



THE IMPORTANCE AND METHODS OF TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract. In this article, the importance of teacher professional development and its role in the modern education system are discussed. A teacher's qualifications are a crucial factor in improving the quality of education, implementing new technologies, and supporting students' development. The article analyzes the effectiveness of key methods of professional development, including training, seminars, online courses, and practical experiences. It also provides recommendations for teachers' self-development. The article will be useful for education professionals and researchers.

Key words: Teacher professional development, Improving the quality of education, Professional development, Pedagogical technologies, Modern methods, Training sessions, Seminars, Online education, Practical experience, Scientific research activities.

Introduction. Today, the education system is one of the main sectors that ensures the all-round development of society. In this system, the teacher plays a leading role because their professional preparation and qualifications directly affect the quality of the educational process. To provide education that meets the demands of the time, teachers must constantly study, develop, and work on themselves. Teacher professional development not only allows for acquiring new knowledge but also facilitates the implementation of innovations in the education system and contributes to the creative development of students. Therefore, this article highlights the importance and modern methods of teacher professional development. ***Improving the quality of education:*** A teacher's qualifications directly affect the quality of lessons. A teacher with new knowledge and skills can provide more effective education to students. ***Personal and professional development:*** Professional development ensures not only professional growth but also personal growth, boosting the teacher's self-confidence. ***Implementing innovations:*** To introduce new ideas into the education system, a teacher must regularly update their professional knowledge.





Methods of Professional Development. There are several methods for teacher professional development, including: ***Professional development courses.*** Participating in specially organized training and seminars gives teachers the opportunity to learn new pedagogical methods. The effectiveness of these courses increases if they are enriched with practical exercises. ***Online education platforms.*** Today, international platforms such as Coursera, Udemy, and Khan Academy offer pedagogical courses. These platforms not only provide access to new knowledge but also facilitate the exchange of experiences with foreign specialists. ***Professional development centers.*** In Uzbekistan, special centers for teacher training and retraining have been established. Through these centers, teachers can strengthen their professional knowledge in practice. ***Scientific research activities.*** Conducting research enhances a teacher's intellectual capabilities. By researching the current problems of their subject, teachers not only deepen their knowledge but also inspire their students to engage in scientific work. ***Exchange of practical experience*** Collaborating with experienced teachers and observing lessons in other schools can help learn new methods. Such exchanges provide a fresh impetus for a teacher's work.

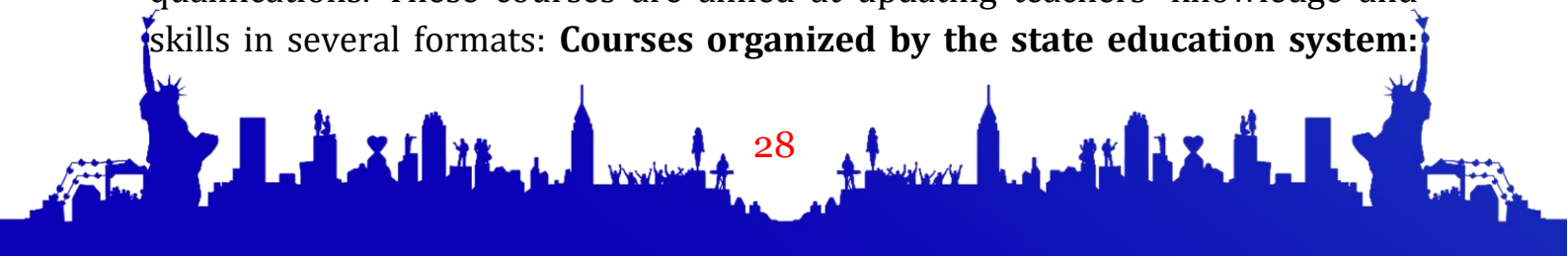
The Role of Self-Development in Teacher Professional Development. In the process of professional development, a teacher needs to develop skills for independent work, which includes: ***Regular reading of literature:*** Reading books and articles on modern pedagogy and psychology. ***Self-assessment:*** Evaluating one's work after lessons and focusing on areas for improvement. ***Creative approach:*** Incorporating new technologies and creativity into lessons.

Statistical Data on the Education System of Uzbekistan: ***Development of the education system:*** As of 2024, the number of graduates from secondary education in Uzbekistan exceeds 4.5 million, and the number of individuals expressing a desire to pursue higher education is increasing year by year.

Percentage of teachers participating in professional development: In recent years, more than 60% of teachers have participated in professional development programs, as courses and training sessions for improving teachers' qualifications have been organized.

Pedagogical education: Over 35% of teachers in Uzbekistan have set the goal of using modern technologies in the learning process.

There are various courses available in the republic to improve teachers' qualifications. These courses are aimed at updating teachers' knowledge and skills in several formats: ***Courses organized by the state education system:***

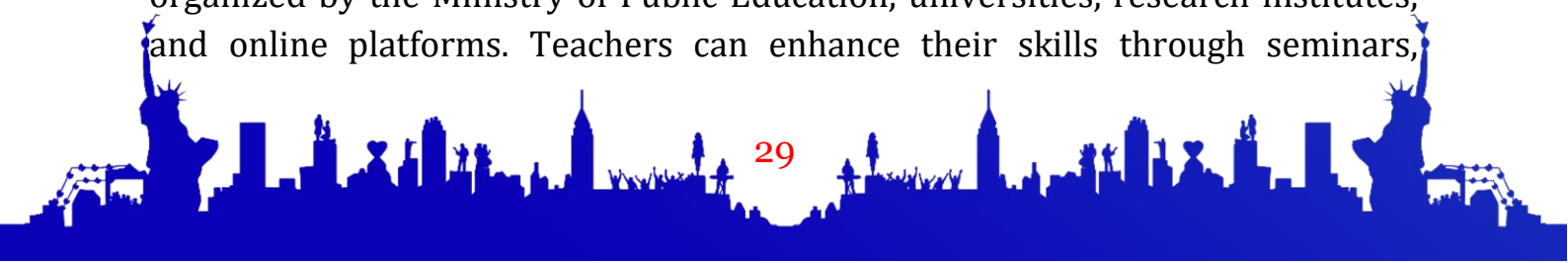




Courses organized by the Ministry of Public Education of the Republic of Uzbekistan: These courses provide teachers with the opportunity to enhance their skills in new pedagogical methods, educational technologies, inclusive education, and other important areas. *The Institute for the Development of Education (IDE):* This institute organizes various professional development courses and training for teachers. These courses primarily focus on pedagogical approaches, updating teachers' knowledge, and implementing educational technologies. **Courses organized by universities and research institutes:** *Uzbekistan National University and other major universities:* Special professional development programs are organized for teachers. These programs focus on pedagogy, psychology, methodology, and preparing specialists in other fields. *Research institutes:* Some research institutes also offer professional development courses for teachers, helping them get familiar with new pedagogical approaches. **Online education platforms and courses:** *Online courses:* There are online courses tailored to Uzbekistan's education system. These courses allow teachers to study remotely and help them learn new pedagogical methods. For example, platforms like edX, Coursera, and other international education platforms offer courses for teachers. *Uzbekistan-based online education portals:* There are also platforms in Uzbekistan that provide online professional development courses for teachers, such as "Uzedu" and other online platforms. *Seminars, master classes, and training:* *Regional seminars and master classes:* Regional workshops and seminars are organized for teachers, often conducted by experienced educators. These events are aimed at improving teachers' pedagogical skills. **Courses on pedagogical innovations and modern methodologies:** *Pedagogical innovations:* Courses that focus on introducing new pedagogical technologies and innovations into the educational process, such as STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) methodologies. *Inclusive education:* Specialized courses on inclusive education that consider the needs of students and help teachers provide education accordingly.

All of these are various opportunities designed to improve teachers' qualifications and enhance their pedagogical competencies. These courses and training programs help teachers align their skills with modern educational standards.

Conclusion. In the Republic of Uzbekistan, there are various professional development opportunities available for teachers. These include courses organized by the Ministry of Public Education, universities, research institutes, and online platforms. Teachers can enhance their skills through seminars,



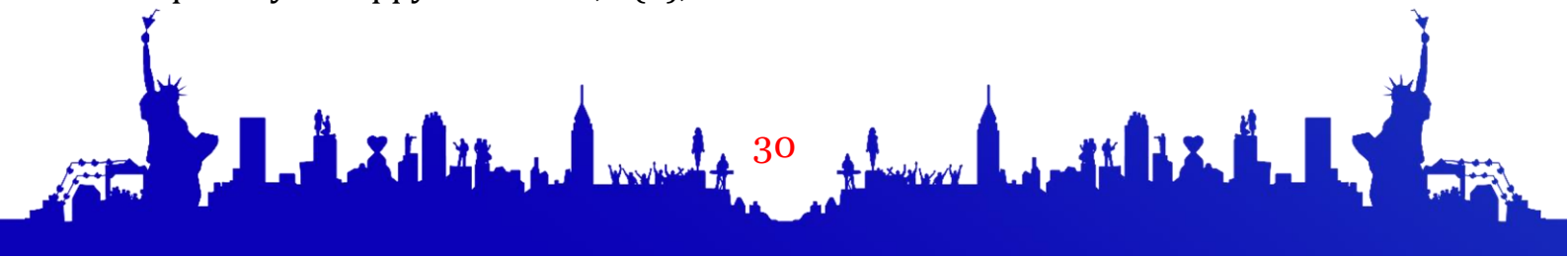


master classes, and training, which focus on modern pedagogical methods, educational technologies, and inclusive education. These initiatives aim to improve the quality of teaching, update teachers' knowledge, and ensure that they meet the evolving demands of the education system.

Teacher professional development is a process necessary for improving the quality of the education system and adapting to modern requirements. This process not only develops the teacher's professional skills but also strengthens their impact on students. Therefore, creating the necessary conditions for teachers' professional development in the field of education should be one of the priority areas of state policy.

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