

## **PECULIARITIES OF EDUCATION IN AUSTRALIA**

**Introduction.** As Europeans, Australia may seem like a distant and mysterious country. Therefore, it is informative to observe the features and benefits of its education system. Australia is consistently ranked among the best education systems in the world.

**The purpose of the work** is to analyze the peculiarities that make Australia special and in demand globally.

**Presenting main material.** It is known that the Australian society is conscious and educated, aimed at development. There are 41 universities in the country, the most famous of which are the University of Melbourne and the University of Sydney, whose diplomas are valued almost all over the world. Australia has an effective education system with a large number of programs, a flexible approach to teaching and assessment, and an emphasis on the practical side.

The Australian educational system is similar to the British system: schools, colleges, and universities. Mostly, education is public, but there are also private institutions. There are 350 colleges, 41 universities, and 550 English language teaching centers in the country. The majority of universities are situated in Sydney and Melbourne. It is best to choose a university based on the ranking of specialties. For example: Melbourne Business School is one of the best schools in the world, the University of Sydney offers a strong humanities program, and Macquarie University has a solid finance department. The following programs are available at universities:

- Diploma – two years of study.
- Bachelor's programs – three to six years of study, depending on the chosen specialty.

- Master's programs – one to two years of study.
- Dual degree programs – four to six years of study. These are programs that combine two majors, such as business and law.
- Doctorates are the highest academic qualification.

Despite the standard degree titles, studying in Australia is slightly different from the European system: a bachelor's degree takes 3 years to complete, but if you wish, you can intensify your studies and complete your bachelor's degree within 2 years; master's degree lasts 2 years, but when obtaining a bachelor's degree with honors – 1 year. It is divided into 3 options: professional, with thesis defense, and research (with thesis defense); doctoral studies are divided into professional, which takes about 2 years, and scientific. If you choose a research degree, you have 3 years to conduct your research and defend your dissertation. Although foreign students in Australia study on a paid basis, 70% of graduates immediately find employment in their field of study. The country has a constant demand for young professionals, including those from foreign countries.

Speaking about colleges, requirements for admission to a private or public college are usually significantly lower than those required by universities. After completing such a course at a college, the student can be enrolled in a university. In certain cases, universities may grant credit for certain college courses. In addition, there are special agreements between individual colleges and universities, according to which students who have graduated from college can be enrolled in the 2nd year of the university. Although many private colleges offer vocational education, TAFE is the largest state educational organization that trains specialists in a wide range of specialties. Studying at TAFE colleges and institutes is very popular in Australia, with approximately 75% of all vocational education students studying in different departments of TAFE. TAFE's tuition fees are significantly lower than those of private colleges. However, prices for international students are naturally much higher than for Australian citizens.

It is worth mentioning that Australian universities are popular among Europeans and Americans because they offer unique opportunities for international students. These opportunities include:

Opportunity to work while studying. International students are allowed to work 20 hours a week while studying and full-time during holidays. They are paid an average of 8-15 Australian dollars per hour, and this income allows them to cover all the expenses of the student. In Australia, unlike in European countries, students can easily find work in shops, restaurants, and the service industry.

After completing your studies in Australia, you have the opportunity to stay and work in the country or continue your education in graduate school. Australian law grants priority rights for obtaining a residence permit to international students who have completed their education in Australia.

Australia provides excellent services for international students. Every year, around 150,000 students from all over the world come to study in Australia, and the universities strive to create the most comfortable conditions for them. To this end, universities have international departments that deal with welcoming and adapting students. Additionally, universities have campuses that offer all necessary facilities – medical centers, sports facilities, employment services, banks, shops, etc.

Diplomas obtained in Australia are recognized worldwide, making them a valuable asset for international employment.

Not the least attractive fact is that studying in Australia is cheaper than in the USA, although there is also no free education for foreign students here. A year of study in an Australian college costs 4-7 thousand American dollars, and in a university – 10-20 thousand American dollars. This is 15-20% less than in American and English educational institutions.

**Conclusion.** Australia is a highly developed country with a strong education system and affordable prices. It offers the opportunity to balance education and employment with a wide range of programs that incorporate

modern technologies and research. Moreover, when choosing a university, you should pay attention to higher education institutions in Australia, because education is in English and diplomas are quoted almost all over the world. Moreover, there is a high chance that after graduation you will get a job in your specialty and stay in Australia.

#### REFERENCES

1. 5 Best Things About Australian Education That Other Nations Can Emulate. *EdTechReview*.

URL: <https://www.edtechreview.in/trends-insights/insights/5-best-things-about-australian-education-that-other-nations-can-emulate/> (date of access: 26.02.2024).

2. Features of Australian Education System. Study Abroad in Australia. *Meridean Overseas Education Consultant*.

URL: <https://www.meridean.org/blog/unique-features-of-the-australian-education-system> (date of access: 1.03.2024).

3. The Best Features of Australian Education. *Graduate Employability*.

URL: <https://graduateemployability.com/the-best-features-of-australian-education/> (date of access: 17.02.2024).