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**NATIONAL PECULIARITIES OF TRAINING SPECIALISTS
WITH HIGHER SPECIALIZED EDUCATION IN THE SYSTEM
OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN CHINA**

**НАЦІОНАЛЬНІ ОСОБЛИВОСТІ ПІДГОТОВКИ ФАХІВЦІВ
ІЗ ВИЩОЮ СПЕЦІАЛЬНОЮ ОСВІТОЮ В СИСТЕМІ
СТУПЕНЕВОЇ ОСВІТИ В КИТАЇ**

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China's higher education system has undergone dramatic transformations over the past few decades, making it one of the largest and most influential educational frameworks globally. These changes reflect the country's economic growth, modernization, and the increasing demands of a globalized knowledge-based economy. The specialized training of professionals in China's higher education institutions is designed to meet these demands, focusing on producing highly skilled experts who can drive the country's continued development in diverse sectors.

The selected scholarly sources provide a comprehensive analysis of the development and challenges of higher education in China, with a focus on efficiency, governance, and future prospects. Han and Zhao [1] investigate the regional differences in the efficiency of higher education resource allocation, emphasizing the dynamic evolution under the framework of high-quality development. Su and Nie [2] reflect on the achievements, issues, and future directions of China's higher education since the reform and opening-up period, offering a broad historical perspective. Tsai [3] discusses the demand for change in the governance model of Chinese higher education, identifying dilemmas and proposing possible paths as the system moves towards universalization. Finally, Zhang [4] provides an overview of the current state and future trends in Chinese higher education, focusing on educational psychology and public media, thus bridging education theory with practical policy considerations. Together, these works highlight the complexity and rapid evolution of China's higher education landscape, underscoring both progress and the need for ongoing reform.

The Chinese higher education system is a vast, state-controlled network comprising universities, colleges, and vocational institutions. Higher education in China is highly centralized and plays a critical role in the development of both human capital and the nation's technological and economic progress. The system is characterized by a clear distinction between academic education and vocational training, with universities primarily focusing on theoretical knowledge and research, while vocational institutions emphasize practical skills and hands-on experience. China's higher education institutions cater to a wide range of disciplines, with a particularly strong emphasis on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) fields. This focus on STEM reflects China's strategic objective to become a global leader in innovation, technology, and industry. The higher education system is also shaped by the Gaokao (the National Higher Education Entrance Examination), which is a rigorous and highly competitive exam that determines access to universities and, ultimately, students' future academic and professional careers. The importance of Gaokao in shaping the educational paths of students in China cannot be overstated, as it serves as the gatekeeper to higher education and professional training.

The curriculum in Chinese universities is designed to blend theoretical knowledge with practical experience, a characteristic feature that distinguishes the system from many Western educational models. Specialist training typically includes a combination of lectures, laboratory work, research projects, and internships. While students receive substantial theoretical education in their fields of study, internships and work placements are integrated into the curriculum to ensure they acquire the hands-on skills necessary to succeed in the workforce. The pedagogical approach in China has traditionally been teacher-centered, with an emphasis on rote memorization and passive learning. However, in recent years, there has been a growing trend toward the adoption of more student-centered methods. This shift includes an increasing focus on critical thinking, problem-solving, and collaborative learning, which are essential skills for future professionals. Universities have begun incorporating more interactive teaching methods, such as case studies, group work, and peer discussions, into the curriculum to foster these competencies.

The Chinese government plays a pivotal role in shaping the educational landscape, particularly in higher education. It sets the policies and priorities for universities and colleges, directing the focus toward disciplines that align with national development goals. One of the most notable government initiatives in recent years has been the «Double First Class» project, which aims to elevate the quality of higher education institutions by developing world-class universities and research disciplines. The initiative is intended to

position Chinese universities among the global top ranks, especially in key areas such as engineering, science, and economics. In addition to the «Double First Class» project, the government also provides substantial funding for specialized fields that are crucial to China's economic future, such as information technology, artificial intelligence, renewable energy, and biotechnology. These strategic investments reflect the government's long-term planning and commitment to producing specialists who can drive innovation and contribute to the country's global competitiveness.

In order to ensure that graduates possess the necessary skills to meet industry demands, many Chinese universities have developed strong partnerships with industries and corporations. These collaborations provide students with opportunities for internships, industry-driven research projects, and employment prospects upon graduation. This model ensures that graduates are not only academically trained but also have real-world experience, which enhances their employability. Furthermore, Chinese universities have established specialized programs aimed at producing highly skilled professionals for key sectors, including finance, healthcare, engineering, and technology. For example, institutions like Tsinghua University and Peking University have developed close ties with leading tech companies, allowing students to work on cutting-edge projects in artificial intelligence, robotics, and digital transformation. These industry connections are integral to the process of specialist training, as they bridge the gap between academia and the labor market.

In recent years, China has increasingly focused on internationalizing its higher education system. This is reflected in the growing number of international students studying in China, as well as the increasing number of Chinese students studying abroad. Chinese universities have also strengthened their global collaborations with foreign academic institutions, creating joint degree programs, research partnerships, and exchange opportunities. The goal is not only to enhance the global reputation of Chinese universities but also to equip graduates with a broader perspective and global competence. At the postgraduate level, many Chinese universities offer programs in foreign languages, particularly in English, to attract international students and to prepare Chinese students for global careers. The internationalization of higher education in China is also supported by the government's ambitious policies to enhance research output, foster innovation, and attract top academic talent from around the world.

Despite its rapid progress, China's higher education system faces several challenges. One of the most pressing issues is the need to balance the rapid expansion of the system with the maintenance of high academic standards. There is also a growing demand for greater flexibility and student-centered

approaches to education. As the job market becomes more diverse and complex, there is increasing pressure on universities to adapt their curricula to meet the evolving needs of the economy. Furthermore, while the emphasis on STEM education has positioned China as a global leader in these fields, there is a growing recognition of the need to invest in the humanities and social sciences to develop well-rounded specialists who can contribute to all areas of society. These fields are essential for fostering creativity, critical thinking, and cultural understanding – qualities, that are increasingly valued in today's interconnected world.

Conclusion. The national peculiarities of training specialists with higher specialized education in China reflect the country's strategic goals of economic modernization, technological advancement, and global competitiveness. The system's emphasis on STEM education, practical skills development, and international collaboration positions China as a global hub for innovation. However, challenges remain in ensuring that the educational framework can keep pace with the rapidly changing demands of the global economy. As China continues to refine its higher education system, it will likely focus on enhancing the quality of education, fostering greater industry collaboration, and providing students with the skills necessary to succeed in a globalized, interconnected world.

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