Abstract
The article discusses a range of common problems faced by international students while studying in Russia, drawing on the example of Ural Federal University (Ekaterinburg). Analysis of the sociological data has shown that international students have to deal with the following adaptation barriers: organizational barriers which students face when joining the educational process; socio-cultural barriers which mostly stem from the lack of language proficiency; getting accustomed to daily routines of living on the campus; informational barriers caused by a low awareness of the conditions of life and studying in Russia (Russian cultural norms and values, the climate of the Urals, etc.). The article reveals a correlation between the specificity of the countries international students come from and the main stages of their adaptation, providing guidelines for improvement of international student support at Ural Federal University.

Keywords: international students, adaptation, adaptation of international students, Ural Federal University

1. Introduction
In the modern world international educational contacts are developing rapidly, opening access to higher education abroad for more and more young people. According to the Federal State Statistics Service, in 2010 there were 145,900 international students studying in Russia; this accounts for about 4% of the total