

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Apprenticeship

Apprenticeship is a form of student assignment outside the campus environment that provides opportunities for students to get to know the system and work atmosphere directly in an institution or company. This activity serves as a means for students to be directly involved in activities in the work environment and observe the company's operational processes in real life. The implementation of Apprenticeship provides opportunities for students to gain work experience, understand the flow of activities, and witness the implementation of the work system in real conditions.

State Polytechnic of Bengkalis is one of the vocational education institutions established by the Bengkalis Regency Government to meet the needs of skilled workers in the maritime, engineering, and other supporting industries sectors. As an effort to improve the quality of human resources in strategic areas, this institution initially operated under the management of the local government. Through the development of facilities, curriculum, and governance, in 2008 Polbeng was recognized nationally and officially as a state polytechnic based on the Decree of the Minister of National Education. The change in status opens up wider opportunities for Polbeng to improve the quality of education, add study programs relevant to the needs of the job market, and increase its contribution to regional economic and industrial development. The Bengkalis State Polytechnic is located at Bathin Alam street, Sungai Alam, Bengkalis District, Bengkalis Regency, Riau.

The Department of Commercial Administration is one of several departments at the Bengkalis State Polytechnic that plays an important role in helping students build skills in the fields of administration, managerial, and business communication. Through systematic education, this department aims to produce graduates who are not only proficient in theory but also able to apply this knowledge in the real world. However, the Department of Commercial

Administration, especially the International Business Administration Study Program, is designed with a concept that can adapt to the needs of the industry so that students will be ready to undergo challenges in the professional world.

Applying the knowledge that has been learned during lectures, students are asked to do Apprenticeship which is a means to strengthen professional skills. Doing Apprenticeship is a very important step because through students can feel the conditions in the workplace, operational processes, and also dynamics in the industrial world. Through this experience, students can build technical skills, work attitudes, and the knowledge needed.

In this regard, students need to obtain placement in a company that has an orderly, professional, and relevant work atmosphere to the field of study pursued. Determining the location of Apprenticeship is an important part in supporting the smooth running of activities so that learning goals can be achieved optimally. The location chosen is also expected to be able to provide a real understanding of the work system and operational activities that take place in the company. On the basis of these considerations, PT Riau Andalan Pulp and Paper (PT RAPP) located in Pangkalan Kerinci, Pelalawan Regency, Riau was designated as the place to carry out Apprenticeship.

PT RAPP is a large-scale company that has a well-organized operational management and work system, and is supported by a professional work environment. This company is considered to be able to provide an experience that suits the learning needs of students because it has a wide scope of activities. Through the implementation of Apprenticeship at PT RAPP, students have the opportunity to directly understand the work process in the company environment, starting from the workflow, division of tasks, to coordination between departments. Thus, students can observe the implementation of work procedures as well as gain insight related to the company's administrative and operational activities.

Students have the opportunity to learn about the professional work culture at the company, such as time discipline, responsibility for tasks, and the ethics of interacting with employees. This experience helps students adjust to the real work environment. The work environment at PT RAPP shows good coordination

between divisions, where each department has a clear role and responsibility to ensure the smooth operation of the company.

During the implementation of Apprenticeship, students work on administrative and operational tasks under the direction of field supervisors. This task trains thoroughness, discipline, and the ability to follow work procedures. Students are also required to prepare an Apprenticeship report containing a description of the company's activities, experiences, and working conditions and systems. This report serves as a documentation and evaluation of the benefits of Apprenticeship that prepares students for the future world of work.

1.2 Purpose of the Apprenticeship

Apprenticeship is a mandatory activity for Bengkalis State Polytechnic students as part of the completion of the final project. In order for maximum results, students need to understand the purpose and benefits of implementing the apprenticeship. Here are the goals and benefits of Apprenticeship:

1. To describe job descriptions of apprenticeship
2. To find out procedures and systems of apprenticeship program
3. To find out the place and time of apprenticeship program
4. To describe kind and description of apprenticeship
5. To find out the obstacles and solutions during apprenticeship program

1.3 Significances of the Apprenticeship

The internship program provides benefits for several parties, namely students, companies and the State Polytechnic of Bengkalis.

1. For students, internships are an opportunity to apply the knowledge and concepts that have been learned during lectures into real world work practices. In addition, students can also build a network and gain experience that is useful for career development and strengthen their resumes.
2. For companies, internship activities function as a medium to establish cooperation with educational institutions, especially vocational colleges. Companies can get to know the quality of students as prospective workers in

terms of abilities, attitudes, and work ethics. This provides an opportunity for companies to get potential, dedicated, and credible potential employees. In addition, the presence of interns also helps the smooth operation of the company.

3. For the State Polytechnic of Bengkalis, the internship provides important feedback on the suitability of the curriculum with the needs of the industry. This input is very useful for developing a learning system to be more relevant to the world of work. Internship activities also strengthen the cooperative relationship between the campus and the company, so that the quality of graduates can continue to improve thanks to the real experience gained by students during the internship program.