

SPECIFICITY OF SOCIAL WORK AS A PROFESSION

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At the stage of development of society characterized by transition of state economy to a market one and the worsening of social problems, social assistance as a form of social activity transformed into a type of wage labour and formed the profession – social worker. Its current model has incorporated elements of the previous one, where technologies of assistance developed mainly on the satisfaction of needs (social security), as well as elements of social security systems of European countries and modern elements of promoting, organizing and monitoring, protection and support.

Purpose of the article is to determine features of social work on the basis of consideration of the structure of social work as a profession.

Analysis of meaningful relationships between components of professions allowed selecting the following features of social work as a pro-

fession: humanistic, contextual, creative, integrative and complex nature, ambiguous character of the process and results of operation.

Since vocational training provides formation of a new trait of the subject, first of all, to establish criteria of vocational training it is necessary to focus on those features that are determined by the subject of labour relations: humanistic, creative labour, ambiguous nature of the process and outcome of labour. The large number of features causes the integrated nature of the predicted criterion. As such, we can distinguish professional creativity of a specialist in social work. The concept of potential embodies not only a set of functional and operational, but also emotional and volitional and value-oriented characteristics of the individual. “Creative” feature describes the highest level of professional and personal development available for a person under certain conditions.