

Evaluation summary

“Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc.”

In 2001, the Tohoku University of Community Service and Science was founded in the Shonai area of Yamagata prefecture as a publicly-built and privately-run University with the financial support of Yamagata prefecture and 14 local authorities (currently 2 cities and 3 towns due to synoecism), announcing their contribution to education, research, and society by creating and implementing Japan's first “wisdom of public benefit.”

The spirit of foundation, basic philosophy, mission, objectives, and educational objectives of the University and its graduate school are concrete and clear. At the same time, the University has characteristics and features of a publicly-built and privately-run University.

The mission, objectives, and educational objectives are understood and supported widely by internal related parties through action plans, self-inspection activities, and more in various internal facilities and committees.

“Standard 2. Learning and Teaching”

The University formulated a clear admission policy of both departments and graduate school and is working on the reception of students in a serious manner. Although the number of enrollees and unfilled acceptance limits of some departments show a few issues, there was a sign of recovery in the number of enrollees in 2016. Its curriculum policy is clear and educational curriculum is organized based on the policy.

In carrier education, the University set up “human resource development enhancing subjects” to implement usual internship education as well as practice education to investigate and research issues on the local area and society.

To inspect/evaluate achievement status of the educational objectives and work on improving the educational contents/methods and learning guidance, the University formulated an assessment policy in 2016 centering on the Inspection/Evaluation Committee in addition to lecture evaluation questionnaires for students, and launched an examination based on more objective inspection/evaluation. Student services and the educational environment are also appropriate.

“Standard 3. Management, Admission and Finance”

In line with the Private School Act, the University positioned the Board of Directors as a supreme decision-making body to make business decisions of the incorporated school and the Board of Trustees as a consultative body, and adheres to the related laws and regulations required to manage a private incorporated school.

In teaching, the University Strategy Conference was established with the President as a responsible official to organize a system where the President can exert leadership. In the Board of Directors, the President, academic deans, and head of the research courses

acceded to the posts from the teaching section and the executive director plays a role in coordinating between the Board of Directors and the executive office, where communication functions smoothly and appropriate governance is maintained. In the executive office, the policy for segregation of duties is defined, and staff allocation to implement the functions of office work is appropriate. The accounting procedures are also properly conducted.

Since there are some issues in the number of enrollees and unfilled acceptance limits of departments, it is expected to expand visits to high schools currently conducted, secure the number of enrollees stably, and keep the balance of payment.

“Standard 4. Self-Inspection and Evaluation”

The system of Self-Inspection and Evaluation to accomplish the mission, objectives, and educational objectives of the University is well maintained. There is an established systematic Self-Inspection and Evaluation system as follows: the Inspection Evaluation Committee formulates a basic plan and an action plan, and as a result, various internal organizations conduct Self-Inspection and Evaluation based on these plans. The Inspection Evaluation Committee runs detailed check of the results, prepares self-evaluation reports, and submits them to the Board of Directors.

The Inspection Evaluation Committee also formulated an “assessment policy” in 2016 so that each committee in charge can analyze the acceptance of enrollees, educational curriculum, improvement of lectures, and learning achievement and submit the results to the Inspection Evaluation Committee. In this way, more detailed and effective Self-Inspection and Evaluation can be implemented.

In general, the University has the characteristics of a publicly-built and privately-run University, which is clearly stated in the spirit of foundation, basic philosophy, mission, objectives, and educational objectives of the University and graduate school. It also has an organized cooperation system between Board members of the corporate business and faculty/staff as a unit to create and implement the “wisdom of public benefit.”

Please see the general comments of each standard for “Standard A. Contribution to a Region and Society” and/or “Standard B. International Exchange (Promotion of Globalization)” defined as a unique framework of the University based on its mission and goals.