

## WAYS TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM OF LOW ATTENDANCE OF STUDENTS

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One of the main and most critical issues in the organization of the educational process is the attendance of classes by students, since, in authors' opinion, it affects such key positions as academic progress, the quality of training and, as a result, the possibility of future employment by profession. Undoubtedly, independent study of the material can be productive, but it is more effective with the direct participation of a teacher.

Based on the analysis of class attendance by students in the academic year 2023/2024, it should be noted that in the Academy it ranges from 22% to 40%. It has also been found that the best attendance is among first-year bachelor's degree students (46%), and the worst – among first-year master's degree students (19%). In addition, it was found that in different periods of the year, the total attendance may vary, but in general, there is extremely low attendance at all institutes of the Academy.

Based on the experience of the Slovak University of Technology (Bratislava, Slovak Republic) in this issue, some approaches to improve this indicator are recommended. Taking into account that classroom hours are divided into lectures, practical and/or laboratory classes, firstly, it is proposed not to take into account lecture attendance, of course, provided that the relevant package of teaching materials (lecture notes and presentations, textbooks, manuals, etc.) is posted on the educational platforms of the courses.

Secondly, to set a standardized limit for missing practical and/or laboratory classes without a valid and documented reason because here the teacher's participation is extremely important in terms of mastering both professional skills and soft-skills. According to the authors, 40% of missed classes can be considered as optimal indicator. If this limit is exceeded, a student should not be allowed to take part in control activities during the examination session and should be recommended to repeat the course.

We believe that this approach, which is actually practiced at the Slovak University of Technology, can increase the overall attendance of students and ensure the proper high quality of training.