## Non-formal education: past or future?

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The formation of the educational sphere at the initial stage was carried out by informal methods, the senior taught the younger, which made it possible to achieve a thorough introduction of socially acceptable norms, values, and ideas into the personal sphere of a person, and also effectively implemented the most important principles of training: differentiation and individualization. With the formation of an industrial society, there were also inconsistencies in this approach to education with the needs of society: the uncertainty of the scope of application of the acquired knowledge, teaching is eclectic, without programs that take into account the full breadth of the needs of society, a narrow circle of trainees, high cost of training. Formal education, which was widely developed in the industrial era, ensured the standardization of the content of education, the unification of didactic systems. This led to a greater involvement of the state in educational processes. Formal education provides state control and orders for specialists in various fields, the presence of specially designated premises, material support, specially trained personnel, unified programs in subjects, training in a team, among equals. Teaching chemistry, as one of the most ancient sciences, has passed all the stages of formation: informal, formal, modern. At the stage of entering the post-industrial, information society, the need for individual training again attracts attention due to the ever-increasing need for continuous education, self-education, without which it is impossible to meet the level required for an employee. For example, manufacturing, IT, communications, transport, etc. The international direction is "life - wide education" (lifewide learning), which emphasizes not only the consistency of the learning process, but also the diversity of its forms-formal, informal and informative.