

### THE EDUCATION SYSTEM OF THE USA: PRESCHOOL EDUCATION, SECONDARY AND HIGHER EDUCATION, SCHOOL FORMS

Scientific advisor: Teshaboyeva Nafisa

named after Mirzo Ulugbek
The Faculty of Psychology, the department of
Foreign languages
Philology and foreign languages
E-mail: nafisateshaboyeva@gmail.com

### Mamarajabova Diyora Akrom qizi

E-mail: mamarajabovadiyora357@gmail.com

**Annotation:** This article describes the unique features of the American education system, one of the most developed countries in the world, the types of education and their stages in a sequence. It reveals a number of features of preschool education, primary school, secondary school, and higher education.

**Key words:** educational system, educational content, purpose, tasks, types of education, preschool education, primary school, secondary school, higher education.

**Introduction:** The United States of America is one of the most developed countries in the world. The USA is a federal republic consisting of 50 states and one federal district. It has its own stable policy. USA is a country that offers unlimited opportunities for everyone. In America, the education system is recognized as the most important support point of the state. The education system of this country is one of the best in the world. The US spends more money per student than any other country. This is one of the reasons why the US education system is better than others. The literacy rate in the United States is about 99 percent. 30 percent of the 120,000 schools operating in this country are private schools. Schools, in turn, are divided into home, private and public schools. Most of the student study in public schools. This is about 87 percent of the total number of students. Education in public schools in the USA is free.

When we talk about the American education system, it is made up of separate stages. These are the following:

- 1. Pre-school education;
- 2. Primary school;
- 3. Secondary school;
- 4. Higher education.



The age of children in the preschool education system is 3-5 years. Children under 3 years of age are brought up by their mothers, but they are not given any privileges. In America, there are public and private types of preschool education system, but kindergartens are small and underdeveloped. Mothers hire babysitters for their children due to underdeveloped kindergartens. It costs \$200 a week. There is no single program in American kindergartens. Parents bring food and necessary equipment for kindergarten students. After the age of 5, children begin to study in educational institutions called "Kindergarten".

Elementary school includes grades 1-8. Children from 6 to 13 years old receive education. General literacy and vocational guidance are addressed in primary school. In America, the duration of elementary school education varies from state to state. For example, four, five, six and eight years. In schools like this, there are various clubs, but they are required to pay a fee.

High school consists of grades 9-12. Children aged 14 to 17 are educated in such schools. In America, high schools consist of two levels: lower and upper. Most schools run for one or two semesters. The first semester is from September to December, the second semester is from January to May. Some schools run for four periods or four quarters. Terms are September to December, January to March, March or May to June. In primary and secondary schools, the school day lasts from eight to three in the morning.

### Schools in the USA:

- Children start school at the age of five or six and finish at the age of seventeen or eighteen.
- The student will have to repeat the lesson due to an extended vacation or slackness of the lesson, but this is very rare.
  - 12 years of study in total.
  - Elementary school has a grading system from one to five.
  - High school has six to eight grades.
  - High school has grades nine through twelve.

In America, post-secondary education is considered higher education. Higher education institutions in this country are divided into 6 types according to their function.

1. Research universities: first and second group, awarding doctoral degrees. The difference between the first and second groups of these universities is related to the amount of federal financial support, that is, less funds are allocated to the second group of higher education institutions.



- 2. Doctoral universities: first and second group. Includes all stages of education. The difference between the first and second groups depends on the number of scientific degrees: for the first group, 40 doctoral degrees are awarded in 5 fields, and for the second group, 10 doctoral degrees are awarded in 3 fields.
- 3. Master's educational institutions: these educational institutions are called multidisciplinary and comprehensive universities and colleges.
- 4. 4-year colleges of bachelor's higher educational institutions: elite educational institutions, which are taught on the basis of a very large fee, and which supply personnel to the master's degrees of the most prestigious universities of the country.
- 5. Specialized higher educational institutions or vocational schools accepted with a bachelor's degree.
  - 6. Two-year colleges and institutes.

Educational institutions in the USA offer students many majors. Usually, most foreign students choose fields such as business, management and mathematics. One of the main features of American higher education is the possibility to choose after one or two years of general education courses without choosing a specialization at once. Application requirements vary depending on where students apply: university, elective course or college. At the same time, every foreign student must have IELTS or TOEFL certificates confirming the level of English language proficiency.

In America, the academic year lasts 180 days. Higher education institutions differ in terms of the quality of education. The 8 Ivy League universities are among the most prestigious universities in the United States and in the world. As of 2010, America ranks 10th among industrialized nations in the percentage of college-educated adults. In conclusion, it should be noted that the features of the American education system, which is considered advanced today, the stages of the sequence, the main functions of higher education have been revealed. In addition, the necessary conclusions can be drawn from the information about the volume and quality of hours allocated for classes, taking into account local experience.

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