

# SURVEY OF 1ST YEAR STUDENTS ON ATTITUDES TOWARDS STUDYING AT KAUNO KOLEGIJA/HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION (KK) AND MOTIVES FOR CHOOSING STUDIES

2021-2022 SPRING SEMESTRE



FACULTY OF MEDICINE

**PERIOD:** 22 March 2022 – 20 April 2022

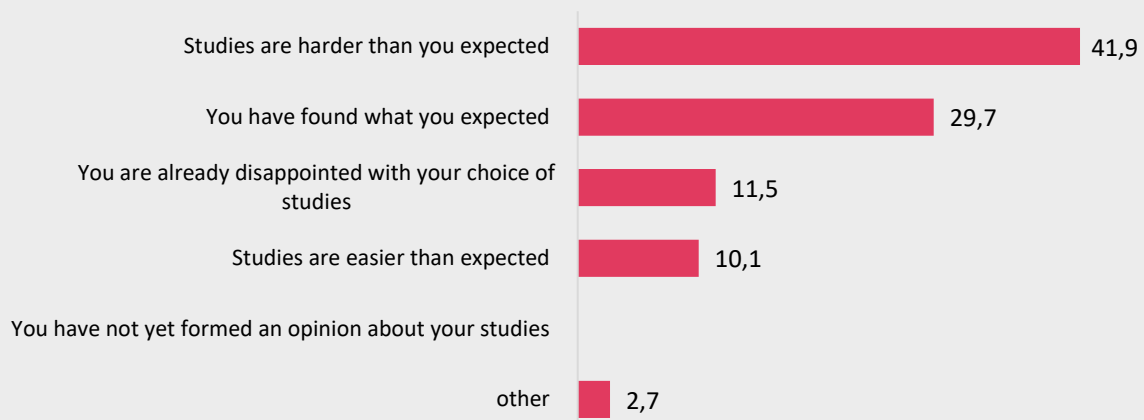
**AIM:** to reveal the attitudes of first-year students of the Faculty of Medicine towards studies at KK and to find out the motives for their choice of studies.

**TARGET GROUP:** all first-year students of the Faculty of Medicine, spring semester 2021-2022.

**OBJECT:** Attitude of first-year students of the Faculty of Medicine towards studies at KK and motives for their choice of studies

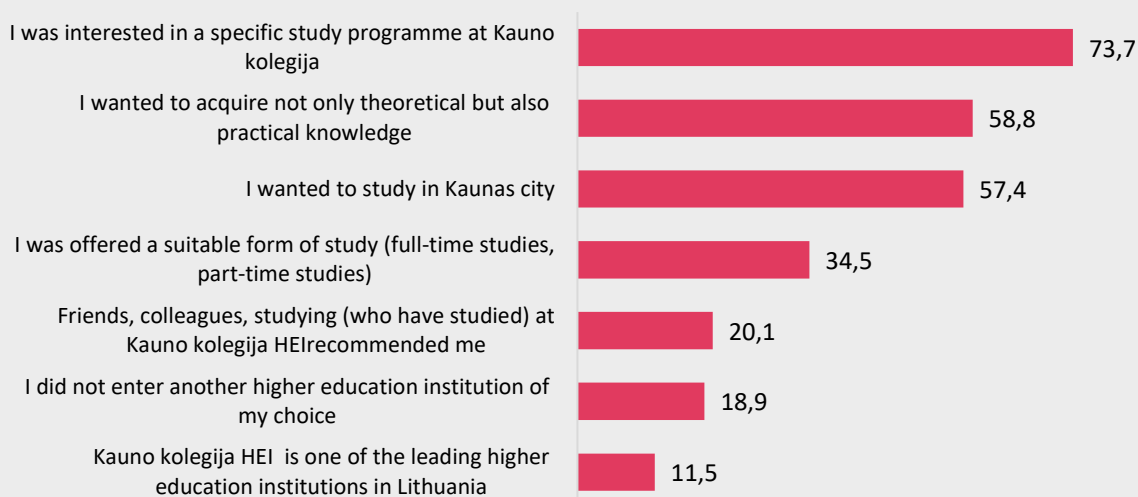
**METHOD:** questionnaire (quantitative and qualitative empirical data collected during the study). The survey was conducted online using the LimeSurvey survey system. The data were processed using SPSS 20 for Windows. Participation in the survey was voluntary, confidential and anonymous.

**RESULTS:** The overall return rate was 148 (35.9%). To summarise, almost half of the first-year students of the Faculty of Medicine claim that studying at KK is more complicated than they expected before their studies (41.9%). In contrast, almost a third of the respondents claim they found what they expected (29.7%) (see Figure 1).



**Figure 1: 1st-year students of the Faculty of Medicine opinion about studies after starting studies at KK (per cent)**

Three-quarters of first-year students of the Faculty of Medicine chose to study at KK because they were interested in a specific study programme (73.7%). A little more than half of the respondents stated that they wanted to acquire not only theoretical but also practical knowledge (58.8) and that they wanted to study in Kaunas city (57.4%) (see Figure 2).



**Figure 2: Motives for choosing KK as a higher education institution for first-year students of the Faculty of Medicine (per cent)**

*Note: Respondents could select multiple answers*

Slightly more than half of first-year students of the Faculty of Medicine stated they chose the study programme they are currently studying because they expect to find a job in their field of specialisation soon after graduation (50.0%) and that they consider the study programme perspective (49.3%) (see Figure 3).



**Figure 3: Motives for choosing the study programme of first-year students of the Faculty of Medicine (%)**

*Note: Respondents could select multiple answers*

The respondents were asked about the sources of information they used to choose the study programme they planned to apply for. The results revealed that the largest proportion of respondents

(69.5%) searched for information on the websites of higher education institutions, and half of the respondents (49.3%) chose to search for information on www.lamabpo.lt. Less than half of the respondents indicated that they inquired from current and former students (46.6%) (see Table 1).

**Table 1. Sources of information searches when choosing the studies**

Statement	Number of respondents	Per cent
I searched for information on social networks (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, etc.)	26	17.6%
I searched for information on higher education institutions' websites	103	69.5%
I searched for information on news portals (www.15min.lt; www.delfi.lt, etc.)	0	0.00%
I searched for information in the publication "Kur stoti"/ portal www.kurstoti.lt	34	23.0%
I contacted the HEIs on issues of concern (via messenger, emails, and calls)	12	8.1%
I participated in HEI open days (online)	17	11.4%
I participated in study exhibitions, fairs	40	27.0%
I searched for information on www.lamabpo.lt	73	49.3%
I searched for information on the website of the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport	10	6.8%
I questioned students and former students	69	46.6%
I participated in meetings with representatives of higher education institutions (online) organised by my school	15	10.1%

First-year students were questioned about the sufficiency of information about studies and services, including information about remote learning and its organisation. More than half of the respondents (56.8%) found the information sufficient. The smallest proportion of respondents (6.8%) answered that they found the amount of information insufficient (see Table 2).

**Table 2. Sufficiency of information on studies and services (including information on remote learning and its organisation)**

Statement	Number of respondents	Per cent
Sufficient	84	56.8%
Partly sufficient	54	36.5%
insufficient	10	6.8%

About two-thirds of the students (62.2%) have firmly decided to continue their studies at KK. In comparison, the smallest part of the respondents (0.7%) are unsure whether they will continue their studies in a specific study programme and are planning to possibly switch to a different study programme while continuing their studies at KK (see Table 3).

**Table 3. The decision of respondents to continue their studies at KK**

Statement	Number of respondents	Per cent
Yes, I have firmly determined to continue my studies at KK	92	62,2%
I was slightly uncertain, but now I have made up my mind to continue my studies	28	18,9%
I am not sure, and I might switch to another higher education institution	26	17,6%
I am not sure, and I might switch to another study programme at KK	1	0,7%
I intend to suspend my studies	1	0,7%

More than half (57.4%) of first-year students attend 99-76% of lectures, while the smallest proportion of respondents (0.7%) claimed to attend around 50-26% of all lectures (see Table 4).

**Table 4. Respondents' assessment of lecture attendance**

Statement	Number of respondents	Per cent
100 per cent	55	37.2%
99 - per cent	85	57.4%
75 - 51 per cent	7	4.7%
50 - 26 per cent	1	0.7%
25 - 0 per cent	0	0.00%

Nearly three-quarters (74.3%) of the first-year students who participated in the survey are studying at a state-funded place and one quarter (25.7%) at a non-state-funded place (see Table 5). A quarter of first-year students (27.7%) are currently combining their studies with work (see Table 6).

**Table 5. Study funding of respondents**

Statement	Number of respondents	Per cent
SF	110	74.3%
NSF	38	25.7%

**Table 6. Respondents' employment**

Statement	Number of respondents	Per cent
Employed	41	27.7%
Unemployed	107	72.3%

First-year students suggest that more attention should be paid to improving communication between lecturers and students and between administration and students, considering the time allocated for reports and scheduling exam dates in advance so that students can balance their studies and work. Provide targeted feedback on specific suggestions and observations received from students; For more information on the actions that have been implemented in response to student feedback, see "You said, we did".

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