

NEW STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT IN UZBEKISTAN AND FINANCING OF HIGHER EDUCATION

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Abstract: This article examines specific aspects of the use of educational (higher education) resources. The fact that a large portion of the expenses necessary for the operation of higher education institutions is covered by state budget funds requires the establishment of special relationships regarding the expenditure of these funds. Higher education funding is carried out in two forms: from state budget funds and from funds received through the provision of educational services.

Keywords: budgetary funds, education system financing, state budget, budget expenses, higher education financing

In the special period of socio-economic development of our country, known as "New Uzbekistan", serious attention is paid to all aspects of public life, including the issue of rational and effective use of available financial resources. This is required by the modern market economy itself. Without such use of available resources, it is impossible to achieve the intended result or goal (whether these are budgetary or non-budgetary funds). These remarks apply to all economic entities (as well as legal and physical persons). At the same time, for budgetary institutions, this issue is particularly important. For some of them, financed from the state budget, the importance of rational and effective spending of funds is extremely significant.

The practice in our country is such that the education system, including higher education, which is part of it, is funded from the budget. In fact, it is only in Uzbekistan that this system has not yet been fully developed. Global experience shows that in many countries, special attention is given to the financing of the education system (including higher education). According to the World Bank, in recent years, on average, 12.0-14.0% of government spending worldwide has been directed to education. Moreover, higher education funding worldwide is carried out in two ways: from the state budget and from revenues generated by providing educational services. Specifically, in many European countries, educational institutions (including higher education) are financed from the state budget. According to global practice, state budget funds take priority in financing higher education in economically developed countries. For example, in countries such as Austria, Italy, France, Norway, Denmark, and Sweden, budgetary funds account for more than 90.0% of the sources of financing for higher education institutions. In countries such as the United Kingdom, Portugal, Finland, the Netherlands, and Spain, the level of state funding

reaches nearly 80.0%. All of this indicates that these countries actively pursue policies in the field of higher education.

The fact that a large portion of the expenditures necessary to carry out the activities of higher education institutions is covered by state budget funds requires the formation of special relations regarding the spending of these funds. This is especially true for the rational and effective use of the large amounts of budgetary funds spent by these universities. On the other hand, this situation calls for a series of scientific studies in this direction.

Globally, many scientific studies have been conducted and continue to be carried out to ensure the rational and effective use of budgetary funds in higher education institutions and their further improvement. These studies primarily focus on various forms of income generation for higher education institutions, including state budget funds, funds from the commercialization of educational services, sponsorship funds, and resources obtained through the creation of endowment funds, commercialization of scientific research, as well as efforts to increase their volume. These studies also focus on how the income generated in these ways is spent by universities. However, in the context of modern globalization, and especially in the conditions of innovative and digital development of the global economy, it is known that issues concerning the rational and effective use of budgetary funds in strict accordance with market economy principles in higher education institutions have not been sufficiently studied. There is also a noticeable gap in scientific research aimed at improving the directions for spending funds on scientific and innovative developments, as well as the broad implementation of budget funds through results-oriented financing methods in the higher education system.

Moreover, in the period of "New Uzbekistan," fundamental reforms are being implemented at all levels of education in our country, including higher education. In recent years, the number of our higher education institutions has increased 2.5 times, reaching 200. The coverage of higher education has grown from 9.0% to 38.0%. A series of tasks have been identified to ensure the financial independence and stability of higher education institutions, strengthen their material and technical resources, and among them, the "gradual transition of higher education institutions to a self-financing system, ensuring financial stability, improving the wage system, and implementing effective and transparent financing mechanisms." Tasks such as the phased transition to a system of independently determining contractual sums for undergraduate (master's) programs, based on the staffing needs of economic sectors and university rankings, and determining levels of reimbursement for own expenses have also been set.

On the other hand, during the "New Uzbekistan" period, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan has enacted several decrees and resolutions, including the Decree No. PF-60 of January 28, 2022, "On the Strategy for the Development of New Uzbekistan for 2022-2026," Resolution No. PF-5847 of October 8, 2019, "On the Approval of the Concept of Development of the Higher Education System of the Republic of Uzbekistan Until 2030," and others related to the independence of the higher education system, as well as measures to ensure the financial independence of state universities. These decisions necessitate continued scientific research

focused on the rational, effective, and results-oriented use of budgetary funds in higher education institutions based on market economy principles and mechanisms.

Therefore, in our opinion, the primary focus of these studies should be: a) the study of legal foundations for the effective use of budgetary funds in higher education institutions, as well as the study of foreign experience; b) analysis of the current state of budgetary funds within the revenues of higher education institutions and identification of its features; c) demonstrating the role of non-budgetary funds in the revenues of higher education institutions and identifying their specific characteristics in comparison and forming relevant conclusions; d) development of modern directions for the effective use of budgetary funds in higher education institutions that meet market economy requirements, and their scientific and practical justification; e) developing ways to effectively use budgetary funds in higher education institutions based on the implementation of alternative reforms that meet the demands of the time; and finally, f) considering all of the above, focusing on aspects related to the development of scientific proposals and practical recommendations aimed at the effective use of budgetary funds in higher education institutions.

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