

HIGHER EDUCATION II STAGE (MASTER'S STUDIES)

Specialty Economics Degree Master

Keywords: higher education, second stage (master's degree), master's degree, economics, innovation, innovation activity, research activity, educational activity, competence, competence, educational program, specialization, standard curriculum in the specialty, credit unit, module, curriculum of a higher education institution in an academic discipline, master's thesis.

Based on standard of speciality 1-25 80 01 "Economics" developed by the educational institution «Belarusian State University of Economics»

1. Basic terms and definitions

In this educational standard, the terms set out in the Code on education of the Republic of Belarus, as well as the following terms with respective definitions:

Innovation is new or improved products, and new or improved technology, and new service, and new organizational and technical solution for industrial, administrative, commercial or otherwise putting into circulation or used for own needs.

Innovation activity is the activity for improving innovation to results.

Competence is the ability to apply knowledge and skills to achieve the intended results (ISO 9000-2015), and also it is the knowledge, skills and experience necessary to solve theoretical and practical problems.

Magister is a person who has mastered the content of the Master's degree program.

Master's thesis is an independent research work that has an internal unity, dedicated to solving a theoretical, or experimental or applied problem in the relevant field of professional activity, and testifies to the author's personal contribution to science and (or) practice.

Module is a relatively separate, logically completed part of the master's degree program, which provides the formation of a certain competence (group of competencies).

Quality assurance is a part of quality management aimed at ensuring confidence that the quality requirements will be met (ISO 9000-2015).

Profiling educational program is a variant of the master's degree program in the specialty, due to the peculiarities of the master's professional activity.

Economics is a specialty whose subject area is the science of efficient allocation and using of production resources.

2. General provisions

2.1. General characteristics of the specialty

The specialty "Economics" belongs to the profile of education "The Communications. The Law. The Economics. The Management. The Economics and Organization of production", and to the direction of education "The Economics" and provides a master's degree.

2.2. Requirements for the education level of persons who try to admission for Master's degree education

You have to get the Bachelor's degree before start education for Master's degree.

2.3. Forms of higher education of the second stage

Training in the master's program provides the following forms: full-time and correspondence (including distance online courses).

2.4. Periods of obtaining education for Master's degree

The standard period of obtaining a full-time education for Master's degree is 1 year.

The terms of obtaining education for Master's degree in the correspondence form can be increased by no more than 0.5 years relative to the standard period and can't be more than two years.

3. Characteristics of the master's professional activity

3.1. Scope of the Master's professional activity

The list of main areas of the Master's professional activity:

Higher and post-secondary education;

Research and development in the field of social sciences and humanities;

State management of a general nature, management in the social and economics;

Consulting for management.

3.2. Objects of the master's professional activity

The objects of the master's professional activity are: the behaviour of economic agents, and their costs and results, and functioning markets, also financial and information flows, and production, innovation, educational, research processes.

3.3. Types of the Master's professional activity

The Master's degree must be competent in the following activities:

Research and development;

Scientific-pedagogical and educational-methodical;

Organizational and managerial support;

Design and economic policy;

Innovative;

Analytical;

Expert-consulting.

3.4. Tasks of the Master's professional activity

The Master's degree must be prepared to solve the following tasks of professional activity:

Organization and management of research work, development of tools for scientific research related to the professional field; conducting scientific research;

Preparation and conduct of classes with students, development of educational and methodological support;

Development of management decisions and justification of their choice based on the criteria of socio-economic efficiency;

Preparation of tasks and development of project solutions, proposals and measures for the implementation of the developed projects and programs;

evaluation of the effectiveness of projects taking into account the uncertainty factor; development of a strategy for the behaviour of economic agents in various markets; development and implementation of managerial innovations in professional activities; development of plans and programs for the organization of innovation activities, feasibility study of innovative projects in professional activities;

Development of theoretical and applied models of the processes, phenomena and objects under study, related to the professional sphere;

Preparation of analytical materials for the evaluation of economic policy measures and strategic decision-making at the micro and macro levels;

Performing calculations of socio-economic indicators based on standard methods;

Search, analysis and evaluation of information sources for conducting economic calculations.

3.5. Opportunities for the postgraduate studies after Master's degree

The main directions of postgraduate studies (adjunct studies) after Master's degree are:

Economic theory;

Economics and management of the national economy (by industry and field of activity);

Mathematical and instrumental methods of economics.

3.6. Requirements for the development of educational program documentation

3.6.1. The maximum volume of a master's student should not exceed 54 academic hours per week, including all types of classroom and extracurricular work.

3.6.2. The volume of compulsory classroom training, determined by the university, taking into account the degree, the specifics of the organization of the educational process, the equipment of the educational and laboratory base, scientific and methodological work 16-24 classroom hours per week.

For undergraduates from among foreign citizens, the volume of classroom studies can be increased by a higher educational institution.

3.6.3. The hours allocated for independent work on an academic discipline (module) include the time provided for preparing for the exam(s) and (or) test(s) for this academic discipline (module).

3.7. Requirements for the structure of the curriculum of a higher education institution in the specialty (specialization)

3.7.1. The curriculum of the higher education institution in the specialty (specialization) is developed in accordance with the structure shown in Table 1.

Table 1

No.	Name of the Master's activities, modules, academic disciplines	Volume (in credit units)
1.	Theoretical training	48 (24-48)
1.1	State component: Theoretical Economics (Microeconomic analysis and Policy, Macroeconomic Analysis and Policy); National Economy (Forecasting of the national economy); Innovative Economy (Innovative Development of an Organization (Enterprise)); Information Technologies in the Economy (Data Mining Technologies); Research work (Research seminar, Course work)	21 (10-21)
1.2	Higher education institution component	27 (14-27)
1.3	Elective subjects	
1.4	Additional types of training	
2.	Practice (research)	6 (4-12)
3.	Master's thesis	6 (6-24)
	Total	60

3.7.2. The volume of each academic discipline must be at least 3 credits. Accordingly, the complexity of each module should be at least 6 credits.

3.7.3. In the general curriculum for the specialty in the component of the higher educational institution, educational disciplines (modules) at the choice of the master's student are provided for at least 30% of the total volume of theoretical training.

3.8. Requirements for the development of an individual Master's work plan

3.8.1. The individual work plan of the master's student is developed by the head of the research work of the master's student together with the master's student, discussed at the meeting of the profile (graduating) department and approved by the head of the higher education institution (deputy head of the higher education institution for academic work).

3.8.2. Individual plan of work of a student is developed on the basis of the curriculum of institutions of higher education in the relevant specialty higher education level II program includes the preparation of master thesis and control measures.

3.9. Requirements for the content of the research work

3.9.1. Requirements for the content of the research work of a master's student are developed by the profile (graduating) department.

3.9.2. In the course of research work, undergraduates develop the following skills:
 generalization and critical analysis of the results obtained by domestic and foreign scientists, identification and formulation of current scientific problems and research goals;
 substantiation of the relevance, theoretical and practical significance of the topic of scientific research, development of the plan and program of scientific research;
 conducting independent research using modern methods and technologies in accordance with the developed program;
 development of models of the studied processes, phenomena and objects (selection or modification of existing models);
 selection of methods and tools for the development of tools for empirical research, collection, processing, analysis, evaluation and interpretation of the obtained research results;
 independent bibliographic work with the use of modern information technologies;
 presentation of the results of the research in the form of a scientific report, article, report,

model, layout, software product, patent, master's thesis, grant application, etc.

3.9.3. Content of research work of the undergraduates is determined by the supervisor in accordance with the specialization of master's educational programs, the subject of his research and is fixed in terms of an individual work of a student.

The content of the master's research work involves the following types of work:
implementation of all types of research work carried out on the appropriate basis;
participation in scientific and practical conferences, round tables, discussions;
participation in competitions of scientific research;
implementation of independent research on the topic of the master's thesis.

The list of forms of implementation of research work is specified and supplemented depending on the profile of the educational program of the master's degree.

4. General requirements for forms and means of competence diagnostics

4.1. Specific forms and procedures for intermediate control of knowledge of undergraduates in each academic discipline are developed by the corresponding department of the institution of higher education and are reflected in the curricula of the institution of higher education in academic disciplines.

4.2. For certification of students in accordance with their personal achievements or end-phased requirements education program to establish a Fund of assessment tools, including the typical tasks of the job open, communicative tasks of the type of test, a test, a comprehensive qualification of the task, subjects term papers and projects, topics of essays and teaching materials for innovative forms of training and control of formation of competences, themes and guidelines for essay forms for self-assessment of competencies of graduates, etc. The assessment funds are developed by the relevant departments of the higher education institution.

Evaluation should include assessment of the ability of graduates to creative activities, their willingness to search for solutions to new problems related to the lack of specific expertise and a lack of conventional algorithms.

4.3. For diagnostics of competencies are used oral and written communication and technical form of diagnostic.

The oral form of competence diagnostics includes:

interviews;
colloquia;
reports at seminars; reports at conferences; oral tests; oral exams;
evaluation on the basis of the business game;
tests of validity;
other.

The written form of competence diagnostics includes:

tests;
control surveys; control works;
written reports on classroom (home) practical exercises;
written reports on laboratory work;
essay;
research papers;
term papers (projects);
reports on research work;
publications of articles, reports;
applications for inventions and utility models;
written tests;
written examinations;
standardized tests;
assessment based on the module-rating system; assessment based on the case method;
assessment based on the portfolio;

assessment based on the method of developing cooperation; assessment based on the project method; assessment based on the business game; others.

The oral and written form of competence diagnostics includes:
reports on classroom practical exercises with their oral defense;
reports on home practical exercises with their oral defense;
reports on laboratory work with their oral defense;
term papers (projects) with their oral defense;
credits;
exams;
evaluation based on a modular rating system;
assessment based on the method of developing cooperation;
project-based assessment;
evaluation on the basis of the business game;
evaluation based on the Delphi method;
other.

The technical form of competence diagnostics includes: electronic tests; electronic workshops; visual laboratory work; and others.

5. Requirements for the final certification

5.1. General requirements

Final examination upon completion of the development of the content of education program allows you to define the theoretical and practical readiness of the graduate of the magistracy to research, educational and methodological, organizational management, project economic, innovative, and analytical activities and development of the educational program of the graduate school (of course).

5.2. Requirements for master thesis

5.2.1. The requirements for the structure, content, scope and procedure of defending a master's thesis are determined by the institution of higher education on the basis of this educational standard and the Rules for certification of students, cadets, and trainees when mastering the content of educational programs of higher education.

5.2.2. When preparing a master's thesis, a master's student must demonstrate, based on the acquired knowledge and formed universal, in-depth professional and specialized competencies, the ability to solve the tasks of professional activity at the current level, the ability to integrate scientific knowledge, scientifically argue their point of view.

5.2.3. The Master's thesis at the end of the development of the content of the educational program of the master's degree should be aimed at solving a theoretical, experimental or applied problem in the field of economic sciences.

The master's thesis should contain an abstract part and a research part that reflects the in-depth professional and specialized competencies of the graduate of the master's degree in accordance with the specialty of training. The research part should be at least 50% of the volume of the dissertation.