

HIROSAKI UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH AND WELFARE (弘前医療福祉大学)

Evaluation summary

“Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc.”

The institution is a university with relatively small student quotas consisting of one faculty (Faculty of Health Sciences) and two departments. It has focused on contribution to local communities since its foundation.

The objectives of the establishment of the university, education and research activities and human resource cultivation have been properly stipulated in the school rules in accordance with applicable laws and regulations, including the School Education Act, and have appeared on the website and the university brochure. “Six major concepts” was defined as the keyword for the originality and features of the institution based on the “spirit of hospitality” which has formed the basis of its education, and these concepts were publicized via the website or by other means.

Officers and school staff have performed their duties based on adequate understanding of the “school philosophy” and “education and research objectives” stipulated in the school rules. Such a “school philosophy” and “education and research objectives” were appropriately reflected in three policies (i.e., diploma policy, curriculum policy, and admission policy), and the education and research structure has complied with them.

“Standard 2. Learning and Teaching”

The institution has clearly defined its admission policy, which was publicized through the website, application guidelines, etc. It has properly adopted various forms of entrant selection according to the admission policy, and has substantially secured a sufficient number of students to fulfill its student quotas.

The institution has strived to improve its educational curricula, and devised and improved teaching methods by promoting faculty development (FD) activities, and using class evaluation questionnaires for students and class evaluation by teachers.

To grasp the achievement of educational objectives, the institution has conducted questionnaire surveys targeting employers who offered a job to its graduates, and has received high evaluation. As part of school-wide efforts, it has encouraged teachers and other school staff to work together to provide student support through introduction of office hours, committee activities, etc.

“Standard 3. Management, Administration and Finance”

School staff shared the “spirit of hospitality” which forms the basis of education. An organizational structure was built to achieve its “school philosophy” and goals, and the necessary rules were developed. Educational and financial information was properly publicized in accordance with laws and regulations. A structure to support the principal was built so that he can exercise adequate leadership. Staff training was implemented through on-the-job training (OJT) as well as staff development (SD). In addition to audits by an auditor-secretary, an internal auditing system was introduced to strictly audit its internal control. The board of directors has been operated appropriately in accordance with the articles of endowment, and in compliance with applicable

laws and regulations.

“Standard 4. Self-inspection and Evaluation”

The institution established the “Hirosaki University of Health and Welfare Self-inspection and Evaluation Regulations” with the aim of conducting self-inspections and evaluations according to its mission and goals. It conducted evaluations every year, and made a self-inspection and evaluation report. It made revisions to the website based on the evaluation results, and this can be considered as one of the outcomes of the evaluations. It has disclosed such results on the website since June 2015. Self-inspection and evaluation results helped to establish the “Committee to Discuss the Future of the University”, and led to the formulation of the institution’s mid- and long-term vision.

To sum up, the institution has defined its mission and objectives according to the basis for education, and has engaged in education and research activities. School staff strived to stay in close contact with students, and the institution has taken advantage of features unique to a small-scale university in its operations. Its characteristic feature is that not only school staff but also students have a strong will to contribute to local communities.

For details of “Standard A. Contribution to Local Communities Taking Advantage of the Institution’s Features”, which are set forth as the institution’s unique initiative based on its mission and objectives, please refer to the general remarks on the standard.