

Factors Influencing the Interest of Senior High School Graduates to Enroll in Shipping/ Maritime Private Colleges

Qamaruddin¹, Kiswiru Yudha Ningsih², Ike Arriany³

Sekolah Tinggi Ilmu Maritim “AMI” Jakarta^{1,2,3}

Abstract: *The purpose of this study was to determine the factors that influence the interest of senior high school graduates to continue their studies at shipping/maritime private colleges in DKI Jakarta. The research approach is descriptive qualitative. Data collection techniques were carried out by interviews and surveys using questionnaires. The sample of research informants was 4 (four) people determined purposively and questionnaires were distributed to 488 respondents. The study was carried out from December 2020 to February 2021. The results showed that the dominant influencing factors of senior high school graduates to continue their studies at shipping/maritime private colleges in DKI Jakarta were tuition fees, independent UKP (Seafarer Proficiency Exam) specifically for the Navigation and Engineering study program, promotion, educational facilities (laboratory, library) and accreditation of study program.*

Keywords: interest, shipping/maritime, private college, senior high school graduates

Introduction

Vocational education is the implementation of formal education pathways held in higher education, such as: polytechnics, diploma programs, or the like. Traditionally, according to Pavlova, vocational education is education with the main objective of preparing to work using a competency-based educational approach (Winangun, 2017).

Research on the interest of senior high school graduates to enroll in shipping/maritime private colleges is important for the two main following reasons: *First*, vocational education is an educational model that carries advantages in the form of 70% practice and 30% theory with the hope that it can be one of the solutions to the problem of preparing college graduates with applied skills required by the industry market (Fajar & Hartanto, 2019). Additionally, in the context of Shipping/Maritime college, the minimum comparison of practice and theory is 65%:35% (Ministry of Transportation PK.02/BPSDM-2022). *Second*, there have emerged phenomena in the last three years since the Covid-19 pandemic that private colleges providing vocational education especially shipping or maritime vocational higher education in DKI Jakarta, have experienced a decline in the number of students enrolled.

¹ Correspondent Author E-Mail:qomarudin.q@gmail.com

Literature Review

The studies in the interest of senior high school graduates and the factors influencing them to continue their studies into higher education have been conducted by some researcher. Pradana, Nurcahyo and Supandi (2021) have shown that promotion through social media, alumni reference and website to get new students to enroll in private colleges is of importance for the smooth process of admission. The result of research by Khadijah, Indrawati, and Suarman. (2017) showed that motivation, aspirations, wishes, school and family environment jointly had significant effect on the interests of students to pursue higher education.

The study of Ariyani, Winokan and Tiwow (2021) showed that parents' income and the social environment influenced on students' interest in continuing their education to college. Kholilah (2019) previously showed that the economic condition of the family strongly influenced senior high school graduates to continue their education to college. Solihat, Nurfitri and Nawarini (2020) showed in their study that the self-potential and school environment have a positive effect of the interest of the students to continue their studies to university. Prianggita, and Ghofur (2021) proved in their study that parents' socioeconomic status, self-efficacy, motivation, and student achievement have a positive partial and simultaneous effect on the interest of senior high school students in continuing their education to college. Mutiara and Rochmawati (2021) in their study on the vocational high school found out that peer environment and career planning partially have a positive and significant effect on interest in continuing education to college. Hutapea, Sakdanur and Srikartikowati (2022) in their research findings showed that the parents' education and income have an effect on the students' interest in continuing their education to college level. Addnin and Effendi (2021) showed in their study that parental support and learning motivation have a joint influence on students' interest in continuing education to higher education. Nadi, N.P.D.M. dan Agustini, N.M.Y.A. (2020) found out that achievement motivation and socio-economic status simultaneously play a role in increasing interest in continuing their studies to higher education for female students in Tabanan

Methodology

The research approach is descriptive qualitative. Data collection techniques were carried out by interviews and surveys using questionnaires. The sample of research informants was 4 (four) people determined purposively and questionnaires were distributed to 488 respondents. The study was carried out from December 2020 to February 2021. This research was carried out in four places, namely: (1) STIMar "AMP", Jalan Pacuan Kuda Raya No.1, RT.1/RW.15, Kayu Putih, Kec. Pulo Gadung, Kota Jakarta Timur; (2) Sekolah Tinggi Ilmu Pelayaran (STIP), Jl. Marunda Makmur, RT.1/RW.1, Marunda, Kec. Cilincing, Kota Jkt Utara; (3) Akademi Maritim Djadajat, Jl. Marunda Tim. No.28, RT.8/RW.2, Marunda, Kec. Cilincing, Kota Jkt Utara; (4) Akademi Maritim Nasional Jakarta Jaya, Jl. Perintis Kemerdekaan Komplek TNI AL Kelapa Gading Barat.

The research instrument being used were the survey via google-form using 16 (sixteen) statements and the interview guideline using 3 (three) questions as presented in Table 1 and 2 respectively.

Table 1

Survey via google form

No	Statement/Questionnaire	Agree	Undecided	Disagree
1	Expensive tuition fees			
2	Provision of independent UKP Exams (specifically Nautical and Engineering)			
3	Promotional activities			
4	Educational Facilities (practical laboratory, library)			
5	Study program accreditation			
6	Service			
7	Parent's economic condition			
8	Cost of living / boarding in Jakarta is expensive			
9	Covid-19			
10	Complicated service procedures			
11	In the area there is already a similar shipping school			
12	Uncomfortable environment			
13	Transportation costs in Jakarta are expensive			
14	Lack of job vacancies for shipping schools			
15	Unsafe environment			
16	The practice of violence (bullying)			

Table 2

Interviews guideline

No	Question
1	What is your opinion about the condition in the last 3 years that there has been a decrease in the number of senior high school graduates entering in the shipping/maritime college?
2	Can you explain what factors that caused the decline?
3	Do you have any suggestions on how to attract high school graduates to enroll in in the shipping/maritime college?

Findings & Discussion

1. The result of survey

The results of the questionnaire that we received via google form as presented in Chart 1 with total 488 respondents consisting of 38.9% (190 respondents) of Engineering, 37.7% (184 respondents) of Port and Shipping Management and 23% (114 respondents) of Nautical study programs. The percentage obtained is shown in Table 3.

Chart 1 *Percentage of respondents based on study program*

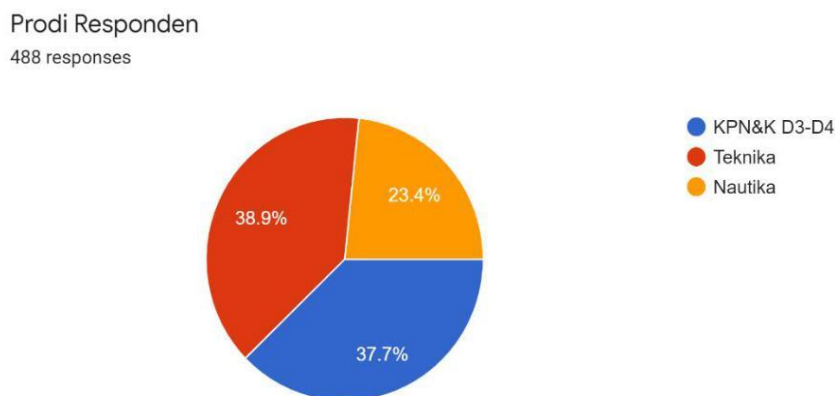


Table 3
Result of The Survey via google form

No	Statement/Questionnaire	Agree (%)	Undecided (%)	Disagree (%)
1	Expensive tuition fees	86.3	8.8	4.9
2	Provision of independent Seafarer Proficiency (UKP Exam) specifically Navigation and Engineering	84.8	11.2	4.0
3	Promotional activities	80.9	12.5	6.6
4	Educational Facilities (practical laboratory, library)	68.9	18.2	12.9
5	Study program accreditation	66.4	21.5	12.1
6	Service	63.7	21.1	15.2
7	Parent's economic condition	60.9	27.3	11.8
8	Cost of living / boarding in Jakarta is expensive	60.0	23.2	16.8
9	Covid-19	59.0	18.0	23.0
10	Complicated service procedures	54.5	22.1	23.4
11	In the area there is already a similar shipping school	50.4	23.6	26.0
12	Uncomfortable environment	49.5	21.0	29.5
13	Transportation costs in Jakarta are expensive	38.1	25.5	36.4
14	Lack of job vacancies for shipping schools	32.2	28.1	39.7
15	Unsafe environment	31.4	25.3	43.3
16	The practice of violence (bullying)	16.1	22.0	61.9

The results of the survey via questionnaire, after being sorted from the largest percentage to the smallest, the data obtained are as presented in Table 3.

Referring to Table 3, it can be seen that the very dominant factors (percentage greater than 80%) that interest to enroll in Shipping College are: Expensive tuition fees (86.3%), Provision of independent Seafarer Proficiency Exam for the Nautical and Engineering study program (84.8%) and promotional activities (80.9%). Furthermore, the dominant factors (percentage between 60% and 80%) are: educational facilities (practical laboratory, library) (68.9%), study program accreditation (66.4%), less responsive/slow service (63.7%), The

economic condition of the parents (60.9%) and the cost of living/boarding in Jakarta is expensive (60.0%). With regard to the Covid-19 pandemic in early 2020, this factor obtained a fairly high percentage of 59.0% in the context of its influence on the decline in the number of student enrolled, which could be also related with the economic condition of their parents (60.9%).

The findings of this research which support the previous studies are promotional activities as shown by Pradana, Nurcahyo & Supandi (2021), economic condition of their parents as found out by Ariyani, Winokan & Tiwow (2021), Kholilah (2019), Prianggita & Ghofur (2021), Hutapea, Sakdanur and Srikartikowati (2022), and Nadi, N.P.D.M. & Agustini, N.M.Y.A. (2020)

The interest of Senior high school graduates in enrolling in shipping college can also be related to complicated service procedures (54.5%) and in some region in Indonesia have opened the shipping colleges (50.4%).

Factors that also need to be considered are the violent or bullying practices of 16.1%. This needs to be watched out for the psychological impact in the form of depression and trauma that occurs in student cannot be taken easily. In addition, with the exposure of social media, if the case occurs and is exposed in the mass media, it will have a significant effect on the credibility of the institution.

2. The result of interview

Based on the results of interviews with four informants obtained descriptive data that has been recapitulated according to the questions posed as follows.

a) Regarding the condition of the last 3 years, there has been a decrease in the number of high school/high school/vocational high school graduates who enter shipping high schools.

In general, it can be stated that the number Senior high school graduates enrolling in shipping colleges has decreased, both for state shipping universities, let alone private ones. In the case of state own shipping college STIP, although the capacity for the number of admissions has been increased, the number of high school graduates of the same level is still decreasing. Likewise, the private college also experienced a decline in the number of enrolled high school graduates.

It can be stated that senior high school graduates who are not accepted into state own shipping college are expected to apply to private colleges.

b) Factors that cause a decrease in the number of high school/high school/vocational high school graduates enrolling at shipping college are: 1) The number of shipping colleges has been increasing, (2) In line with point 1, the colleges are already available spreading across various regions so that the high school graduates prefer to enroll in college in their area with consideration of cost and distance, (3) There happen fewer opportunities and absorption of work at sea, (4) Welfare of working on land in terms of salary is sometimes better than at sea, (5) Economic conditions nowadays is difficult so that expensive tuition fees are an obstacle, and (6) Saturated market conditions for shipping college. High school graduates or equivalent, especially those who are already working, prefer campuses with flexible study times.

c) Suggestions to attract high school graduates to enroll in shipping/maritime private college are: (1) Improved quality of service, (2) There is job security after graduation, (3) Close

cooperation with companies, especially those who have alumni, (4) Strengthening links and active communication with alumni, (5) More vigorous promotions including promotions through alumni to their schools, and (6) Opening a special class for employees.

Conclusion

1. Based on the questionnaire result, the most dominant influencing factors of senior high school graduates to continue their studies in shipping/maritime private colleges in DKI Jakarta are: tuition fees, independent UKP (Ujian Keahlian Pelaut, Seafarer Proficiency Exam) specifically for the Navigation and Engineering study programs, promotion, educational facilities (laboratory, library) and accreditation of study program.
2. Based on the interview, factors that cause a decrease in the number of high school graduates enrolling in shipping college are: The increased number of shipping colleges and spread across various regions in Indonesia, fewer opportunities of work at sea, welfare of working on land in terms of salary, economic conditions nowadays is still not supporting, and saturated market conditions for shipping college.

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About the Author:

Chief Researcher
Qamaruddin <i>Sekolah Tinggi Ilmu Maritim Jakarta, Indonesia</i>
Researcher Member
Kiswiru Yudha Ningsih <i>Sekolah Tinggi Ilmu Maritim Jakarta, Indonesia</i>
Ike Arriany <i>Sekolah Tinggi Ilmu Maritim Jakarta, Indonesia</i>

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