

عنوان مقاله:

Qualitative study of PhD student scholarship systems in developing and developed countries

محل انتشار:

مجله گام های توسعه در آموزش پزشکی، دوره 1، شماره 2 (سال: 1384)

تعداد صفحات اصل مقاله: 13

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خلاصه مقاله:

Background: From two centuries ago scholarship systems in many countries have supported postgraduate students to continue their studies abroad. Nonetheless, due to the fundamental revolution in the concepts of scientific development in last decades, scholarship systems have modified their missions, particularly in developed countries. Objective: To express some practical guidelines to improve the scholarship system in Iran, this study compared scholarship systems in developed and developing countries in terms of their rules and regulations. The main questions were about the objectives of scholarship systems, the selection methods of eligible students, and how they encourage students to come back to their home countries. Methods: This was a qualitative study. Data were collected by exploring written documents, websites, and interviewing ۴۰ PhD students from ۱۶ countries who were studying in UK universities. Results: Obtaining a certificate to get a higher academic position was the main objective of developing country students; however, scholarship systems in developed countries were aimed to push students to understand other cultures and scientific styles and address research questions during their studies. In addition, there were well-established collaborations between developed countries and their organizations in supporting students. These types of collaborations were not seen in developing countries. Conclusion: By looking at the advantages of scholarship systems in developed countries, it is suggested that we need to amend the objectives of the scholarship system in Iran and formulate a new plan to optimize the method in selecting students, decreasing brain drain, and activating private sectors and NGOs.

کلمات کلیدی:

PhD students, higher education, scholarship system, brain drain, Development

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