

Chugoku Gakuen University (中国学園大学)

Evaluation summary

This university has demonstrated satisfactory compliance with the standards of the Japan Institution for Higher Education Evaluation.

Standards	Evaluation result
Standard 1. Mission and Objectives, etc.	Satisfied
Standard 2. Students	Satisfied
Standard 3. Educational Curriculum	Satisfied
Standard 4. Faculty and Staff	Satisfied
Standard 5. Management, Administration and Finance	Satisfied
Standard 6. Internal Quality Assurance	Satisfied

Good practices

- The Student Support Seminar holds four times a year under the themes close to school life. The participation rate of students is high, and it is enthusiastically used across the whole university. This initiative is worthy of high evaluation.
- With regard to the activities of the Gakuyukai that is the students' governing organization, under the support of the Student Affairs Division, a Leaders Seminar is conducted for the executives of the Gakuyukai and the heads of the various university clubs, with the objective of improving students' qualities as leaders and vitalizing the organization, and attempts are made to foster teamwork, train mind and body, as well as encourage character building. This initiative is worthy of evaluation.
- The class evaluation questionnaires implemented as a part of learning and class instruction support maintain a high response rate. The fact that they are put to use in ascertaining and analyzing students' opinions and wishes is worthy of high evaluation.
- A Talk to the President Meeting is held and a Committee for the Improvement of School Life is convened. In addition to proactively grasping the students' opinions, those opinions are put to use in improvements to the learning environment, etc. These initiatives are worthy of evaluation.

Recommendations for improvement

- The fill rates of total capacity in the Faculty of Contemporary Life Science's Department of Human Nutrition and the Faculty of International Liberal Arts' Department of International Liberal Arts are under 70% and improvements are required.
- With regard to the University Regulations, although Article 53 of the University Regulations states that they are revised following the deliberation of the Board of Delegates, deliberations are in fact conducted by a body calling itself the Executive Council without the deliberation of

the Board of Delegates, and in violation of the University Regulations. Improvements are required.

- The Graduate School Committee has not conducted a review of Article 93, paragraphs (2) and (3) of the School Education Act in line with the 2014 revisions to Article 93 of the said act. The Graduate School Committee is not adequately performing its role, and improvements are required.
- The minutes of the Board of Directors meetings in June 2022, April 2023 and August 2023 were not created in line with Article 18 of the articles of endowment, and improvements are required.
- The Board of Directors meetings in June 2022, April 2023 and August 2023 were held in writing, and improvements are required.
- At the meeting of the Board of Directors in September 2022, in the course of the partial amendment of the Regulations Concerning the Remuneration and Payment of Expenses to Executives of the Incorporated Educational Institution Chugoku Gakuen, the President did not seek the prior opinions of the Board of Councilors pursuant to Article 42 of the Private Schools Act. Improvements are required.
- With regard to the business report and settlement of accounts for the academic year 2022, the Board of Councilors was reported to and its opinions sought prior to the decisions of the Board of Directors. According to Article 46 of the Private Schools Act, improvements are required.
- All of the departments of the university are in a continual state of failing to reach yearly enrollment quotas and total capacity, and this is a major factor behind the destabilization of its fiscal balance and financial base. Since there is no financial plan responding to this situation, concrete improvements including the formulation of a mid- and long-term financial plan and countermeasures aimed at satisfying yearly enrollment quotas and total capacity are required.
- The Chugoku Gakuen Mid-term Plan formulated in March 2020 does not set out any specific measures, a road map or target levels. With regard to the formulation of a detailed mid-term plan for the reform and improvement of university operation, including its incorporated entity, referring to the indications of a third-party external evaluation, improvements are required.
- It cannot be said that internal quality assurance is adequately functioning due to the facts that the treatment of University Regulations regarding deliberations of revisions is not in line with the University Regulations, the Graduate School Committee Regulations have yet to be fully prepared, and there are issues in the operation of the Board of Directors and Board of Councilors. Improvements are therefore required.