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DIFFICULTIES OF LIFE OF FOREIGN STUDENTS IN UKRAINE

The importance of adaptation of foreign students into the culture and the system of education of a host country at times of rapid globalization and internationalization has been studied by several scholars in the 21st century [1],[2],[3],[4],[5]. Adaptation has an undeniable impact on the academic performance of students and their future professional medical practice. In the last decade, the processes of globalization and internationalization have influenced students' migration within the countries and made it easier to travel around the world for the education processes freely. This tendency gave the rise for the modern studies of the ways and methods universities should apply to provide unique environments for foreign individuals and prepare them to be motivated to grasp skills and to be able to acquire knowledge. However, it is a complicated issue since usually, foreign students cannot escape the cultural shock and linguistic gap in a host country. They face challenges such as different learning styles, unfamiliar living conditions, differences related to a language, as well as cultural and personal barriers, which may have a significant impact on their psychological state, academic performance and professional practice [1].

As the number of foreign students traveling abroad for educational purposes increases as the result of rapid globalization and internationalization, universities require institutional and academic reactions to be evolved providing more resources of support to address the problems of adaptation of foreign students. Adaptation is one of the main elements of educational and social inclusion; that, in case of its failure, may lead to several consequences, including interpersonal conflicts, anxiety, discouragement, poor learning result, poor satisfaction with studies and future profession, and sense of social isolation [2]. There are three main methods of adaptation foreign students usually deal with, namely: geographic adaptation, psychological adaptation, and socio-cultural adaptation. Geographic adaptation means students' adaptation to the characteristics of a host country's locality and their familiarity with the place of residence and the educational institution. Psychological adaptation is foreign students' psychological reactions to changing surrounding conditions they face when migrating for educational purpose. To become social-culturally adapted foreign students need to be familiarized with the culture and

traditions of a host country and be able to fit with them to interact with members of society. Socio-cultural adaptation is usually associated with culture learning and acquisition of social skills in the host culture, that may be influenced by various variables such as language ability, adaptation strategies, length of residence in a host culture, cultural distance, age, interactions between foreign students and host nationals, etc. Positive emotions in relationships with others, high self-esteem, pleasant educational environment, motivation, and sense of spiritual comfort are the keys to successful geographic, psychological and socio-cultural adaptation. Educational institutions should provide a complex program on the adaptation of foreign students to enhance their inclusion into the academic and social life of a host country that will help them to acquire appropriate knowledge and obtain professional qualifications [4].

Література

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