Training of PhD Doctors: Foreign Experience

After the accession of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the Bologna system, there is a three-stage model in the country: bachelor, master and PhD. According to the Bologna Declaration, doctoral studies represent the third stage of education, which assumes the highest level of education. This education is focused on obtaining modern scientific knowledge and, especially on the student's own contribution, which is the result of his scientific research and independent creative work. Those who complete the doctoral studies receive the academic title Doctor of Philosophy (PhD).

In Kazakhstan the term of study in doctoral studies is three years, moreover there is only full-time education. But in some European countries there is not only full-time, but also part-time, this is demonstrated by the Technical University in Bratislava. The duration of full-time study is three years and by correspondence is five years. The entrance exam in European universities consists of three parts: an exam in a foreign language; examination in the specialty (knowledge and skills in pedagogy, psychology, subject didactics, acquired in the framework of additional pedagogical education); an interview on the topic of a future dissertation [1].

Each part of the training program is allocated a certain number of credits, which the trainee receives after its successful completion. The required number of credits to complete the course is 180, the standard workload per student for one academic year is 60 credits, and 30 credits per semester.

Education in doctoral studies consists of separate subjects and is divided into 2 parts: educational-training and scientific. The educational and training part is aimed at acquiring knowledge, developing skills and attitudes towards the latest knowledge of the relevant subject course, at mastering the methodology of pedagogical research.

Research work can be distributed according to an individual plan. The scientific part covers researching the problem from the subject area and writing a dissertation. Research work is evaluated on the publications of the applicant for a doctorate degree, on active participation in conferences and the recognition of the
results of scientific work (citation). The first results should be presented in the 3rd academic semester.

The dissertation should include an overview of the level of scientific knowledge and the applicant's own new scientific results of the work of the applicant for the title, which are significant both in theory and in practice. The dissertation consists of an analytical part, in which the dissertation candidate reflects his knowledge of the modern level of problematics, i.e. the range of problems that need to be solved. In another part of the work, he proposes new effective ways to solve the problem. The scientific part of doctoral studies and the entire course of study ends with the defense of a dissertation, which relates to state exams.

The experience of the USA. To obtain a PhD in Education at Walden University (USA), you need to obtain 122 credits (total), successfully complete preparatory courses (6 credits), master the Knowledge Area Modules (86 credits), present an oral defense of the dissertation (30 credits). Doctoral students wishing to study in the PhD in Education program must complete the preparatory courses successfully, so they are automatically enrolled in the doctoral program. In this course, doctoral students develop a professional development plan and a plan for further education.

The research work of the doctoral student is carried out online, where the main requirement is weekly participation in discussions. The research work of the doctoral student consists of the following courses: "Research theory, design and methods", "Quantitative research", "Qualitative research" [2].

In Research Theory, Design, and Methods students explore the philosophy of science; the importance of theory in research; research processes; quantitative, qualitative research methods; the importance of ethical and social norms for research.

The Quantitative Research course provides students with the knowledge and skills needed to design quantitative research parameters at the doctoral level. It uses statistical software.

In the Qualitative Research course, students study the qualitative characteristics of research; research strategies; theoretical approaches to qualitative research; the importance of quality control; the importance of ethical, legal and social change for
quality research. After the end of the research part of the program, a dissertation prospectus is provided and an oral defense of the dissertation is carried out [3].

To obtain a PhD in Education at the Masonic University of Georgia (USA), you need to get 65 credits (without a Master's degree), in some cases, the number of credits can be 55. Also doctoral students can get 12 credits from another university, subject to availability permissions. The training lasts a total of 5 years. For the first three semesters from the date of registration, students must complete certain courses and complete them successfully. The educational program of study contains courses in psychology, pedagogy, methodology and theory of pedagogical research, pedagogical internship and preparation of dissertation work [4].

The experience of Germany. Germany is one of the most popular study abroad destinations, with approximately 3,600 foreign graduates receiving doctoral degrees each year. It's not hard to see why Germany is a popular place to study. It enjoys a worldwide reputation as a world leader in technological innovation and research, a strong economy and an attractive quality of life, and a renowned tradition in fields such as engineering and manufacturing.

Many German universities enjoy a high international reputation, 46 of which are ranked in the top 1000 in the world by QS World University Rankings®. Among them the prestigious research university Technische Universität München ranks first in the country and 55th in the world, followed shortly by the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich at 63rd.

Germany not only offers a high standard of living, but also welcomes international students with low tuition fees and good funding opportunities. PhD studies in Germany are usually free, and more than a quarter of doctoral students receive government funding.

Admission requirements vary by university and doctorate, but generally you need to have a good university degree that is equivalent to a German master's degree. Alternatively, highly qualified international applicants with a bachelor's degree may be accepted into an accelerated doctoral program, which will include passing entrance exams and possibly attending an interview.
If you are studying for a PhD in English and it is not your first language, you will need to prove your proficiency in English with an English test such as IELTS or TOEFL. If you are studying or taking a PhD in German, you may need to prove your language proficiency with a test such as DSH or TestDaF.

There is no centralized admission or selection process for postgraduate students in Germany and the application process differs depending on whether you have chosen a traditional (individual) or structured doctoral degree, for the latter you simply need to apply directly to your chosen institution.

If you are applying for an individual doctoral degree, you first need to find a suitable professor who is willing to become your academic advisor. You may be able to find an academic adviser through contacts from your previous university or by searching for institutes, research centers, or groups that relate to your area of interest.

After you have found an adviser, the responsible department or doctoral commission must confirm your eligibility for doctoral studies.

Individual doctoral degree. This is the traditional option and remains the most popular. In this type of PhD you will prepare your dissertation on your own or under the guidance of a professor. The duration of these doctoral degrees generally varies from three to five years.

This option offers a lot of flexibility, but it also requires a lot of personal initiative and responsibility. You are not limited to obtaining a PhD degree through research work at the university; you can also carry out a project in a non-university research organization or in a German company in the industrial sector.

Structured doctoral dissertation programs. You can also choose a so-called structured doctoral program. In this case a group of graduate students is supervised by a group of supervisors. There are about 600 such programs in Germany, often with English as the language of instruction.

These programs differ from individual doctoral programs in that students' research proposals must be consistent with existing doctoral programs, while individual doctoral programs can be more freely structured according to an individual
research project. You will also need to attend lectures and workshops, and usually you will have a mentor.

**Experience of France.** Almost all the largest research organizations in Europe are concentrated in France. France is a sought-after destination for a PhD. Each year there are over 10,000 doctoral students in France, 40% of whom are non-French.

Most PhDs in research are paid. You will be able to receive a salary of 1,684 euros per month for three years, even if you are not a French citizen. Paid French health insurance is also included in such contracts.

According to the international ranking, France is in 5th place in the world among countries whose top priority is scientific research.

France is in 4th place in the world for the number of Nobel laureates and in 2nd place in the world for the number of Nobel medals in various disciplines (especially great merits in mathematics).

French universities are renowned throughout the world for their centuries-old excellent traditions with a wide range of research areas and well-equipped research laboratories and institutes.

English is widely spoken in all scientific laboratories in France. You can write your research dissertation in English regardless of the area of your research.

Thus admission to doctoral studies is carried out from different academic level: bachelor, specialist, master. At the same time there may be entrance tests, among which the main ones are exams in a specialty and a foreign language, publications, an interview on the topic of a future dissertation.

Training can take place in full-time, part-time and distance learning. The duration of training depends on its form, starting academic level and is, as a rule, from three to five years.

Certification requirements include the implementation of educational and research components, preparation and defense of a doctoral dissertation. The organization of doctoral studies is based on a system of credits. In the European system for the preparation of PhD doctors in pedagogy, the cost of training one academic year is 60 credits.
Concluding the article, we can conclude that the educational program for the preparation of doctors of philosophy in pedagogy (PhD in Education) contains educational-training and scientific components, as well as teaching practice (internship). The duration of these components differs from each other and depends on the geographical location of the educational institution.

References: