

***To cite this paper:***

Novozhilov P.A., Povarova A.O. (2017) State accreditation of higher schools as a form of quality education evaluation. *Human Progress*. 3 (6): 6. URL: [http://progress-human.com/images/2017/Tom3\\_6/Novozhilov.pdf](http://progress-human.com/images/2017/Tom3_6/Novozhilov.pdf).

## **STATE ACCREDITATION OF HIGHER SCHOOLS AS A FORM OF QUALITY EDUCATION EVALUATION**

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**Abstract.** The article is written with the purpose of determining whether the state accreditation of higher education institutions is a means of assessing the higher education quality in Russia. Comparison is carried out of modern state control measures of higher educational institutions with measures applied in the 1990s and 2000s. The purpose of the universities accreditation was determined. The advantages are revealed for students of studying in an accredited university. The regulatory and legal sources are named of the state accreditation processes implementation. The quality of education is characterized in relation to universities. Based on the essence study and procedures content for state accreditation of universities, the authors concluded that state accreditation of a higher educational institution in Russia is a form of educational quality assessing; the state accreditation certificate acts as the quality standard certificate for education. In conclusion, the authors identified shortcomings of state control through the accreditation system: the lack of the upbringing work quality assessment; uncertainty the issue of demand for graduates of a particular institution; lack of the competences assessment of the higher educational institutions teaching staff. The identified shortcomings are elements of further universities state accreditation improvement.

**Keywords:** higher education; accreditation; state assessment; state control of universities; the quality of education.

**JEL codes:** I 20; I 28.

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