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**Abstract**

We are witnesses to two major shifts in Japanese higher education ? the changing role of entrance examinations and the growth of remedial education. The universalization of higher education and decreasing numbers of traditional college-age youth are altering long-established notions about entrance examinations and education itself. This article examines the function of entrance examinations at private institutions and outlines the newly established position of remedial education in higher education. (HRK / Abstract übernommen) Mori, Rie, E-mail: rmori@niad.ac.jp