

NIAD-QE



National Institution
for Academic Degrees
and
Quality Enhancement
of Higher Education

“ Taking another step
toward a better future
for higher education ”



Evaluation and Accreditation of
Higher Education Institutions



Awarding of
Academic Degrees



Cooperation in
Quality Assurance



Research Activities



Loans and Grants for
Facility Construction



Evaluation and Accreditation of Higher Education Institutions

Certified Evaluation and Accreditation (CEA)

Institutional evaluation of education and research activities at higher education institutions

- NIAD-QE, certified by the Minister at the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), conducts CEA of universities, colleges of technology and graduate law schools.
- Each university/college must be evaluated at least once every 7 years.
- Each graduate law school must be evaluated at least once every 5 years.
- CEA by NIAD-QE began in 2005 and is now in its 3rd cycle.

Standards for the Institutional CEA of Universities

Area 1	Standards for Basic Organizations for Education and Research
Area 2	Standards for Internal Quality Assurance
Area 3	Standards for Financial Management, Administrative Management, and Publication of Information
Area 4	Standards for Facilities and Equipment, and Student Support
Area 5	Standards for Student Admissions
Area 6	Standards for Academic Programs and Learning Outcomes

Institutional Thematic Assessments

Focusing on distinctive features of institutions

NIAD-QE offers three thematic assessments on distinctive features of universities that have applied.

Themes

- A: Research Activities
- B: Community Engagement
- C: Internationalization of Higher Education

National University Corporation Evaluation (NUCE)

NUCE is a performance-based evaluation of national university corporations based on their medium-term objectives and plans, and their annual plans for education, research and management.

NIAD-QE has been commissioned by the MEXT's NUCE Committee to undertake the evaluation of attainment of medium-term objectives for education and research. The evaluation also takes into account the results of an analysis of the current condition of the faculties and academic units of graduate schools.



Awarding of Academic Degrees

NIAD-QE provides alternative ways for individuals to earn academic degrees, based on their learning outcomes.

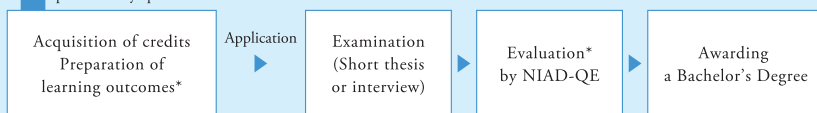
NIAD-QE awards bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees to those who demonstrate acquisition of academic ability equivalent to that achieved in undergraduate or graduate education. As provided in the School Education Act, NIAD-QE is the only entity besides universities that is authorized to confer degrees in Japan. Since it was introduced in 1991, a total of 83,745 individuals had received NIAD-QE's academic degrees through April 2019. NIAD-QE has two schemes for learners to earn academic degrees.

Scheme 1

NIAD-QE awards bachelor's degrees to learners who have accumulated credit hours as non-matriculated students at universities, and who have demonstrated academic attainment equivalent to the knowledge and skills required to complete an undergraduate program.

Process

- Applicants who meet the preliminary qualification



*Learning outcomes may be submitted by applicants in the form of writing or artwork/performance.

*Evaluating applicants' academic ability by their earned credits, learning outcomes and examinations.

Special Provision for Awarding a Bachelor's Degree from NIAD-QE

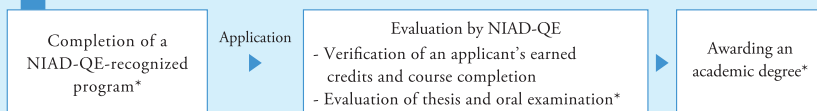
In April 2015, NIAD-QE introduced a special provision on the evaluation of academic attainment for the awarding of academic degrees to students who are scheduled to complete an advanced course at a junior college or college of technology recognized by NIAD-QE.

Scheme 2

NIAD-QE awards bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees to those who successfully complete a university-equivalent program at NIAD-QE recognized educational institutions.

Process

- Applicants



*Undergraduate-, master's- or doctoral-equivalent program

*For master's- and doctoral-equivalent programs only

*Bachelor's, master's or doctoral degree



Cooperation in Quality Assurance

Activities to support quality assurance at Japanese universities and colleges, as well as to promote wide-ranging international understanding of Japanese higher education and confidence in Japanese quality assurance

National Information Center for Academic Recognition Japan

Japan's official National Information Center (NIC) established to provide information on education to facilitate recognition of higher education qualification

<https://www.nicjp.niad.ac.jp/en/>

Japanese College and University Portraits (JPCUP)

A common database system launched in March 2015 for the purpose of disclosing and utilizing academic information on universities and colleges

<https://jpcup.niad.ac.jp/>

International Cooperation

Japan-China-Korea Quality Assurance Cooperation

Joint quality-assurance project to conduct monitoring of 'CAMPUS Asia' trilateral student exchange programs.

International Memberships

NIAD-QE is a member of international networks of quality assurance agencies including INQAAHE, APQN and CIQG.

International Partnerships

NIAD-QE has close relationships with these overseas quality assurance agencies through Memoranda of Understanding and Cooperation:

QAA (UK) **Nuffic** (the Netherlands)

NVAO (the Netherlands and Flanders, Belgium)

HCERES (France) **GAC** (Germany)

HEEC (China) **HKCAAVQ** (Hong Kong)

KCUE (Korea) **MQA** (Malaysia)

BAN-PT (Indonesia) **HEEACT** (Taiwan)

TEQSA (Australia) **ONESQA** (Thailand)

Information Provision

- Information Package

- International Cooperation Website(Japanese)

<https://www.niad.ac.jp/consolidation/international/>

Initiatives for Faculty and Staff Development in Quality Assurance

NIAD-QE provides training seminars and programs for university staff to help them gain in-depth knowledge of quality assurance.

Japan Network of Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Agencies (JNCEAA)

Network of 14 CEA agencies to promote mutual cooperation and sharing of information

Result of CEA:

<https://jnceaa.jp/3-result-of-cea/>

Forums and Seminars

Annual forums and other seminars featuring international guest speakers to promote quality enhancement



Research Activities

Research is conducted by the Research Department for the development of quality assurance and degree-awarding.

The Research Department plays the central role in conducting basic research that is the foundation of NIAD-QE's tasks: higher education quality assurance, academic degree awarding and quality assurance cooperation. The Department also conducts applied research to verify these tasks and research focusing on policy issues related to quality assurance. To achieve this aim, the Department carries out joint research projects with other departments and divisions of NIAD-QE.

The research and analysis findings are made widely available through journals/articles and reference documents including data for practical use by higher education institutions.

Fields of Research

Evaluation and Accreditation of Higher Education Institutions

Research on evaluation and accreditation of education and research at universities and colleges

Academic Degrees

Research on assessment of learning outcomes required for academic degrees

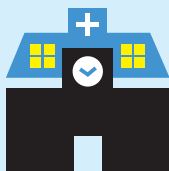
Quality Assurance

Research contributing to the establishment of quality assurance in higher education

Research Journal and Reports

NIAD-QE publishes an annual academic journal '**Research on Academic Degrees and University Evaluation**'.

The results of research projects are shared in research reports, seminars and study meetings.



Loans and Grants for Facility Construction

Activities to consolidate and maintain education and research environment, and to improve financing and management of National University Corporations and related institutions

These loans and grants are made available to National University Corporations, Inter-University Research Institute Corporations and the National Institute of Technology to help properly equip the facilities of these institutions.

Loans for Facility Construction

NIAD-QE lends funds to National University Corporations and Inter-University Research Institute Corporations for improvement of hospital facilities and relocation of campuses. The Minister at the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) selects appropriate projects.

Grants for Facility Construction

NIAD-QE provides grants to National University Corporations, Inter-University Research Institute Corporations and the National Institute of Technology to help renovate facilities. The Minister of the MEXT also selects appropriate projects.

Repayment of Inherited Debts

As a go-between for universities and the government, NIAD-QE collects debt payments from National University Corporations with hospitals, and reimburses the Ministry of Finance. These debts are remains of those based on the previous Special Accounts for National Schools.

Management of Inherited National University Properties

NIAD-QE manages national university properties which were inherited from the government. The proceeds are used to fund the facility construction of National University Corporations.



NIAD-QE

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NATIONAL INSTITUTION FOR ACADEMIC DEGREES AND QUALITY ENHANCEMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION (NIAD-QE)



NIAD-QE is an incorporated administrative agency created in 2016 by the Japanese Act of General Rules for Incorporated Administrative Agency and the NIAD-QE Act. NIAD, which was established as an academic degree-awarding institution in 1991, was renamed and reorganized in 2000 as the National Institution for Academic Degrees and University Evaluation (NIAD-UE) : Their new function was evaluating universities. On April 1, 2016, NIAD-UE and the Center for National University Finance and Management (CUFM) merged to form NIAD-QE. On September 1, 2019, the National Information Center for Academic Recognition Japan was established within NIAD-QE as Japan's official national information center (NIC).

NIAD-QE publications

Information Package

To promote understanding of higher education and quality assurance

Overviews of the Higher Education and Quality Assurance Systems

- Japan, the US, the UK, Australia, the Netherlands, France, Korea, China, Germany, etc
- Compiled in bilingual format, these overviews provide basic information on these countries' higher-education and quality-assurance systems.

NIAD-QE Glossary of Quality Assurance in Japanese Higher Education

In a Japanese-English bilingual format, the Glossary defines the terms used in Japan's higher-education and quality-assurance systems, and in NIAD-QE's evaluation system.

NIAD-QE publications

English translations of documents related to the principles, criteria and methods used by NIAD-QE in its evaluations and accreditations

All of these publications are available on our website:

www.niad.ac.jp/english

