



The Department of Occupational Safety and Health (Five-year junior college program)

HISTORY

The government implemented the Labor Safety and Health Act in 1974. In order to cultivate occupational safety and health professionals, the school established the nation's first Industrial Safety and Health Department in 1976. A two-year junior college of night school was then added in 1983 along with the addition of a two-year junior college of day school program in 1988. In 1996, the school upgraded to become Chia Nan College of Pharmacology due to its outstanding performance and further formed the Department of Industrial Safety and Health (affiliated with a junior college program). Chia Nan College of Pharmacology halted enrollment into the five-year and two-year junior college programs in 1998 and 1999 respectively, and further added a four-year technical program. In 2000, Chia Nan College of Pharmacology was renamed Chia Nan University of Pharmacy, Science, and Technology. The affiliated five-year junior college program officially ended with its last graduating class in 2002.

In 2003, The "Department of Industrial Safety and Health" was renamed "Department of Occupational Safety and Health" to meet the safety and health management needs of various industries and fields. The two-year technical program in division of continuing education was established in 2004, and a few years later, the Institute of Industrial Safety Health and Disaster Prevention (IISHDP) in-service master's program was established in 2007. In the following year, the enrollment of day school master's students began. With the evolving domestic education system, enrollment for the two-year technical program in division of continuing education was halted in 2008. Additionally, the enrollment for the two-year technical day school program and the two-year technical program in-service class in the division of continuing education were also halted in 2009. In response to the Department-Institute Integration policy of the Ministry of Education and the integration of department resources, IISHDP was merged into the Department of Occupational Safety and Health in 2013, and the school was renamed Chia Nan University of Pharmacy and Science in 2014. In 2017, the enrollment of the two-year technical program in division of continuing education was halted.

With the rapid social changes and the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, many Taiwanese businesspeople have returned to Taiwan to set up factories and enterprises have expanded rapidly. Due to this influx and growth, the demand for occupational safety and health professionals has increased significantly. Considering these changes, the department has taken a comprehensive approach to evaluate factors- such as the government's emphasis on occupational safety and health policies, the number of occupational accidents each year, legal requirements, and social environment changes and manpower needs- and concluded there is again a need to foster occupational safety and health management professionals with professional and practical abilities for students after junior high school. Therefore, the Ministry of Education has approved for the department to resume the five-year junior college of day school program in 2022.

Educational objectives (Goals)

The five-year junior college program of the department aims to foster in students:

Goal 1: A solid foundation of occupational safety and health management knowledge and skills.

Goal 2: Communication, attentiveness, dedication, teamwork, and practical abilities.

Teaching characteristics

1. Established the first Occupational Safety and Health five-year junior college program in Taiwan.
2. Possesses a rich history and has a comprehensive learning environment, great resources, and excellent teachers.
3. Skill tests of Occupational Safety and Health training facilities verified by the Ministry of Labor.
4. Foster outstanding occupational safety and health management talents with both professional and practical abilities through:
 - (1) practical training and professional license examination counseling.
 - (2) many resources and alumni from all over the country.

Curriculum planning

These courses are designed including occupational safety and health management, workplace inspection skills, safety and disaster prevention, and other related major topics. These major topics are supplemented by topics

such as environmental safety and health, hazard exposure assessment and risk management, etc., to align with the development of industry, information, and communication technology, so as to strengthen students' practical abilities and employment competitiveness, and further foster professionals who meet the needs of industries.

Prospects after graduation

Upon graduation, students from the five-year junior college program can choose to join the department's four-year technical program or the Sophomore and Junior years of other domestic environmental and/or safety and health related departments. In addition, graduates of the five-year junior college program can also apply to test for the department's two-year technical program or after working for 3 years choose to continue studies in the master's program of the department or at related graduate schools.

Employment opportunities

Employment of graduates is guaranteed by the Occupational Safety and Health Law of the Ministry of Labor, which requires that various industries and fields must hire specialized occupational safety and health management professionals. Graduates from the department have vast opportunities, great salaries, and are in high demand. Graduates can work as Occupational safety and health management personnel, industrial safety and occupational health technicians, civil servants (Occupational Safety Administration of the Ministry of Labor, County or City Labor Bureau, etc.), labor inspector, risk assessment and management, safety and health technical consultants, occupational safety and health training/audit certification, and related fields.