

FINANCIAL LITERACY TRAINING TO BUILD ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT AMONG STUDENTS AT SMK NEGERI 8 PALANGKA RAYA

Revnussa Octobery¹
Dewi Rakhmawati²
Rahman³
Sundari⁴
Selvianur Fajriyah⁵

^{1,2,3,4,5} Economic Education Study Program, Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Palangka Raya University,
*Corresponding author. Email: dewi.rakhmawati@fkip.upr.ac.id


Abstract: *The Community Service Activity or Pengabdian Kepada Masyarakat (PKM) carried out by lecturers from the Economics Education Study Programme, Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, University of Palangka Raya, with the theme 'Education on Wise Financial Management as Preparation for Entrepreneurship for Students of SMK Negeri 8 Palangka Raya' aims to improve the financial literacy of vocational school students in preparing themselves to become independent entrepreneurs. This programme was designed through practical training on efficient and responsible financial management so that students are able to apply sound financial principles in their small businesses. The training material covered budgeting, an introduction to various financial recording tools and techniques for small businesses, and practical simulations of business financial management. In addition to technical aspects, this activity also emphasised character building through the values of discipline and responsibility in financial management. The expected outcomes of this activity are an increase in students' financial literacy, their ability to prepare and manage business budgets, and a deeper understanding of the importance of systematic and structured financial recording. Thus, students at SMK Negeri 8 Palangka Raya are expected to have strong financial competencies as preparation for entering the world of entrepreneurship.*

Keywords: *Financial Literacy, Entrepreneurship, SMK Negeri 8 Palangka Raya*

Introduction

Financial management is an important skill that every individual, including students, needs to have in order to be prepared to face future economic challenges. Unfortunately, the results of the 2022 National Survey of Financial Literacy and Inclusion (SNLIK) conducted by the Financial Services Authority (OJK) show that the level of financial literacy among Indonesian students is still relatively low. The data shows that the financial literacy index of students has only reached 47.56%, while the financial inclusion index stands at 77.80%. These figures are still below the national average, which is 49.68% for literacy and 85.10% for financial inclusion.

Although access to digital financial services such as e-wallets and mobile banking is becoming easier, students' understanding of how to use these services in a healthy and safe manner is still



limited. This situation is exacerbated by the rise of consumerism among teenagers, such as following social media trends, instant lifestyles, and the use of online loans without careful consideration.

Financial management skills are very important, especially for students who are learning to transition from financial dependence to independence. By providing education on money management from an early age, students not only learn to avoid consumptive behaviour, but also develop habits of wise thinking, discipline, and responsibility towards personal finances.

The phenomenon of low financial literacy among students shows that even though they are familiar with financial products, such as digital savings or cashless payments, most of them do not understand how to use them optimally. The trends of Fear of Missing Out (FOMO) and You Only Live Once (YOLO) also encourage students to make impulsive financial decisions without careful planning. On the other hand, many vocational school students are starting to try their hand at entrepreneurship, both online and offline. Without basic financial management skills, the businesses they start are at risk of not developing sustainably.

Vocational school students are actually prepared to enter the workforce and become entrepreneurs. With a practice-oriented curriculum, they not only need to master technical skills, but also basic managerial skills, including financial management. Unfortunately, many vocational school students are still not accustomed to managing their personal finances wisely and systematically.

Therefore, it is important for schools to integrate financial literacy into the learning process. In this way, students will not only understand economic theory, but also have practical skills in managing their daily finances. A good financial literacy education can foster habits of saving, planning budgets, and recognising the risks and benefits of various financial products. Strengthening these skills is also important preparation for students who want to enter the world of entrepreneurship in the future.

Learning about financial management can be applied through formal activities in the classroom as well as training and extracurricular activities. With a good understanding of financial literacy, students will not only be able to manage their pocket money or small business income, but also be ready to build a sustainable and responsible business. Equipping vocational school students with these skills means shaping a young generation that is financially literate, independent, and highly competitive in facing future economic challenges.

As a concrete manifestation of these efforts, this Community Service activity was held on 1 August 2025 with participants from SMK Negeri 8 Palangka Raya. The material covered included training in budgeting, an introduction to financial recording tools and techniques for small businesses, and a simulation of business financial management practices. The hope is that students will understand the importance of inclusive financial literacy and become a generation that is wise in managing personal finances and ready to create a better future.

Method

The training activity was held on Friday, 1 August 2025, from 08:00 to 11:00 at SMK Negeri 8 Palangka Raya, located at Jalan Tjilik Riut km 31, with participants from grades X-XII. Financial management training plays an important role in preparing vocational high school (SMK) students for the world of work and entrepreneurship. SMK students are generally guided to acquire practical skills that can be used after graduation, so that financial management skills become crucial in supporting their economic independence. The training method used consists of four stages. The first stage is the presentation of material covering the basics of personal and small business financial management, budgeting techniques, daily financial records and simple reports. The second stage involves simulations of independent financial management and small business operations, as well as case studies. The third stage consists of discussion and question-and-answer sessions. The fourth stage is a post-test to assess students' understanding.

Result and Discussion

The training activity was held on Friday, 1 August 2025, from 08:00 to 11:00 at SMK Negeri 8 Palangka Raya, located at Jalan Tjilik Riwut km 31, with 41 students from grades X-XII participating. This financial management training plays a very important role in preparing vocational high school (SMK) students to be ready to enter the workforce or become entrepreneurs. As a vocational education unit, SMK students are guided to acquire applied skills that can be used immediately after graduation. Therefore, financial management skills are an important asset in supporting their economic independence in the future. The training method used consisted of four stages.

1. The first stage was a presentation of basic material, covering the concepts of personal and small business financial management, budgeting techniques, as well as daily financial recording and simple report writing.
2. The second stage was a financial management simulation activity, both for personal and small business finances, accompanied by case studies so that participants could apply the concepts directly.
3. The third stage continues with discussion and question-and-answer sessions, which provide students with the opportunity to deepen their understanding through active interaction with resource persons.
4. The fourth stage is a post-test as a form of evaluation to measure students' level of understanding and knowledge improvement after participating in the training.



Figure 1. Opening of Activities

The first stage involved the delivery of training material by Hidayati, S.E., M.S.A, lecturer in Economic Education at the Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, University of Palangka Raya, and owner of CV Aneka Buah Segar as well as financial consultant. The material presented included: 1) Financial Literacy; 2) Gen Z financial issues; 3) Financial health. More details regarding the training material can be seen in the following description: a) Financial literacy is not only related to banking products, but also related to how to use the understanding possessed in making decisions related to finance or financial matters (Yushita, 2017). b) Being competent, smart, and critical in doing and responding to various things is certainly an important competency that today's teenagers must have. Teenagers are at a stage where they are transitioning from dependence on their parents to independence, including financial independence (Zuroidah, 2022). c) Financial Problems of Generation Z: 1) lack of awareness to learn how to manage personal finances; 2) some teenagers are starting to have a lot of debt; 3) the higher the lifestyle, the higher the funds that will be spent; 4) consumptive towards experiences

The second stage involves simulations of independent financial management and small businesses, as well as case studies. This activity involves students in the following sequence of activities: compiling/planning a budget for income received, compiling/planning a budget for expenses to be incurred, adhering to the expenditure budget plan, and cash budget periods including weekly, monthly and annual. The third stage involves more discussion and questions and answers with students.

PRAKTEK		
PERKIRAAN UANG MASUK		
1. Uang saku pemberian orang tua	175.000 (35.000 x 5hari)	
2. Keuntungan usaha sampingan	25.000	
Jumlah perkiraan uang masuk		Rp 200.000
PERKIRAAN UANG KELUAR		
1. Makan siang dan jajan di kantin 5 x Rp 15.000	75.000	
2. bensin 3 liter x Rp 12.000	36.000	
3. Fotocopy dan ATK	20.000	
4. pulsa	20.000	
5. lain-lain	20.000	
Jumlah perkiraan uang keluar		171.000
Selisih (surplus/defisit)		29.000
TABUNGAN		29.000

Figure 2 Practice and Simulation

The fourth stage was a post-test conducted to assess the success of the training. At this stage, participants were given a final test on the material they had learned. The results showed that participants' knowledge had increased compared to before the training. Thus, this community service activity can be said to have been successful and in line with its planned objectives.



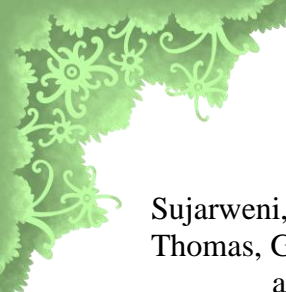
Figure 3 Community Service Team and training participants

Conclusion

Overall, the evaluation results show that this training not only improved participants' understanding of financial management concepts, but also strengthened their practical skills and built their confidence to manage their businesses more wisely. Thus, this community service programme can be considered effective in strengthening the skills of vocational school students at SMK Negeri 8 Palangka Raya, particularly in the areas of financial literacy and management.

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