high at 1.31 in the Department of Clinical Pharmacy. In 2012, the ratio of enrolled freshmen to the freshman admission cap is high at 1.29 in the Department of Health Medicine Pharmacy, 1.20 in the Department of Eastern Medicine Pharmacy, and 1.94 in the Department of Clinical Pharmacy. This situation raises a very serious concern about proper instruction at the college, with the college failing to manage enrollment. This must be rectified at the earliest opportunity.

Internal quality assurance

- Despite repeated recommendations from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports,

Science, and Technology, the college has not responded to these enrollment problems, nor has it developed an administrative organ or system to rectify problems in enrollment. Moreover, it has not conducted sufficient self-studies. When the JUAA visited the college for on-site inspection, it asked the college for evidence to corroborate the self-study report. The JUAA officers found that the evidence did not support either the college's self-study report or its responses to the JUAA's questionnaire concerning self-study. The college does not appear to take self-studies seriously to improve itself or to ensure its educational quality. The college must radically revise its ways to ensure the quality of education, create a system for self-study, and appropriately connect the findings to the college's improvements and reforms.

Suggestions for Improvement

Mission and purpose

- The Yokohama College of Pharmacy needs to make its statements on its educational mission and purpose more coherent. For example, in the student application brochures, the college states its mission as “nurturing pharmacists with a compassionate heart,” while, in the self-study reports, it states its mission as promoting “personalized care” in the area of professional education of pharmacists. This should be improved.

Educational content, methods, and outcome

- The college has not stipulated policies for granting degrees or policies for designing and implementing the curriculum. They should be set and made public through its official publications and website.
- Many syllabi for pharmacy education courses do not contain information about grading criteria. This should be rectified.
- Every year, many students drop out of the program or fail to advance to the next year. Only 30.5% graduate within six years (i.e., standard years to complete the program) after enrollment, and only 25.4% pass the pharmacologist exam immediately following graduation. These numbers indicate that educational achievements are not improving. The college's educational purpose of nurturing pharmacists has not been achieved. This should be improved.

Education and research environment

- Principles of ethics and codes of conduct have not been stipulated for full-time faculty in their education and research. This should be improved.

Administration and finance

- Although the college regulations stipulate the appointment processes for the President, Vice President, and the Deans, their authority and responsibilities have not been stipulated. Concerning the above points, there is a discrepancy between the College Regulations and Faculty Meeting Bylaws. This should be rectified.
- Revenues and expenditures should be balanced at the earliest possible opportunity by urgently deciding on the mid- and long-term financial plan, in order to secure the funds to repay long-term debts. The college should manage its finances by

giving meticulous attention to avoiding a shortage of funds.