

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

**Osaka University of Economics**



<b>Basic Information of the Institution</b>	
Ownership: Private	Location: Osaka, Japan
<b>Accreditation Status</b>	
Year of the Review: 2023	
Accreditation Status: accredited (Accreditation Period: April 1, 2024 – March 31, 2031)	

## **Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for Osaka University of Economics**

### **Overview**

Osaka University of Economics defines its founding philosophy as “freedom and harmony,” and its teaching and learning philosophy as “humanistic practical learning.” The University conducts educational and research activities with the purpose of “imparting a broad range of knowledge, conducting in-depth specialized academic teaching and research, and developing intellectual, moral, and applied abilities to produce the outcomes of practical education with a rich sense of humanity, thereby contributing to the development of society.” To achieve its principles, purposes (including those of its faculties and graduate schools), and other objectives, the University formulated “DAIKEI 2032” in AY2018 as a medium- to long-term plan and has engaged in educational and research reforms.

Regarding internal quality assurance, the University operates two systems for education-related aspects and for university management. The University-Wide Internal Quality Assurance Promotion Meeting (hereafter “Promotion Meeting”) is positioned as an organization promoting the internal quality assurance of education and other activities, while the University Management Internal Quality Assurance Promotion Meeting (hereafter “University Management Promotion Meeting”) serves as an organization promoting the internal quality assurance of university management. The internal quality assurance of education and other activities handles policies and plans, including three diploma, curriculum, and admission policies, as well as medium-term plans, and each division conducts a self-study on the status of these initiatives. The internal quality assurance of university management deals with policies and plans for items related to university management in the University Standards and activity plans, and organizations involved in university management conduct self-studies. The progress status of these self-studies is reported to the University-Wide Self-Study Committee or the University Management Self-Study Committee. These committees conduct self-studies from a university-wide perspective and report to the Promotion Meeting or the University Management Promotion Meeting. The Promotion Meeting revises the activity plans and instructs the faculties and graduate schools to make improvements through the next academic year’s activity plan in an effort to enhance the University’s education.

As for education, all faculties and graduate schools have appropriately designed

their curricula based on the diploma and curriculum policies. The faculties have introduced curriculum maps with related lesson subjects diagrammed and course charts clarified for students to take courses in a systematic and sequential way. Many students sign up for seminar subjects to develop their presentation and communication skills through practical activities. In terms of extracurricular activities, the University has long organized the “ZEMI-1 Grand Prix,” a cross-faculty contest in which seminar groups compete with their presentation skills and research outcomes. During the coronavirus pandemic the quality of these activities was maintained through various approaches, including adopting an online format, and the contest has become well-established as a major event among members of the University. It is commendable that these initiatives help enhance seminar activities across the university and foster students’ presentation abilities.

Among the other distinctive initiatives are social contribution activities, such as “Daikaidai Kids College” and “Daikaidai Classroom,” in which the University’s students provide sports and study support to local elementary and junior high school students. (Daikaidai is an abbreviation of the University’s name in Japanese.) Furthermore, the University collaborates with the Osaka Small and Medium-Sized Enterprise Management Consultant Association to establish the Registered Management Consultant Training Course, and the Institute for Research in Economic History of Japan cooperates with overseas research institutes and researchers, and holds popular “Kokusho Juku” lectures for working people. The University undertakes other social cooperation and contribution activities in conjunction with its educational activities, such as introducing project-based learning (PBL) to lessons, with the aim of revitalizing the local community.

There is one area of improvement the University should address, however. The graduate schools have low ratios of student enrollment to the student enrollment cap in some programs, and should appropriately manage their student quotas.

In the years ahead, the University is expected to organically link the results of various student surveys gathered and analyzed by the Teaching and Learning IR Promotion Office to faculty development (FD) activities, as well as the External Evaluation Committee and other bodies, under the new internal quality assurance system, and to make continued improvements by further enhancing its outstanding and distinctive initiatives.

## **Notable Strengths**

### *Student Support*

- The University has made continuous efforts to organize the ZEMI-1 Grand Prix, a cross-faculty presentation contest in which seminar groups compete with their research outcomes. During the coronavirus pandemic the contest was held by adopting an online format and other approaches. This initiative has led to increasing students' learning motivation and presentation skills, activating collaborative learning among students, and representing the University's forte described as "Daikaidai Known for Seminars." In addition, the contestants deepen their research with opinions presented by local business people participating as contest judges. The University's efforts to further enhance its seminar activities are commendable.

## **Suggestions for Improvement**

### *Student Enrollment*

- The ratios of student enrollment to the student enrollment cap in AY2022 are low at 0.40 in the master's degree program in the Graduate School of Economics, 0.20 in the doctoral degree program in the Graduate School of Economics, and 0.40 in the master's degree program in the Graduate School of Business Information System. These ratios should be improved with the graduate schools' student quotas thoroughly managed.