

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Apprenticeship

Rapid advances in science and technology require the availability of reliable human resources in these fields. These human resources are expected to be able to balance the development of science and technology with their mastery and application in the workplace. Sufficient and reliable expertise in every field is crucial for obtaining competitive and suitable employment, as well as for achieving personal and organizational goals. Professionals with adequate expertise will be able to apply science, ethics, attitudes, and other necessary criteria in the workplace (World Economic Forum, 2023).

In today's era of globalization, advancements in science and technology cannot be ignored. Therefore, the government continues to strive to improve the quality of education that is constantly evolving (*Kementerian Pendidikan dan Kebudayaan*, 2023). Every student must be prepared to meet the professionalism required in their field of work so that they can transition smoothly into the workforce after graduating from higher education (OECD, 2023).

Higher education is the pinnacle of formal education, producing human resources with high intellectual levels to meet the demands of the job market, both in terms of quality and talent (*Kementerian Pendidikan, Kebudayaan, Riset, dan Teknologi Republik Indonesia*, 2024). Therefore, universities are obligated to develop high-quality human resources to face increasingly intense competition. The ability to compare and validate theoretical knowledge with real-world work scenarios is crucial in education, as it bridges the gap between theory and practice (OECD, 2023). The State Polytechnic of Bengkalis has the responsibility to prepare its students to compete in the real-world workplace. One of the efforts undertaken is the implementation of an apprenticeship program, which is a requirement for students to complete the Applied

Bachelor's Degree Program in International Business Administration (Bengkalis State Polytechnic, 2024).

An apprenticeship is a learning process that allows individuals to gain direct understanding of the real working world (*Direktorat Jenderal Pendidikan Vokasi*, 2024). This apprenticeship activity is conducted annually and is mandatory for all students at Bengkalis State Polytechnic, so they can apply the knowledge they have gained in the professional world. Through apprenticeships, students understand theoretical and scientific concepts, which are then implemented in their respective fields. Apprenticeships provide students with the ability to solve scientific problems in accordance with the theories learned during lectures, as well as develop their knowledge, skills, and insights (Directorate General of Vocational Education, 2024). In general, the purpose of apprenticeships is to enhance students' abilities and skills in their respective fields, enabling them to be directly applied in various activities within government and private institutions (World Economic Forum, 2023).

In accordance with the curriculum of the Business Administration Program at Bengkalis State Polytechnic, every student who is about to complete their studies is required to undertake an apprenticeship as stipulated in the decision of the Director of Bengkalis State Polytechnic in a special regulation (Bengkalis State Polytechnic, 2024). For Diploma III students, the apprenticeship is conducted after completing a minimum of 4 (four) semesters and lasts for 1 month. Meanwhile, for Diploma IV students, the apprenticeship is conducted after completing a minimum of 6 (six) semesters and lasts for a minimum of 4 months. During the apprenticeship, the author was placed in the CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) department. Students are required to submit an apprenticeship report as a form of accountability for all activities conducted during the apprenticeship (Bengkalis State Polytechnic, 2024).

Based on the above provisions, this apprenticeship is conducted at PT Kilang Pertamina International RU II Production Sungai Pakning for 17 (seventeen) weeks, starting from February 17 to June 17, 2025 (Bengkalis State Polytechnic, 2024).

1.2 Purposes of the Apprenticeship

The apprenticeship program at Bengkalis State Polytechnic for the International Business Administration study program has the following objectives:

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

These objectives are intended to produce professional students with extensive skills and knowledge, so that they are able to apply the theories learned in class to the real world of work.

1.3 Significances of the Apprenticeship

The apprenticeship that was carried out was very beneficial for several parties such as students, companies and the State Polytechnic of Bengkalis.

1.3.1 Significances for Students

As for some of the benefits of implementing a Apprenticeship program that students get, they are as follows:

1. Get a certificate from the company if you have completed a Apprenticeship program.
2. Students can develop working relationships and add experience to their resume.
3. Students have the opportunity to apply theoretical / conceptual knowledge in the real world of work.
4. Students gain practical experience in applying theoretical or conceptual knowledge to their course of study.

5. Students are given the opportunity to be able to analyze problems related to knowledge applied in the world of work according to their study program.

1.3.2 Significances for Companies

The benefits of implementing an Apprenticeship program are also obtained by companies or institutions that accept apprentice students, such as:

1. The company will receive labor assistance from apprentice students so that the work becomes a little lighter and easier.
2. The company will be recognized by academics and the world of education

1.3.3 Significances for State Polytechnic of Bengkalis

There are several benefits from the implementation of the apprenticeship program obtained by the State Polytechnic of Bengkalis, namely as follows:

1. There is cooperation or a good relationship between the campus and the company where the student interns.
2. State Polytechnic of Bengkalis can improve the quality of its graduates through student apprenticeship experiences.
3. State Polytechnic of Bengkalis will be better known in the industrial or corporate world.
4. State Polytechnic of Bengkalis receives input from organizations or companies regarding the capabilities of students participating in apprenticeship in the world of work.
5. State Polytechnic of Bengkalis receives input from the world of work for curriculum development and learning processes.