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**ADMISSION OF PERSONS LIVING IN THE TEMPORARY OCCUPIED
TERRITORIES IN DONETSK AND LUHANSK REGIONS
TO OBTAIN HIGHER EDUCATION
AT THE NATIONAL AVIATION UNIVERSITY: RESULTS OF 2022**

***Annotation.** The peculiarities and results of the admission of persons living in the temporarily occupied territories in Donetsk and Luhansk regions to obtain higher education at the National Aviation University in 2022 have been revealed.*

***Key words:** temporarily occupied territory, education, higher education.*

***Анотація.** Розкрито особливості та підсумки прийому осіб, які проживають на тимчасово окупованих територіях у Донецькій та Луганській областях, для здобуття вищої освіти у Національному авіаційному університеті у 2022 р.*

***Ключові слова:** тимчасово окупована територія, освіта, вища освіта.*

Introduction. The violation of the territorial integrity of the independent state of Ukraine by the aggressor country Russia in 2014 led to the temporary occupation of parts of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions, as well as the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol. In 2022, Russia started a war with Ukraine and fully occupied Donetsk and Luhansk regions and parts of other territories of the Ukrainian independent state. However, Ukrainians who found themselves under Russian occupation live with Ukraine in their hearts and souls and await the return of

the occupied territories to their homeland. Consequently, the youth residing in the temporarily occupied territories wishes to continue receiving higher education only in Ukrainian educational institutions. This primarily concerns graduates of secondary educational institutions directly in Donetsk and Luhansk regions. These regions have been under Russian occupation for over 9 years, and with the beginning of the full-scale Russian invasion on February 24, 2022, the occupation of Ukrainian territories significantly expanded. Therefore, the chosen research topic is extremely painful and relevant.

The aim of the article is to reveal the features and results of admission for individuals residing in the temporarily occupied territories of Donetsk and Luhansk regions for higher education at the National Aviation University in 2022.

Research results. During the 2022 admission campaign, applicants from the temporarily occupied territories and conflict zones in Donetsk and Luhansk regions were admitted to higher education institutions in accordance with the Admission Procedure for the acquisition of higher, vocational pre-higher, and professional (vocational-technical) education by individuals residing in the temporarily occupied territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, temporarily occupied territory of certain districts of Donetsk and Luhansk regions, territory of settlements on the contact line, registered with the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine on April 15, 2021, № 505/36127 [1].

As of today, this Procedure has been amended according to the Order of the Ministry of Education and Science № 726 dated August 10, 2022, and it has a new title - Admission Procedure for the acquisition of higher, vocational pre-higher, and professional (vocational-technical) education by individuals residing in the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine by the Russian Federation [2].

Until 2021, there was a different regulatory framework for this category of applicants residing in the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine. There were two separate Admission Procedures approved by two separate orders of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine:

- Order of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine dated May 24, 2016, № 560 «On Approval of the Admission Procedure for the acquisition of higher, vocational pre-higher, and professional (vocational-technical) education by individuals residing in the temporarily occupied territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol», registered with the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine on May 31, 2016, № 795/28925 [3];

- Order of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine dated June 21, 2016, № 697 «On Approval of the Admission Procedure for the acquisition of higher, vocational pre-higher, and professional (vocational-technical) education by individuals whose place of residence is the temporarily occupied territory in Donetsk and Luhansk regions», registered with the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine on July 1, 2016, № 907/29037 [4].

Thus, starting from 2016, applicants from the temporarily occupied territories of Donetsk and Luhansk regions and the Autonomous Republic of Crimea have certain privileges when applying to higher education, vocational, and professional educational institutions [1 - 4].

For this purpose, separate structural units of the Admissions Commission were established in higher education institutions (HEIs) - the educational center «Crimea-Ukraine» and the educational center «Donbas-Ukraine».

Each HEI annually develops and approves the Admission Rules based on the Admission Procedure for Higher Education, which is approved by the relevant order of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine. The Admission Rules are developed by the Admissions Commission of the institution.

Thus, the Admission Commission developed the Admission Rules for the National Aviation University (NAU) in 2022 in accordance with the Admission Procedure for Higher Education in 2022, approved by the order of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine on April 27, 2022, № 392 and registered with the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine on May 3, 2022, № 487/37823.

Correspondingly, *the Admission Procedure for Higher Education was developed for individuals residing in the temporarily occupied territories of certain*

districts of Donetsk and Luhansk regions, as well as the territories of populated areas along the confrontation line (hereinafter referred to as the Procedure), providing the opportunity to apply within the established admission quotas to the authorized higher education institution - *the National Aviation University (Addition14 to the Admission Rules for NAU in 2022)* [5]. This Procedure also applied to individuals who relocated from the temporarily occupied territories of certain districts of Donetsk and Luhansk regions after January 1 of the year of admission (i.e., after January 1, 2022).

This procedure was developed in accordance with paragraph five of part four of Article 44 of the Law of Ukraine «On Higher Education», paragraph one of part three of Article 43 of the Law of Ukraine «On Vocational Education», and defined the peculiarities of obtaining documents on general secondary education and special admission conditions for higher education by individuals residing in the temporarily occupied territories of certain districts of Donetsk and Luhansk regions, as well as the territories of populated areas along the confrontation line.

According to this procedure, the *applicant* is a person who completed basic secondary education or full general secondary education on the temporarily occupied territories of certain districts of Donetsk and Luhansk regions after April 14, 2014; resides in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine or in populated areas along the confrontation line, in accordance with *the List of populated areas where state authorities temporarily do not exercise their powers, and the List of populated areas located on the confrontation line, approved by the Order of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine dated February 7, 2014, № 1085-p (as amended by the Order of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine dated November 7, 2018, № 79-p)*; and obtained a document on basic secondary education or full general secondary education in other administrative-territorial units of Ukraine through external or distance learning.

Educational declaration (hereinafter - the declaration) is a document that contains information about the results of learning and periods of study for the course of general secondary education in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine, as

well as data about the individual who submits an application for annual assessment and state final certification.

The declaration is filled out in accordance with the form in Addition 2 to the Procedure and is personally signed by the applicant. In this Procedure, the term «temporarily occupied territories of certain districts of Donetsk and Luhansk regions» is used in the meaning provided in the Law of Ukraine «On the Features of State Policy to Ensure State Sovereignty of Ukraine in Temporarily Occupied Territories in Donetsk and Luhansk regions».

Applicants have the right to:

- undergo annual assessment and state final certification;
- obtain a state-issued document on full general secondary education;
- be admitted to educational institutions for higher education (based on competition or within established quotas) based on the results of entrance examinations or external independent evaluation (according to the applicant's choice).

Education documents (educational certificates) *issued in populated areas located on the temporarily occupied territories of Donetsk and Luhansk regions* **are not recognized.**

Let's consider the specifics of working with applicants in 2022.

The Educational Center «Donbas-Ukraine» (EC «Donbas-Ukraine») was established at the National Aviation University (NAU) as early as 2020.

From 2020 to 2022, the author of this article was responsible for the work of EC «Donbas-Ukraine» at NAU.

In 2023, EC «Donbas-Ukraine» at NAU continues its operation.

The National Aviation University is an authorized higher education institution that simplifies the admission process for applicants residing in the temporarily occupied territories of Donetsk and Luhansk regions.

The Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine provides quotas to the National Aviation University for enrolling applicants for higher education based on competition and funded by the state budget.

The National Aviation University, in collaboration with a municipally-owned general educational institution designated by the educational authorities of Kyiv city state administration (responsible - authorized general educational institution), conducts annual assessment and state final certification, as well as the issuance of state-issued documents on full general secondary education in cases specified by this Procedure.

The National Aviation University ensures the functioning of EC «Donbas-Ukraine» as a structural unit of the Admissions Commission.

The Educational Center «Donbas-Ukraine» as a unit of the Admissions Commission of the National Aviation University:

- provides advice and assistance in the completion of the applicant's declaration;
- facilitates the annual assessment and state final certification of the applicant in Ukrainian language and history of Ukraine, issuance of state-issued documents on full general secondary education;

- organizes the applicant's documentation as a candidate, conducts entrance examinations for the National Aviation University, and (in case of successful competitive selection) provides a recommendation for admission to the National Aviation University;

- assists the applicant in accommodation during the annual assessment, state final certification, and entrance examinations at the university's dormitory;

- assists the applicant in obtaining identity documents.

The Educational Center «Donbas-Ukraine» as a unit of the Admissions Commission of the National Aviation University, operated from June 7th to September 30th, 2022.

Let's consider *the specifics of obtaining documents on full general secondary education by applicants necessary for higher education at the National Aviation University in 2022.*

Applicants, to obtain documents on full general secondary education required for higher education, apply to the Educational Center «Donbas-Ukraine» as a unit of the Admissions Commission of the National Aviation University, where they undergo

the annual assessment and state final certification in external form at authorized general educational institutions.

Enrollment of applicants for external form of education at an authorized general educational institution is carried out according to the order of its head and based on:

- an application (for adult applicants);
- an application from parents (one of the parents) or other legal representatives (for underage applicants). A minor can submit an application for enrollment in external form accompanied by relatives or any other legal adults who are not their legal representatives.

During the submission of the application, the applicant presents personally: a document confirming their identity - a passport of a citizen of Ukraine, a birth certificate.

The educational declaration, filled out by the applicant together with the authorized representative of the Admissions Commission of the National Aviation University, is attached to the paper application, and a photo of the applicant is affixed to the educational declaration.

The applicant has the right to add additional materials to the educational declaration, including by electronic mail, in paper form or digital images, that can directly or indirectly confirm the information provided in the declaration.

The authorized personnel of the authorized general educational institution make copies of the submitted documents, duly authenticate them, and return the original documents to the applicant.

The annual assessment and state final certification of applicants enrolled in the external form of education for the 11th grade are conducted on the next day after the application is received or on other dates specified by the applicant (or their legal representative) in the application for enrollment in the external form of education. However, these dates should not be earlier than the start date of the Educational Center's work and no later than three days before the Center's completion date.

The results of the annual assessment in academic subjects are determined by the authorized personnel of the authorized general educational institution in accordance

with the educational declaration and are indicated in the appendix to the document on full general secondary education as «certified».

The results of the annual assessment in Ukrainian language and Ukrainian history are determined based on the results of the state final attestation in these subjects and are indicated in the addition to the document of complete general secondary education as «certified». The average grade of the education document is calculated as the average score of the results of the state final attestation.

The applicant has the right to undergo the annual assessment during the next academic year according to the procedure determined by Section III of the Regulation on external studies in general educational institutions, approved by the order of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine on March 13, 2017, № 369, registered with the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine on March 28, 2017, № 416/30284. In this case, a new addition to the document of complete general secondary education is issued to the applicant.

The state final attestation of the applicants is carried out in the authorized general educational institution in Ukrainian language and Ukrainian history, in accordance with the Procedure for conducting the state final attestation, approved by the order of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine on December 7, 2018, № 1369, registered with the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine on January 2, 2019, № 8/32979.

The results of the annual assessment and state final attestation are documented by the authorized general educational institution in an arbitrary form, which is issued to the applicant on the day of their completion.

The arbitrary form certificate of successful completion of the annual assessment and state final attestation serves as the basis for the applicant's admission to entrance exams and enrollment in the National Aviation University. This certificate is valid for three months and must be replaced with the document of complete general secondary education and its addition.

After successful completion of the annual assessment and state final attestation, the authorized general educational institution orders the appropriate document of

complete general secondary education to the applicant within one working day and, after receiving it from the relevant educational authority, issues it in accordance with the Procedure for ordering documents of state-standard education, their issuance, and accounting, approved by the order of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine on December 10, 2003, № 811, registered with the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine on February 16, 2004, № 201/8800 (as amended by the order of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine on August 13, 2007, № 737).

Let's consider *the peculiarities of admission for higher education based on complete general secondary education in 2022.*

The applicant has the right to apply for a bachelor's degree program based on complete general secondary education to the National Aviation University as an authorized higher education institution.

The applicant has the right to apply for higher education in the full-time form of study at places funded by the state budget to the National Aviation University as an authorized higher education institution within the quotas determined by the central executive authority in the field of education and science.

The admission rules for applicants to authorized higher education institutions in accordance with the Admission Conditions for studying at higher education institutions in Ukraine in 2022, approved by the order of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine on April 27, 2022, № 392, with changes made by the order of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine on May 2, 2022, № 400 (hereinafter admission conditions), are approved by the Academic Council as an addition to the Admission Rules for the National Aviation University.

In 2020-2021, the applicants personally submitted the following documents to the Educational Center «Donbas-Ukraine» a subdivision of the Admissions Committee of the National Aviation University:

- document proving their identity.
- external independent evaluation certificates from 2019, 2020, and 2021 (optional) or results of the national multi-subject test (optional).
- certificate of internal displacement registration (if it is available).

- six photographs sized 3x4 cm;

- if the applicant lacked a document of state-standard education and its additions, they provided a certificate from an authorized general educational institution confirming the successful completion of annual assessment and final state certification. This certificate served as a basis for participating in the admission competition without submitting external independent evaluation certificates.

In 2022, the option of remote document submission was introduced, allowing applicants to submit their documents via various means such as email, Viber, WhatsApp, Telegram, etc.

If the document proving the applicant's identity lacked a registration mark for residing in the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine, the confirmation of residence was done based on the documents specified in the seventh part of Article 4 of the Law of Ukraine «On Ensuring the Rights and Freedoms of Internally Displaced Persons».

The admission documents for obtaining a bachelor's degree funded by the state budget were received from the applicants in 2022 in two stages: the main and final stages [5].

The applicant's competition score in 2020-2021 was calculated as the sum of the average score of the document certifying complete general secondary education (or the certificate) and the external independent evaluation certificates (optional) or the entrance exam(s) in subject(s) specified in the Admission Rules. The assessment scores from the annual evaluation of Ukrainian language and history of Ukraine in 2020-2021 could be used as entrance exam scores. However, in 2022, due to the state of war, external independent evaluation was canceled, and the National Multi-Subject Test (NMT) was introduced. In 2023, the NMT was also administered in Ukraine. The average score of the document certifying complete general secondary education in 2022 was not taken into account.

In 2022, the admission of applicants based on complete general secondary education to the state-funded places was carried out within the established quotas through a competition according to the competition score of the applicant within the

deadlines set in the Admission Rules. These quotas are set by the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine within ten percent (but not less than one place) of the maximum (total) volume of the state order based on open and closed competitive proposals and are announced simultaneously with the announcement of the maximum (total) volume of the state order.

The National Aviation University publishes a list of recommended candidates for enrollment in higher education funded by the state budget in the full-time form of study within the deadlines set by the Admission Rules. In ranking lists, lists of recommended candidates, and enrollment orders, the surnames of applicants are encoded. Specifically, each applicant is assigned a digital code in the format XXXX-DDDDDDDDDD, where XXXX corresponds to the code of the educational institution in the Unified State Electronic Education Database, and DDDDDDDDDD is the code of the individual applicant in the Unified State Electronic Education Database.

After the admission committee makes a decision on recommending candidates for enrollment, the applicants are required to fulfill the requirements for enrollment in state-funded places. This includes submitting in person the original documents specified in the Admission Rules, taking into account the specialties stated in this Procedure.

The original documents (excluding results of external independent evaluation (ZNO) and national multi-subject test (NMT)) specified in the Admission Rules must be submitted to the National Aviation University within three months from the start of the academic year. If the applicant fails to submit these documents within the specified time frame, they will be dismissed from the National Aviation University.

Let's examine the results of the enrollment campaign for applicants through the Educational Center «Donbas-Ukraine». Taking into account that all data is confidential, we will use the number of inquiries to the Center and the number of first-year students who enrolled at NAU through the Educational Center «Donbas-Ukraine» in 2020 as the base figure (100%). Other years will be compared to this specific year.

An analysis of the dynamics of the number of inquiries from prospective applicants from the temporarily occupied territories of Donetsk and Luhansk regions, as well as from settlements on the front line, is presented in Table 1.

Table 1

Analysis of the dynamics of the number of inquiries from prospective applicants to the Educational Center «Donbas-Ukraine» at the National Aviation University for 2020-2022, %

2020	2021	2022 (introduction of additional quota 2 due to the war in Ukraine)	Deviation (+/-)	
			2021 from 2020	2022 from 2020
100	150	250	+ 50	+ 150

In 2021, the number of applications to the Educational Center «Donbas-Ukraine» of the National Aviation University (NAU) increased by 50%. This indicates a growing desire among graduates, whose places of residence were temporarily occupied by certain districts of Donetsk and Luhansk regions, as well as territories of populated areas on the front line, to enter the National Aviation University and study at a Ukrainian higher education institution. It also reflects the high quality of educational services provided by NAU. This is a direct reflection of the excellent work of the Admissions Committee of NAU and the Educational Center «Donbas-Ukraine» as in the temporarily occupied territories of Donetsk and Luhansk regions (in conditions of no access to Ukrainian television, radio, and the Internet), mostly word-of-mouth advertising is effective.

In 2022, under the conditions of the martial law in Ukraine, the number of applications to the Educational Center «Donbas-Ukraine» of NAU increased by 150%. The main factor contributing to the increase in the number of applications from prospective students to the Educational Center «Donbas-Ukraine» is the strong desire to study at a Ukrainian higher education institution - the National Aviation University and, accordingly, to obtain a Ukrainian diploma rather than diplomas from

educational institutions of the so-called the Donetsk Narodna Respublika and the Luhansk Narodna Respublika.

The analysis of the dynamics of prospective students through the Educational Center «Donbas-Ukraine» to NAU for the years 2020-2022 is presented in Table 2.

Table 2

**Analysis of the dynamics of prospective students
through the Educational Center «Donbas-Ukraine»
to NAU for the years 2020-2022, %**

2020	2021	2022 (introduction of additional quota 2 due to the war in Ukraine)	Deviation (+/-)	
			2021 from 2020	2022 from 2020
100	123	46	+ 23	- 54

Due to the Russian-Ukrainian war, which Russia began on February 24, 2022, a special quota 2 was allocated for applicants from temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine.

According to the quota 2 applicants in 2022 had the right to apply to various higher education institutions, while with privileges through the Educational Center, applicants had the right to apply only through one Educational Center to one higher education institution. This means that each applicant had the right to submit their documents to only one Educational Center and apply to one higher education institution.

Therefore, *if the conditions for privileges coincided, applicants chose quota 2. For such entrants, the possibilities of admission to other higher education institutions were expanded.*

This explains the decline in the number of applicants through the Educational Center "Donbas-Ukraine" in 2022, not only in NAU but also in other higher education institutions across Ukraine.

However, the overall result of applicants from temporarily occupied territories of Donetsk and Luhansk regions to NAU indicates that graduates wish to study and

live in Ukraine and obtain higher education in their homeland. This is also evidenced by the overall data on applicants to NAU and other Ukrainian higher education institutions from temporarily occupied territories of all other regions of Ukraine.

Conclusions. Thus, special conditions have been created in Ukraine since 2016 for obtaining higher, professional, and advanced professional (vocational-technical) education for individuals whose places of residence are temporarily occupied by the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Donetsk and Luhansk regions, and territories of populated areas on the front line. NAU has been accepting such applicants since 2020 (previously NAU was not included in the list of higher education institutions eligible to provide this privilege during admission).

Due to the introduction of martial law in Ukraine on February 24, 2022, due to the full-scale armed aggression by the Russian Federation and its further occupation of Ukrainian territories, new challenges arose for the Admission Campaign in Ukrainian educational institutions in 2022. As a result, a new privilege for applicants - quota 2 - was introduced in 2022.

The Ukrainian state takes care of its youth and creates special privileges for admission, especially in times of war. NAU actively participates in providing special privileges for applicants due to the temporary occupation of Ukrainian territories. The separate unit of the Admissions Committee of NAU - the Educational Center «Donbas-Ukraine» - works actively in this regard.

Extensive consultations to explain the admission conditions through the Educational Centers «Donbas-Ukraine» and «Crimea-Ukraine» have been and continue to be carried out by experts from the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine and the Office of the President of Ukraine.

The subject of our further research will be the evaluation of the results of the admission campaign through the Educational Center «Donbas-Ukraine» of NAU in 2023.

Everything will be Ukrainian education. Everything will be Ukrainian students. Everything will be Ukraine.

Vse bude ukrainska osvita. Vse bude ukrainske studentstvo. Vse bude Ukraina.

References

1. Порядок прийому для здобуття вищої, фахової передвищої та професійної (професійно-технічної) освіти осіб, які проживають на тимчасово окупованій території Автономної Республіки Крим та міста Севастополя, тимчасово окупованій території окремих районів Донецької та Луганської областей, території населених пунктів на лінії зіткнення: затверджено наказом Міністерства освіти і науки України від 01 березня 2021 року № 271. зареєстрований в Міністерстві юстиції України 15 квітня 2021 року за № 505/36127 (із змінами, внесеними згідно з Наказом Міністерства освіти і науки [№ 726 від 10.08.2022](#)). URL: <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/z0505-21#n16> (дата звернення: 10.02.2023).

2. Порядок прийому для здобуття вищої, фахової передвищої та професійної (професійно-технічної) освіти осіб, які проживають на тимчасово окупованій Російською Федерацією території України: затверджено Наказом Міністерства освіти і науки України 01 березня 2021 року № 271 (в редакції наказу Міністерства освіти і науки України від 10 серпня 2022 року [№ 726](#)), зареєстровано в Міністерстві юстиції України 15 квітня 2021 р. за № 505/36127. URL: <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/z0505-21#n16> (дата звернення: 10.02.2023).

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4. Про затвердження Порядку прийому для здобуття вищої, фахової передвищої та професійної (професійно-технічної) освіти осіб, місце проживання яких є тимчасово окуповані території у Донецькій та Луганській областях: наказ Міністерства освіти і науки України від 21 червня 2016 року

№ 697, зареєстровано у Міністерстві юстиції України 01 липня 2016 року за № 907/29037. URL: <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/z0907-16#Text> (дата звернення: 10.02.2023).

5. Додаток 14 до Правил прийому в Національний авіаційний університет у 2022 році «Порядок прийому до Національного авіаційного університету для здобуття вищої освіти осіб, які проживають на тимчасово окупованих територіях у Донецькій та Луганській областях, території населених пунктів на лінії зіткнення».