

# Evaluation of the Achievement of the MBKM Internship/Industrial Practice Programs at the Civil Engineering Study Programs State University of Gorontalo

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## ABSTRACT

MBKM is one of the flagship programs of the Ministry of Education and Culture, which aims to encourage students to master various sciences that are useful for entering the world of work. One of the 8 (eight) MBKM programs, namely internship/industrial practice. The purpose of this study is to evaluate the achievement of the implementation of the MBKM program within the scope of the Civil Engineering study program, at Gorontalo State University. Data collection using questionnaires distributed to students who take part in the 2022/2023 Odd Semester internship. In addition, interviews and observations were conducted in the UNG Civil Engineering study program. The results of the questionnaire answers are presented in tabulations, and the presentation of each component is depicted in a graph. Descriptive analysis is used to describe the condition of each research component from data taken from each table and graph. The results showed an increase that the implementation of the MBKM internship program in the study program had gone well. The MBKM program can provide increased knowledge and skills both soft and hard skills. However, there are several things that need to be improved, including guidelines for course recognition, and the need to increase university cooperation with other agencies in order to channel students who will take part in internships.

**Keywords:** MBKM, Internship, Student.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Merdeka Belajar Kampus Merdeka (MBKM) consists of four main policies, namely one related to study programs, one related to the higher education accreditation system, one related to the transformation of universities into legal entities and one related to student learning rights [1]. The purpose of MBKM policy is to encourage students to master various subjects in their fields so that they are ready to compete in the global world [2]. The implementation of MBKM through partnership programs and cooperation between universities is one way to improve the competence of lecturers and students [3] [4]. The MBKM implementation prepares graduates who are strong in the era of the industrial revolution 4.0 [5]. Through MBKM students are given the right to get hands-on experience in the field for at least 3 semesters through 8 program activities, one of which is an internship in industry. Industrial internships are activities outside of campus

learning that involve universities, students, and industry [2]. Placement of student internships/practical work requires the support of study programs (universities) with industrial partners so that students understand the form of work during the internship [6].

The Magang & Studi Independen Bersertifikat (MSIB) is one of the learning methods, out of eight methods launched in the Independent Campus Policy. In addition to the MSIB program, other programs are: carrying out community service projects in villages, teaching in educational units, participating in student exchanges, conducting research, conducting entrepreneurial activities, making independent studies/projects, and participating in humanitarian programs [7]. MSIB activities are very different from regular apprenticeship programs because there are more structured, more conceptual, and very universal [8].



**Figure 1.** Forms of MBKM learning activities

Internship/Work Practice is a form of BKP MBKM which opens opportunities for students to apply and acquire knowledge, general and specific skills/work skills, and internalize professional attitudes and work culture that are appropriate and necessary for the business world [2] The Internship/Work Practice Program is a program of education, training and learning activities carried out at relevant partner institutions to achieve student competency according to the KKNi and SN-Dikti levels in their fields [9] Internship is a learning process for someone who is more experienced in a job [10] In addition, internships can provide opportunities for students to learn and develop themselves through activities outside the campus [11]. Internship opportunities encourage students to integrate knowledge with practical experience [12] According to [13], apart from gaining skills in companies, students also acquire other competencies, including: 1) adding to their portfolio and experience. 2) skills are getting better. 3) Adding work relations. 4) Find the passion that is in yourself. 5) Better career opportunities. The implementation of the MBKM program has an impact on students both in lecture activities and work experience gained in the world of work [14]

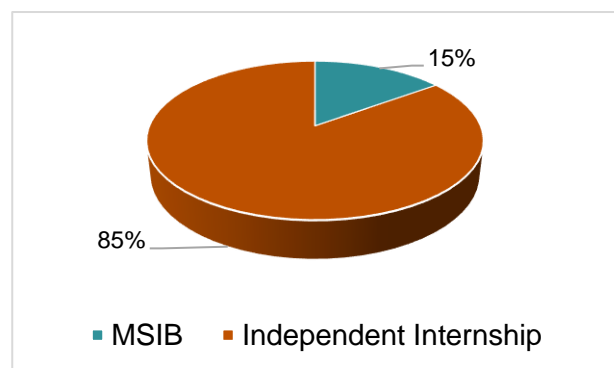
Internships in the Civil Engineering Study Program were carried out before the MBKM policy existed. Since 2020, with the MBKM apprenticeship policy, and the Civil Engineering study program, the State University of Gorontalo has experienced several obstacles, namely the preparation and implementation processes. These obstacles include the guiding process, recognition of courses, and difficulties in getting partners. This activity was carried out well, but during its implementation, there were still a number of obstacles so the achievement of MBKM implementation had not been maximized. Based on this, it is necessary to evaluate the MBKM internship activities in the Civil Engineering Study Program.

## 2. RESEARCH METHOD

Data was obtained from observation, interviews, and questionnaires. Students participating in the internship receive a questionnaire via a Google form. The questionnaire uses a Likert scale model with five options: SA (Strongly Agree), S (Agree), D (Disagree), and SD (Strongly Disagree). Research data were processed using tabulation and graphical methods. The results of the questionnaire answers are presented in tabulations, and the percentage of each component is described in graphs. Descriptive analysis is used to describe the condition of each research component from data taken from each table and graph. The descriptive research method according to [15] is a study conducted to determine the value of an independent variable, either one variable or more (independent) without making comparisons or connecting with other variables. The literature review is used as an addition to the descriptive analysis to discuss more deeply the internships carried out by the Civil Engineering Study Program.

## 3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The MSIB program is not an ordinary internship program, but rather a program that collaborates with leading companies or organizations. Civil Engineering study program students who take part in MSIB are still slightly around 15% while those who take part in Independent Internships are 85%. This learning program lasts for 16 to 24 weeks or is equivalent to 1 semester or 20 credits. Most students carry out for 16 weeks or 4 months.



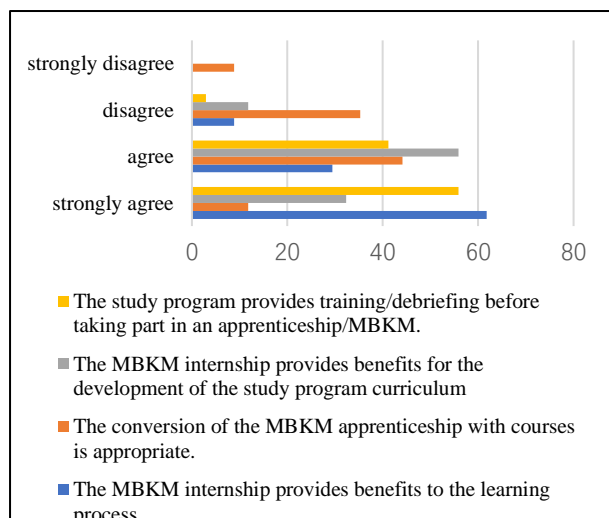
**Figure 2.** Percentage of Students Taking Internships

Most students carry out for 16 weeks or 4 months. The location of the internship place for MSIB is SATKER PP Province Banten, PT Abdi Jasa Developer Province Sulawesi Tengah, Balai Pelaksanaan Penyediaan Perumahan Jawa II Province Jawa Barat TMC2 Office Sulawesi Tengah, and Balai Pelaksanaan Penyediaan Perumahan Province Nusa Tenggara Barat. For independent internship locations, most of them are in cities and regencies in Gorontalo province. According to the results of interviews with students, information was obtained that the implementation of MSIB is very

beneficial in addition to practical science in the field, increase the list of work experience portfolios, increase work relationships, better career opportunities, certificates, allowance and more confidence. However, there are several obstacles faced including difficulty matching the recognition of the number of credits to appropriate courses, many internship programs are opened, but not in accordance with expertise and funds. It is difficult for students to find substitutes for courses that are relevant to the internship focus. The obstacle faced by students who take part in independent internships is that the distance to the internship is far enough so sometimes they are late in attending courses. Information obtained from study programs where the MBKM Internship Program was initially difficult to implement, but now it is running well. The obstacles faced by the study program include a) it is difficult to find partners for the MSIB internship program sometimes not according to expertise, b) the credit curriculum of courses that are recognized in the study program is not in accordance with the learning curriculum obtained during the internship, c) adaptation of the KKN curriculum with the MBKM curriculum, d) there are no guidelines regarding the implementation of MBKM Internships from study programs that have been adjusted to the guidelines Higher Education

### 3.1, Student Perceptions of the MBKM internship program

Student perceptions of the implementation of MBKM in the Civil Engineering study program are shown in Figure 3



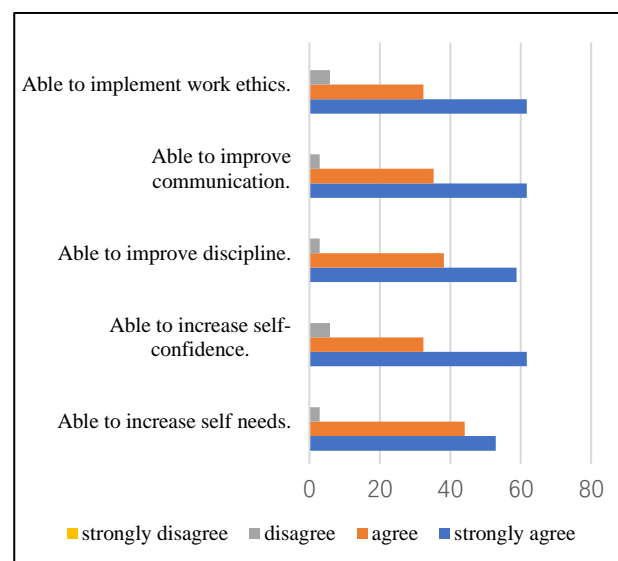
**Figure 3.** Student perceptions of the implementation of MBKM internships

The MBKM internship program implemented by the UNG Civil Engineering study program (Figure 3) is very useful in the learning process and curriculum development Most expressed strong agreement (62%), strongly agree (29%), and disagree less (9%). Student

perceptions regarding the conversion of MBKM internships with courses only 12% answered strongly agree (44%), disagree less (35%) and 9% answered disagree. Difficulty matching the recognition of the number of credits into appropriate courses is often experienced by students. Student perceptions of internship programs benefit the development of the study program curriculum where those who answered strongly agreed (32%), agreed (56%), and disagreed (12%). Student perceptions regarding the study program providing training/debriefing before participating in an internship/MBKM answered strongly agree (56%), agree (41%), and disagree less (3%).

### 3.2 Student Perceptions of improving soft skills and hard skills

Work environment so that they are expected to be able to have good communication, discipline, ethics, and other abilities. The survey results obtained that MBKM internship program students get increased competence in the field of soft skills, namely increased self-competence, increased self-confidence, increased discipline, improved communication, and improved implementation of work ethics. Of the 5 questions given to students, the average respondent answered strongly agree (59%), agree (36%), and disagree less (5%) For more details shown in Figure 4 below

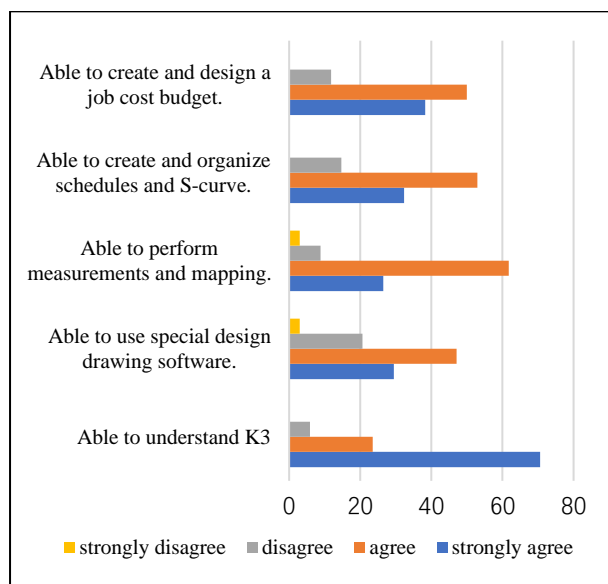


**Figure 4.** Student perception of improving soft skills

Students as prospective workers are required to adapt to a new. The survey results obtained that MBKM internship program students get increased competence in the field of hard skills, namely understanding Occupational Health and Safety (K3) self-competence, being able to use Auto Cad software, being able to measure and mapping, being able to make and compile schedules and S curves and being able to make a Draft Cost Budget (DCB) for work. The aspect of understanding occupational safety and health (K3) is an

aspect that received a fairly high increase 71% answered strongly agree, after that specs of ability in measurement and mapping 62% answered affirmatively, the ability to make schedules and S curves 53% answered affirmatively. For the ability to make RAB, 50% answered in agreement, and for the ability to use the software 47%.

There is an increase in competence in the field of hard skills, however, students are still lacking in terms of getting a significant increase in ability in the ability to use special software for design. This ability of students attracts partners so there are several students recruited to assist partners in completing workers. The internship program not only provides benefits for intern students but also provides benefits for partners who provide opportunities for students. However, if the internship management is not good, then the internship also does not necessarily provide benefits for partners. Research results [16] Industry partners have implemented learning independence for students



**Figure 5.** Student perception of improving hard skills

Based on the data, the results of the study show that the increase in soft skill competence is more dominant than hard skills. The internship program has a very meaningful role and contribution for students to improve hard skills and soft skills competencies. Internships are also able to help students to better understand the correlation of theory obtained in lectures with reality in the world of work, so that students can be brighter, directed, and connected. There are students who are considered to have good work skills asked by partners to carry out their duties in their companies so that they can contribute to the reputation of the university. However, this has an impact on increasing the time to complete the study because they are happy to have their own salary. In accordance with research [17] doing internships in

accordance with the major has a positive relationship with the initial salary of students while working.

## 4. CONCLUSION

The implementation of the MBKM internship program in the Civil Engineering study program has gone well, although there are still some obstacles to be faced. The MBKM program is able to provide increased knowledge and skills, both soft skills and hard skills. Obstacles faced by students include difficulty matching recognition of the number of credits into appropriate courses, and many internship programs are opened, but not by student interests. In order for students to be more confident about participating in internships, it is necessary to provide pre-apprentice training before entering the world of work.

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