

## Decision of institutional certified evaluation and accreditation

The National Institute of Technology, Asahikawa College, complies with the Standards for the Establishment of Colleges of Technology and other relevant laws and regulations and meets the Standards for Evaluation and Accreditation of Colleges of Technology set by the National Institution for Academic Degrees and Quality Enhancement of Higher Education (NIAD-QE). It fulfills all the requirements defined as priority evaluation items in Viewpoint 1-1.

The best practices identified by the review committee include the following:

- 1) As an educational approach to fostering creativity and practical skills, *Creative Exercises I and II*—courses that build upon the content of the previously offered *Hokkaido Community-Based Learning I and II*—are compulsory for all departments in the third and fourth years. In these classes, students work on regionally relevant themes by integrating their acquired knowledge and skills to develop prototypes that contribute to real-world solutions.
- 2) Asahikawa College, a base school in the *KOSEN Data Science and AI Smart Higher Educational Community for COMPASS 5.0*—a project aimed at developing future technology professionals suited for Society 5.0—has achieved significant success. Notably, it won the top prize at Hokkaido Entrepreneur Koshien 2023 for its curriculum design and implementation of education using specially developed teaching materials. Additionally, the college distributes these materials to institutes of technology nationwide to promote education in data science and AI. Furthermore, as a regional hub in the *KOSEN Semiconductor Educational Community*, it plays a key role in cultivating talent by providing specialized education and leading the establishment of the Semiconductor Human Resource Development Collaboration Promotion Office for the four Institutes of Technology in Hokkaido.
- 3) The employment rate among students in regular and advanced programs—calculated as the number of students employed divided by those seeking postgraduate employment—is exceptionally high, with graduates securing positions in manufacturing and other industries well suited to the engineers the college aims to cultivate. Likewise, the rate of students pursuing higher education—calculated as the number of students continuing their studies divided by those wishing to do so—is also exceptionally high, with graduates advancing to advanced programs at colleges of technology, engineering faculties, and graduate schools related to their fields of study.

## Points to be improved:

- 1) The following issues, identified in the previous institutional certified evaluation and accreditation report, have yet to be addressed: “In the regular program, grading practices in some subjects are inconsistent. For example, the same questions are used in *make-up* and *retake exams* as in the *original exam*, and the grading methods and standards do not align with those stated in the syllabus” [Viewpoint 1-1-(4)].
- 2) The oversight system for grade evaluation is ineffective, as evidenced by inappropriate entries in the grade calculation confirmation forms [Viewpoint 5-3-(1)].

- 3) The type, implementation method, and grading criteria for the “other exams” stipulated in Article 6 of the *Academic Regulations of the National Institute of Technology, Asahikawa College* and Article 4 of the *Regulations Concerning the Enrollment of Courses in the Advanced Course of the National Institute of Technology, Asahikawa College* are not clearly defined [Viewpoints 5-3-(1) and 8-1-(5)].
- 4) The process for evaluating academic remediation grades for graduation has not been clearly defined [Viewpoint 5-3-(1)].

The NIAD-QE has translated this document for reader information only, with the consent of the college.