

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Apprenticeship

Bengkalis State Polytechnic is a vocational college that enhances the quality of human resources in Bengkalis Regency. As it continues to develop, Bengkalis State Polytechnic has been able to pursue various innovations and advancements in the field of education by adding new degree programs. Guided by its motto, “Competence for Competition,” Bengkalis State Polytechnic continues to strive to improve the quality of education and strengthen cooperation with industry. Through these efforts, innovations can be implemented to produce graduates who are professional and competitive in the workforce (Politeknik Negeri Bengkalis, n.d.).

The International Business Administration program is one of the programs offered at the Bengkalis State Polytechnic, covering studies in the fields of economics and business. In this program, students’ coursework is enriched with knowledge relevant to the business world, both at the national and international levels. Through this curriculum, all aspects studied are designed to train and prepare students to enter the workforce. In this regard, students in the International Business Administration program are required to complete an internship.

Based on Politeknik Negeri Bengkalis, Internships are an essential component of the curriculum for students at the Bengkalis State Polytechnic. This is an integral part of the learning process designed to provide students with the opportunity to gain firsthand experience in the professional world, aligned with the chosen fields and interests. During the internships, students are expected to apply the knowledge have acquired during the studies. This internship is conducted in the 8th semester or final semester, provided that students have completed and passed the previous semester. The experience students gain through the internship can broaden their horizons, improve skills, and add to work experience, which will be useful after graduation. It is at this stage that students

can put into practice what have learned during the studies, as demonstrated by performance during the internship at placement site (Politeknik Negeri Bengkalis, 2025).

In the internship course offered during the 8th semester of the International Business Administration program, this activity lasts for five months. During this activity, students are given the freedom to choose a company that aligns with their skills and interests. The internship coordinator also provides recommendations and guidance to students regarding relevant internship placements that can support the learning process. After considering these factors, the author decided to undertake the internship in the non-bank financial institution sector (financial services) focused on small business development, economic empowerment, and capital provision, as well as managing oil palm plantation assets, specifically at PT Permodalan Siak.

PT. Permodalan Siak (PERSI) is a regional government-owned company whose business activities include providing financing, equity investments, management services, marketing services, business mentoring, and other activities aimed at developing microenterprises. In addition, PT. PERSI also manages funds for the development of micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises and cooperatives, whether from the government or the private sector, including training, research, and similar activities (Safira, 2022). Through this initiative, PT Permodalan Siak can professionally foster, develop, and empower the local economy. These development goals will enhance empowerment in the MSME sector. Furthermore, increased empowerment of MSMEs will lead to greater growth in various types of enterprises and businesses.

Syafrudin and Purwanto (2025), As higher education institutions seek to bridge the gap between academic instruction and real-world application, internships emerge as an effective experiential learning strategy that fosters the development of technical skills, communication abilities, problem solving capacity, teamwork, adaptability, and professional attitudes. internship programs are not merely supplementary to academic education but are essential to the holistic development of students' work competence and professional identity. To

maximize their impact, internships should be integrated into academic programs with clear learning objectives, institutional support, and active collaboration with industry partners. By doing so, colleges can better prepare students for the demands of an increasingly competitive and dynamic workforce, while also promoting long-term career readiness and success.

Through the internship program, the author gained a great deal of new knowledge and experience regarding the professional world, particularly in the fields of administration and finance. During the internship, the author was directly involved in various activities such as managing documents, filing records, assisting with administrative processes, and completing tasks assigned by the field supervisor and other employees at PT Permodalan Siak. Through this experience, the author gained an understanding of the company's workflow and the importance of attention to detail in managing documents, as well as the importance of collaboration to support the company's operational activities. This experience also provided the author with valuable insights for navigating the professional world in the future.

1.2 Purposes and Benefits of the Apprenticeship

The objectives and benefits of the internship program outline the program's goals and the benefits students gain, namely by enhancing their knowledge, skills, and professional experience, as well as providing them with insight into entering the workforce.

1.2.1 Purposes of the Apprenticeship

Internship or Practical Work (KP) is one part of the activities that must be carried out by Bengkalis State Polytechnic students as part of completing the studies. To achieve optimal results, it is important to understand the objectives of implementing practical work, namely:

1. Knowing the job description at PT Permodalan Siak.
2. Understanding the systems and work procedures implemented at PT Permodalan Siak.
3. Knowing the location and time of the internship at PT Permodalan Siak.

4. Knowing the types of activities and job descriptions carried out at PT Permodalan Siak.
5. Identify the obstacles encountered during the practical work and the solutions adopted to overcome them.

1.2.2 Benefits of the Apprenticeship

The internship program at PT Permodalan Siak offers several benefits to students, including:

1. To gain hands on work experience in preparation for entering the professional world after graduation.
2. To enhance knowledge and skills through direct involvement in various practical work activities at PT Permodalan Siak.
3. To develop discipline, responsibility, and the ability to adapt in a professional work environment.
4. To improve communication, teamwork, and problem solving skills through hands on work experience.
5. To gain a deep understanding of the work systems, procedures, and activities carried out at PT Permodalan Siak.

1.3 Significances of the Apprenticeship

Practical work provides a variety of significant benefits, both for students, companies where practical work is carried out, and for universities. the benefits of the implementation of practical work are as follows:

1.3.1 For Students

This Program provides an opportunity for students to apply the knowledge gained during the lecture period directly in the work environment. In addition, students can also understand the world of work in a more real and deep. with this activity, students can assess their abilities, expertise, and skills in a corporate environment. Not only that, this program also provides experience working in a team, understanding the diverse backgrounds and characters in solving a problem.

1.3.2 For the Company

The purpose of this activity is to contribute to improving the productivity

of PT Permodalan Siak. This Program is also an effort to build a positive image of the company in the eyes of the community through the involvement of students, especially from the Bengkalis State Polytechnic in the world of work.

1.3.3 For Politeknik Negeri Bengkalis

The purpose of this program is to strengthen the relationship and cooperation between the Bengkalis State Polytechnic and PT Permodalan Siak as a forum for practical work as well as the potential for future recruitment. In addition, this program is a means to support the improvement of the quality of vocational education programs in order to produce graduates who are competent and in accordance with the needs in the world of work.