

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of Apprenticeship

Apprenticeship is part of the educational process which aims to bring together theory with direct field practice. This activity is designed so that students can understand real work situations as well as train their ability to apply knowledge practically. In addition, Apprenticeship provides important initial experience before students entering the world of ‘real’ work. Therefore, this activity is one of the important stages in the learning process at vocational colleges.

As higher education institutions, universities have the responsibility to prepare graduates who are not only academically proficient, but also able to contribute significantly to society. This is in accordance with the mandate of Law Number 20 of 2003 concerning the National Education System, which emphasizes the role of higher education in the development of science, technology, and art. By carrying out the functions of education, research, and community service, universities are expected to become centers for generating innovative solutions to various national challenges. In line with this mission, polytechnics as institutions within the vocational higher education system also have a strategic function in producing graduates who are not only theoretically competent but also skilled in practical and technical fields.

One of the vocational education institutions that consistently produces work-ready graduates is State Polytechnic of Bengkalis. This campus has several departments, including the Business Administration Department which houses three study programs. The author comes from the D-IV International Business Administration Study Program, which is designed to produce graduates who have an in-depth understanding of global trade, cross-border business communication, and international management (Bengkalis State Polytechnic, 2024). With a curriculum that emphasizes integration between theory and practice, students are

equipped with competencies to compete in the dynamic world of international business.

As part of the curriculum implementation, students are required to participate in apprenticeship as an academic requirement and a means of strengthening competencies. Through apprenticeship, students not only learn to face the challenges of the world of work but can also develop sensitivity to the dynamics of organizations and society. For this reason, the author chose to carry out Apprenticeship in a work environment that is relevant to the social and economic development of the community. The choice fell on PT Pertamina International Refinery RU II Sungai Pakning, precisely in the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) section.

The CSR Division is an important part of the company that runs social responsibility programs for the community around the operational area. CSR activities are a means for companies to make a positive contribution to sustainable development, both in terms of social, economic, and environmental aspects. The implementation of this program also reflects the principles of Good Corporate Governance (GCG), which is the foundation of good corporate governance. By carrying out an Apprenticeship in this division, the author gained direct experience in business practices that favor sustainability and community empowerment.

1.2. Purposes of Apprenticeship

The objectives of the implementation of Apprenticeship are as follows:

1. To explain the job description at PT Kilang Pertamina International RU II Sungai Pakning Production.
2. To determine the location and time of the apprenticeship at PT Kilang Pertamina International RU II Sungai Pakning Production.
3. To explain the systems and procedures applicable at the apprenticeship location at PT Kilang Pertamina International RU II Sungai Pakning Production.
4. To identify the challenges and solutions encountered during the

apprenticeship at PT Kilang Pertamina International RU II Sungai Pakning Production.

1.3. Significances of the Apprenticeship

The apprenticeship program provides significant benefits for various parties, including students, companies, and the State Polytechnic of Bengkalis.

1.3.1 Significances for Student

The benefits obtained by students through the implementation of the apprenticeship program are as follows:

1. Acquiring new knowledge and experiences relevant to their field of study.
2. Assessing their ability to apply knowledge acquired during the academic period.
3. Developing professionalism and work discipline in a real workplace setting.
4. Becoming familiar with the work environment and understanding challenges commonly encountered in professional settings.
5. Identifying workplace requirements and adapting to organizational culture during the apprenticeship period.

1.3.2 Significances for Companies

The benefits gained by companies or institutions that accept apprentice students include the following:

1. Receiving contributions from students through ideas, skills, and efforts that support company operations.
2. Developing a pool of potential future employees who are already familiar with the company's operational processes.
3. Strengthening relationships and collaboration with educational institutions.

1.3.3 Significances for the State Polytechnic of Bengkalis

The benefits obtained by the State Polytechnic of Bengkalis from the implementation of the apprenticeship program include the following:

1. Evaluating the alignment of the curriculum with the needs of the industry.
2. Establishing and maintaining cooperative relationships with companies for future collaboration.

3. Enhancing the institution's reputation by producing competent graduates who meet industry standards.
4. Receiving input from companies regarding the capabilities of students participating in the apprenticeship program.
5. Obtaining feedback from the professional sector to support curriculum development and the learning process.