#### Higher Education In Belarus

# A national higher school system plays an important role in the development of our country. Only highly qualified specialists can solve the most ***complex*** problems facing our future. At the beginning of the 20th century about 80 per cent of the Belorussian population were ***illiterate***. Now Belarus is a country with a high educational level. There are 38 state higher educational institutions and the Academy of Sciences which was founded in 1929 to carry out research in different fields of science. The total number of students in our country is about 2,5 million.

The Belorussian State University, the Polytechnical Academy, the University of National Economy and many others are the largest scientific and educational centres in the national higher school system.

Specialized higher education is ***available*** for everyone according to his ***abilities***. Young people can get ***free*** education in state institutions if they pass entrance examinations successfully. One of the necessary qualifications for higher school is complete secondary education. People can get a higher education through the full-time, evening and correspondent courses. Those who study well receive grants.

The majority of higher schools in Belarus are controlled by the state. However many ***non-state*** institutes of higher learning have been opened in different cities of late. Thousands of young people who for some reason could not enter any of state institutions have got an opportunity to continue their studies and to get a higher education. Tuition in non-state institutes is not free of charge, it is rather expensive.

The higher school today does not only give knowledge to the students but develops their abilities to think creatively and to work productively. Today′s scientific and technological progress demands of the ***graduates*** to be prepared to deepen their knowledge individually and adapt themselves to the changes in the branches of science or industry they have chosen as their speciality. This means that future specialists must be given a good grounding in ***basic*** subjects. In order to have practical experience students have practical training at different enterprises, schools and offices.

Every year many graduates receive diplomas of higher education and start working in different branches of science, economy or industry. That is why we can say that the future of our country in many respects depends on the ***quality*** of education received by its ***citizens***.