

Analysis of the Mode of Higher Vocational Education for the Disabled-Take the Mode Selection in Sichuan Province as an Example

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Abstract. The development of higher vocational education for the disabled has become an important means to promote the comprehensive development of the disabled in the new situation, but educational resources, funding and management system can't meet the current development needs. Sichuan Province actively innovates educational ideas by putting forward "Entrusting" mode to explore a development path in line with the provincial situation.

Introduction

In recent years, great progress has been made in higher vocational education for the disabled in China. In the latest *Regulation on the Education of the Disabled* amended in 2017, "appropriately develop higher vocational education of the disabled" has been modified into "speed up the development of higher vocational education of the disabled". So, it is important to protect the rights of disabled to participate in society on an equal footing by providing them with a variety of education choices and to comprehensively improve their ability to adapt to society. As a populous province, Sichuan ranks second in the country in terms of the number of the disabled. However, among the disabled students graduating from junior high schools and senior high schools across the province, except for a small number of mildly physically disabled students who may enter ordinary secondary vocational schools, most of them just start working without receiving any vocational education. Therefore, it is extremely urgent to accelerate the development of higher vocational education for the disabled in Sichuan.

The Significance of Accelerating the Development of Higher Vocational Education for the Disabled

It is Conducive to the Full Implementation of the Party's Education Policy

It is clearly put forward in the 19th Congress of the Party that the Party's education target in the new era is to strive to provide satisfactory education to the public. As an important part of education cause in China, the education for the disabled also reflects great attention and care from the Party and the country on the disabled groups. During the visit to the sanatorium for the paraplegia in Tangshan city in 2016, General Secretary Xi Jinping pointed out that all the disabled should be considered in the course of achieving a moderately prosperous society. Based on the practical needs of the disabled, we can see that vocational education would help the disabled better integrate into the society to the greatest extent, so that the disabled can have a more decent job and a more dignified life. Therefore, it is necessary to accelerate the development of the vocational education for the disabled, effectively protect the education rights of the disabled, help the disabled achieve an all-round development, and enable the disabled and their families to share the fruits of reform and development and to achieve a happy life in the process of realizing a moderately prosperous society in all respects, realizing the "Two Centenary Goals" and the "Chinese Dream".

It is Helpful for the Equalization of Basic Public Services

The basic responsibility of the government is to provide basic public services which include education. Equalization is required for basic public services, which includes the equalization between urban and rural areas, different regions and different groups. Receiving higher education is a basic right for the disabled, a basic public service that the Party and the State should provide, and a realistic requirement by the basic public service groups equalization. It manifests the socialist social equity and justice as well as the superiority of socialist system to provide high education to the disabled, realize educational equality, provide them with the opportunity to change life, ensure their rights and interests and improve their happiness.

It is Beneficial for Blocking the Transmission of Poverty between Generations of Poor and Disabled Families

Numerous reasons lead to the poverty of the families with disabled persons, an important one among which is the difficulty in the employment of the disabled. Therefore, providing high-quality higher vocational education for the disabled is an important measure to implement targeted poverty alleviation for poor disabled families. Just as the saying goes that intellectual support is the first for poverty alleviation, it is an important way to block the transmission of poverty between generations by providing equal and high-quality education, especial the targeted higher vocational education, to the disabled youth and the children from families with disabled persons and difficulties. This will greatly alleviate the poverty for the disabled and their families and lay a solid foundation for winning the battle against poverty and achieving a moderately prosperous society for the disabled.

It is Contributive to open up the Access for the Disabled to Accept Higher Education

Except for compulsory education, it is hard for the disabled children to receive higher education equally. Take Sichuan Province as an example, according to the statistics of "Tailored" personalized service information platform for the disabled, in 2013, among the 5014 disabled students who graduated from junior high school, only 557 entered senior high school, which severely restricts the education for the disabled and the social competitiveness of the disabled. And for the higher education for the disabled, among 692 disabled students who graduated from senior high school in 2013, only 236 were enrolled to regular institutions of higher learning, with an admission rate of 34.1% which is much lower than the admission rate 74.4% of students with good physical fitness in Sichuan Province. Therefore, we should vigorously develop higher vocational education for the disabled, provide the disabled with the opportunity to receive higher education, especially diversified higher education, so as to gradually open up the access for disabled to receive education and realize the true equality in education.

Difficulties Faced in Higher Vocational Education for the Disabled

Serious Lack of Education Resources

On teachers' aspect, there is a serious shortage in the number of professional teachers in higher vocational institutes for the disabled. And teachers' professional quality also differs to a large extent. At present, only hundreds of teachers for special education with master degree are cultivated every year. And the cultivation is not targeted for special education in higher vocational institutes. Even the postgraduate students majored in special education do not necessarily have the ability for higher vocational education for the disabled. There are 2211 teachers in special education institutes in the whole Sichuan Province, among which only 1567 are professionally trained for special education and only 14 have master degree. On school aspect, there are just around 20 institutes (such as Special Education Institute in Changchun University, Nanjing Special Education Normal College) or their secondary institutes in our country providing higher education for the disabled. On the school locations aspect, there is no balance in the location distribution, as most higher education institutions for the disabled are located in mid-east developed areas. But in western and

less-developed area, only Guangxi and Yunnan provinces have professional education institutions for the disabled with short history and small scale.

Inadequate Funding

Due the particularity of the education for the disabled, the cost is much higher than that for normal education. Especially for the higher education for the disabled, a large number of special education instruments, equipment and ancillary facilities are needed, leading to a higher education cost compared with the primary education for the disabled. Now in China, there is no basic standards related to basic construction and per capita funding for higher vocational education for the disabled and there is a wide difference between different local governments' revenue. This leads to a serious lack of funding for the higher vocational education for the disabled, making it hard to meet the development needs of the higher vocational education for the disabled. According to the international rule, the funding for the higher vocational education for the disabled should be 5 times that for the non-disabled. So, it is the government's obligation to provide adequate guarantee and support for higher vocational education institutions for the disabled.

The Management System needs to be improved

Currently, there are mainly 4 modes for domestic higher vocational education for the disabled. 1) Disabled Persons' Federation and higher education institutes jointly set up independent higher vocational institutes for the disabled, like Guangxi Higher Vocational Institute for the Disabled, which is affiliated with and managed by higher vocational institutes. 2) Disabled Persons' Federation and the government jointly set up higher vocational institutes, like Nanjing Special Education Normal University which is jointly set up by China Disabled Persons' Federation and Jiangsu Provincial People's Government. 3) The national, provincial and municipal disabled persons' federations establish strategic cooperative with universities and sign cooperative agreements, and the disabled persons' federations financially invest in the construction of higher special education institutes or higher vocational education majors for the disabled, like Special Education Institute of Changchun University. 4) Disabled persons' federations independently set up higher vocational institutes, like Zhejiang Special Education Vocational Institute. The issue of management affiliation is involved in all the above modes. There is no higher education management institute specially for the disabled whether in education administrative department or the disabled person management service department, making it hard to effectively guarantee the satisfactory running of relevant institutes.

The Selection of Mode of Higher Vocational Education for the Disabled

Sichuan provincial committee and government clearly put forward to rapidly develop higher vocational education for the disabled in Sichuan province, based on which the provincial Disabled Persons' Federation proposed to speed up the recruitment and training for higher vocational education for the disabled in Sichuan with the goal to enable at least 50% of disabled junior high school graduates and 80% of disabled senior high school graduates to receive higher (vocational) education through 3-5 years' efforts. Based on multiple investigation and research as well as numerous demonstration, the provincial Disabled Persons' Federation and provincial education department decide to entrust provincial normal university which has special education major to establish and manage a higher vocational institute for the disabled so as to promote the development of higher vocational education for the disabled in Sichuan province.

Concept of the Mode of Entrusted Establishment and Management

Entrusted establishment and management means that the organizer assigns or entrusts an institute with special education operation background to start the setting up work based on the current teaching staff quality, education resources and operation conditions, etc. And meanwhile, by using the enrollment plan of the entrusted institute, recruit disabled students and carry out vocational

education and normal education for the disabled. After the newly established institute gets recorded in the Ministry of Education and becomes a higher vocational institute with independent legal person qualification, the entrusted institute continues to do the operation. This mode is not only beneficial to give full play to the advantages of entrusted institute, but also is in line with the current enrollment policy. It is an effective way to recruit students with disabilities and develop higher vocational programs for the disabled in the shortest time.

Entrusting Mode Meets the Special and Professional needs of the Education for the Disabled

Education for the disabled features relative particularity and specialty. Certain risk exists in the operation if there is no special education resource. For instance, confluent education is not only the main trend for special education in developed countries, but also an inevitable trend in the special education development. The aim of building a higher vocational institute for the disabled is not just for setting up the school and recruiting students with disabilities. Instead, it should be aimed for realizing education for the disabled in an environment with non-disabled persons. Entrusting an institute with special education operation background contributes to develop a beneficial living and studying environment for the healthy growth of the disabled. According to the present setting of higher vocational institutes, the key to build and operate higher vocational institutes lies in the teaching staff qualification. This kind of institutes can't reach the standard of higher vocational institutes in short term with the current domestic special education teaching staff resource. Entrusting mode allows for share of teaching staff, which not only shorten the establishment time but also help ensure its sustainable development.

Policy Basis for the Entrusting Mode

There is no specific article mentioning the entrusting mode and no regulations banning this mode in current laws and regulations such as Education Law of the People's Republic of China, Higher Education Law of the People's Republic of China, Vocational Education Law of the People's Republic of China, Standards for the Establishment of Higher Vocational Schools (provisional), etc. The entrusting mode is feasible based on the principle that those not banned by law are feasible. Meanwhile, it is advocated in numerous lately issued regulations such as Decision of the State Council on Accelerating the Development of Modern Vocational Education, Regulations on Education for the Disabled, The Second Special Education Promotion Plan (2017-2020), to explore diversified modes to develop higher vocational education for the disabled. To set up legal basis for the entrusting mode, it is necessary to clarify the responsibility, right, and interest of the entrusted institutes in the institute constitutions of both institutes and to get checked and confirmed by provincial education department or provincial people's government, so as to ensure that this mode is legal.

In conclusion, based on the current education policy environment and the requirements on the development of higher vocational education for the disabled as well as the situation of the province, Sichuan province is exploring a beneficial path for the full access of education to the disabled by innovating the system and mechanism, adopting the entrusting mode, organizing all kinds of education and teaching resources and effectively solving the needs of students with all kinds of disabilities.

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