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DEVELOPMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION AS A FACTOR OF ECONOMIC GROWTH IN BELARUS

Развитие высшего образования как фактор экономического роста в Беларуси

One of the most important factors in the development of the economy is the human resource, which includes the intellectual and physical abilities of people. Higher education contributes to the acquisition of special skills and appropriate training, and thereby contributes to an increase in labor efficiency and productivity. So it is worth analyzing in more detail the impact of education on the modern economy of Belarus.

The very definition of the concept of "education" is also changing in the 21st century at the present stage of education. According to the New Code of the Republic of Belarus on Education, "education is training and upbringing in the interests of the individual, society and the state, aimed at intellectual, spiritual, moral, creative, physical and professional development of the individual, satisfaction of his educational needs and interests, as well as a set of acquired knowledge, skills and competencies of a certain volume and complexity".

At the present stage of development, it plays a key role in society and employment. The literacy level of the adult population of Belarus has always been one of the highest in the world, now it reaches 99.9 %. Belarus ranks 32nd on the Education Index in the ranking of the Human Development Index. This is the best result among the CIS countries. More than 48 thousand applicants have enrolled in Belarusian universities this year. If we compare with 2021, the quantitative and qualitative indicators in terms of meeting the target figures in 2022 are higher.

Thus, having received all those professional skills and abilities in the process of studying in a special institution or at work, highly qualified specialists enter the labor market who, by virtue of their mental abilities, will be able to produce better goods and have a positive impact on the country's economy.

It is worth mentioning that, in accordance with the New Code of the Republic of Belarus on Education, the scope of targeted training has been expanded. Among all first-year students, more than two thousand people were enrolled on the terms of targeted training. In comparison with 2021, there was an increase of about 20 %.

Having analyzed the data on admission to universities of the Republic of Belarus for 2021 and 2022, we can conclude that last year the recruitment plan was 54.4 thousand people, and in 2022 — 53.5 thousand people. The number of applicants decreased due to demographic problems, as well as with the departure of graduates abroad in order to receive education.