

# Mechanisms for encouraging effective initiatives of students in higher educational institutions

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**Abstract:** Encouraging effective initiatives of students in higher education institutions is one of the most important issues for the development of society today. After all, youth is recognized as the most important resource that shapes the future of any country. The specific development of incentive mechanisms is very relevant in order to increase the efficiency of higher education and strengthen the role of students in the process of training specialists with scientific potential, initiative and innovative outlook. In this regard, this article discusses modern approaches to promoting and supporting student initiatives, scientific and theoretical foundations, foreign experience and technologies for their implementation in practice. Scientific literature, regulatory legal documents and modern scientific and theoretical sources were widely used.

**Keywords:** Youth policy, role of universities, problems, solutions, educational system, innovative approach, youth education, community development, cooperation, scientific research, personnel training.

**Introduction:** The concept of encouraging student initiatives is primarily associated with a number of pedagogical, psychological and social factors that characterize the educational process. After all, any initiative put forward by students primarily arises when they develop innovative thinking, inquisitiveness, and independent critical analysis skills. Therefore, the incentive mechanism is understood primarily as a system that ensures the growth of internal motivation in them and the creation of the necessary conditions for the implementation of initiatives [1]. For example, I. Abduvohidov writes in his research about the conditions that should be created to encourage the innovative activities of students in higher educational institutions: "The initiative of students is primarily associated with the presence of free thinking skills in them. This is achieved through the use of new pedagogical technologies in the educational process and the creation of opportunities for free scientific research" [2]. The author believes that it is necessary to abandon outdated axiological approaches in the educational process and widely introduce interactive methods that develop scientific potential in students. At the same time, the stimulation of student initiatives

has been studied in scientific literature more closely related to the concepts of "formation of student initiative" or "student innovative activity". For example, as A. Abdurashidov noted, the theory of innovative approaches in higher education is primarily associated with providing students with a professional orientation, involving them widely in the scientific and research process, and developing entrepreneurial skills in them [3]. Based on this idea, the stimulation of student initiatives should also be developed on the basis of similar approaches.

The mechanisms for stimulating student initiatives are considered from various perspectives: pedagogical, psychological, organizational, economic, legal, cultural, and other factors. In practice, these factors are manifested in an inextricably linked manner. Each initiative of young students is important for solving a specific problem, introducing a new technology, proposing a new solution in scientific research, or actively participating in public affairs. Therefore, effective initiatives, along with the formation of life skills in young people, play an important role in developing innovative thinking in them.

In higher education institutions, many urgent scientific,

social, economic, or technological problems can be solved through the initiatives of young students. In particular, students come up with scientific ideas in information technology, engineering, natural sciences, the humanities, or other areas. However, in order to realize these ideas and put them into practice, it is necessary to provide them with the necessary environment, financial and organizational support, and material and technical base. Therefore, a system should be created in higher education institutions that would systematically identify, select, evaluate student initiatives through interviews, encourage them with investments or grants, and then implement them in experimental and testing areas. The need to encourage student youth initiatives is associated with several factors:

**Strengthening scientific potential.** Students are the main group that continues the scientific and pedagogical potential of any higher education institution in the future. They have the opportunity to learn from the experience of teachers and at the same time come up with new ideas, new technologies, and scientific solutions. If this aspiration is encouraged, along with the increase in scientific potential in higher education institutions, the number of scientific developments will increase and cooperation with the global scientific community will strengthen.

**Ensuring the development of society.** In the process of implementing student youth initiatives, new solutions will emerge in various areas of society. For example, based on student developments, it is possible to improve quality at local manufacturing enterprises, introduce resource-saving technologies, or develop new diagnostic methods in the healthcare system. This creates an opportunity to raise the development of society to a new level.

**Increasing attention to youth.** Young people, who are seen as the future of the country, are today the category that requires the most attention in the process of upbringing, education, and career guidance. Although a number of documents have been adopted at the state policy level to encourage youth initiatives, mechanisms such as financial support for specific projects and support through the mentor-apprentice system should be systematically established directly in higher education institutions, based on local opportunities, conditions, and student potential.

**Formation of entrepreneurial skills.** The initiatives of young students, often as a result of innovative ideas, can lead to the emergence of advanced startups in business. This will make a significant contribution not only to the economic state of the university, but also to the country's innovation ecosystem. In the current

global economic conditions, it is very important to provide young people with initial entrepreneurship support, motivate them, and teach them market mechanisms. The issue of training competitive personnel is one of the most important tasks facing the higher education system. Because, young people who grow up as any specialist will independently contribute to the development of the industry in the future, organize production or research processes. The initiative ability of young students is one of the important criteria for their competitive upbringing. Therefore, talking about mechanisms for encouraging student initiatives is closely related to the strategy for training actually competitive personnel.

Within the framework of organizational and methodological mechanisms, first of all, the management of a higher educational institution considers the issues of identifying and assessing student initiatives, developing targeted programs for their accelerated implementation, and organizing special funds. For example, in many prestigious universities in developed countries there are centers such as "Scientific Incubator" or "Startup Accelerator". In them, students present their projects, receive advice from specialists, and, if necessary, are provided with financial resources. Such centers develop research skills, project management, teamwork skills, and experience in properly organizing production processes in students [4]. One of the aspects that should be paid attention to in this mechanism is the creation of an environment of transparent cooperation between teachers and students. Because in some cases, the initiatives put forward by students may not be implemented due to outdated pedagogical methods or insufficient material and technical base. They can promote initiatives by preparing scientific articles together with students, participating in scientific and practical conferences, and organizing trainings based on new information technologies. In a special order, it is important that each student is assigned a professor or associate professor, who acts as a permanent advisor in the implementation of the student's scientific or innovative initiatives.

One of the biggest factors in encouraging student initiatives is economic incentives. Because, to implement innovative ideas in practice, financial support, special grants, scholarships or material and technical resources are needed. Therefore, it is important to establish special funds for the implementation of student initiatives in higher education institutions or to establish grant programs in cooperation with the state, private sector and international organizations. In addition, universities should allocate a certain part of their budget for

students' innovative projects and scientific research. In particular, A. Akhmedov notes in his scientific work that scientific developments carried out by students in higher education institutions can bring tangible benefits to the economy if a mechanism for properly managing these projects is established. According to the author, when selecting each innovative project, it is necessary to assess its competitiveness, market demand, relevance and practical scale of the scientific and technical solution. Only after this is the issue of providing financial support or investing is decided. In developed countries, this process is carried out through the "venture capital" system, that is, private companies or venture funds provide university students' initiatives with funds. This is beneficial for both the university, the investor, and the student.[5]

Certain awards, diplomas, opportunities to win at republican or international conferences, and rating systems also work well to encourage student initiatives. The allocation of points in the student rating for innovative projects, scientific articles, and practical developments encourages students to engage in scientific research. Also, if young people who have demonstrated or developed important initiatives are given special certificates, award scholarships, and opportunities to improve their skills abroad, this will be an additional incentive for them.

## **CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, the stimulation of effective initiatives of students in higher educational institutions is of urgent importance in accordance with the requirements of modern social development. This process requires the joint work of economic, organizational, legal, pedagogical and psychological mechanisms. It is through such a comprehensive approach that the scientific potential of higher educational institutions can be raised to a new level, the innovative potential of young people can be manifested in practice, and a worthy contribution to the development of society can be made.

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