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**CRITERIA AND FINANCIAL AID SUITABILITY OF BIDIKMISI SCHOLARSHIP OF FACULTY OF MEDICINE OF UNIVERSITAS PADJADJARAN 2012**

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**Introduction:** Bidikmisi scholarship is one of the ways to increase the participation of education in Indonesia. This program has criterias and minimum amount of financial aid for its receivers. The implementation of this program has to be watched to ensure that the national budget used effectively and efficiently. This study aimed to know the picture of compatibility between the criteria and the amount of help on college students who received the Bidikmisi scholarship in the Faculty of Medicine, Universitas Padjadjaran

**Method:** This is a descriptive survey with questionnaire instrument that was used to define the criteria of Bidikmisi scholarship receivers, thus the questionnaire was not be validated at first. A study was done to 64 students from 72 students of Faculty of Medicine, Universitas Padjadjaran year of 2010, 2011, and 2012 who received Bidikmisi scholarship on October until November 2012.

**Result:** This study found that 12.5% of respondents have unfitting economic criteria to be participants for Bidikmisi. The amount of aid of Bidikmisis given by Universitas Padjadjaran (Rp.500,000) is not in accordance to the rules set in Bidikmisi guidebook. And then, the amount of Bidikmisi aid does not correspond to the average monthly expenditure of the respondents (Rp.1,255,206.25).

**Conclusion:** There are participants of Bidikmisi scholarship in the Faculty of Medicine, Universitas Padjadjaran who didn't meet the requirements. The monthly allowance from Bidikmisi Scholarship (Rp. 500,000) doesn't correspond to the monthly requirements of the Bidikmisi participants in Faculty of Medicine, Universitas Padjadjaran

**Keywords:** appropriateness of criteria and aid, Bidikmisi scholarship, education

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Education is of importance in the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia because it was found on the principle of "educating the nation" (mencerdaskan kehidupan bangsa, lit. to intellectualize the life of the nation), which in itself is closely related to education.<sup>1</sup> Aside from that, in a global context, Indonesia as a member of United Nations (UN) have a common comprehensive indicator to evaluate social, and economical advancements and the development of

the resources of a nation as described in the Human Development Index (HDI) made by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).<sup>2</sup> But in reality, in 2011 Indonesia experienced the first drastic decline of HDI ranking by UNDP, at 124th position from 187 nations.<sup>3</sup> Aside from that, according to the Central Statistical Bureau (Badan Pusat Statistik, BPS), in 2010, the Rough Participation Estimate (Angka Partisipasi Kasar, APK) of high education in the age group of 19 – 24 years old was only 16.35% throughout Indonesia.<sup>4</sup>

This problem is being attempted to be solved by the government, in this matter is by the Ministry of Education and Culture with various methods including by awarding the aid of Bidikmisi Scholarship since 2010. Bidikmisi is a comprehensive scholarship programme in which it aids with the educational cost as well as living cost of college students, and as such, it is hoped that it can insure the continuation of the study until graduation. This is a national program in scope with multi-level selection and requires the student candidate to be of achievements and unprivileged with specific criterias which had been determined.<sup>5</sup>

In 2012, the University of Padjadjaran was obliged with a quota of 900 new enrollments to receive Bidikmisi Scholarship and since 2010, the Faculty of Medicine, University of Padjadjaran had received 72 students to receive the aid of Bidikmisi. This means that in each semester of this academic year, at least Rp. 432,000,000 of the State's funding was used to aid the Bidikmisi students in this Faculty. With strict requirements and large sum of aid, there was a need for a study to ensure that this program goes as it should had been according to the requirements and objectives of the Bidikmisi Scholarship Program.

## 2. METHODS

This study was done in the campus of Faculty of Medicine, Universitas Padjadjaran, Jatinangor. The population studied was the students enrolled in Bachelor of Medicine Study Program (Program Studi Sarjana Kedokteran, PSSK) of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Padjadjaran, of batches 2010, 2011, and 2012 who entered the Bidikmisi Scholarship program of 72 students. According to inclusion and exclusion criteria, 64 respondents participated in this study. This is a descriptive study using cross-sectional survey method. The survey was done by interview according to assessment questionnaire of scholarship from the General Directory of Higher Education (Direktorat Jenderal Pendidikan Tinggi, Dikti) of the Ministry of Education and Culture, and according to human basic needs according to the ordinance by the Minister of Workforce and Transmigration of the Republic of Indonesia no. PER-17/MEN/VII/2005.<sup>6</sup>

Data collection were done with interview questionnaire after informed consent were retrieved. All data were recorded, edited, verified and then inputted to computer. The data were then categorized according to the participant criteria of Bidikmisi and grouped manually by the researchers into groups which fulfilled the requirements and those who didn't. The data are displayed as text, tables, and diagrams.

## 3. RESULTS

Most respondents were female (46 individuals) and aged 20 years old (20 individuals). Most female respondents were 18 years old (15 individuals) while most male respondents were 20 years old (7 individuals).

Table 1 :Age and Sex Characteristics

		Sex		
		Man	Woman	Total
Age	17	0	2	2
	18	3	15	18
	19	4	14	18
	20	7	13	20
	21	4	2	6
Total		18	46	64

Generally, the participants of Bidikmisi had fulfilled the requirements of Bidikmisi programs. But on economical requirements, some respondents didn't fulfill the requirements to become a participant of Bidikmisi.



Figure 1 : Accumulated Gross Salary of Parents

Most respondents (95.31%) fulfilled this requirement, which means that most of these

respondents have an accumulated gross salary of parents of Rp. 3,000,000.9 But only few (3.13%) of respondents had parents/guardians with accumulated gross salary of more than Rp. 3,000,000. And one respondent (1.56%) provided no information on the accumulated salary of the parents/guardians.



Figure 2 : Accumulated Gross Salary of Parents Divided by Number of Family Member

Most respondents fulfilled this requirement, which means that most respondents (85.94%) had an accumulated gross salary of the parents/guardians divided by number of family members of or less than Rp. 600,000.9 A few of them (12.5%) had a value of more than Rp. 600,000 for this requirement. One respondent didn't give information on this requirement.

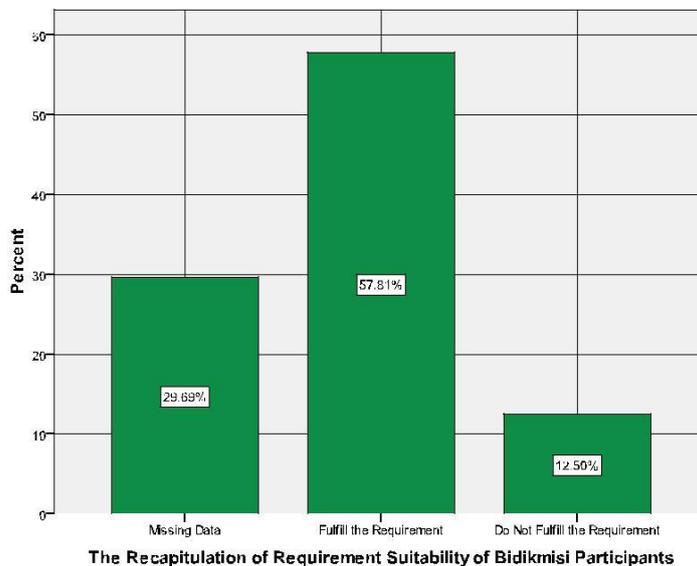


Figure 3 : The Recapitulation of Requirements

Most respondents (57.81%) fulfilled all requirements to become a participant of Bidikmisi scholarship, but some (29.69%) of the respondents did not provide complete information on the

requirements of this program. Some respondents (12.5%) had not fulfilled all criteria to become a participant of the Bidikmisi scholarship.

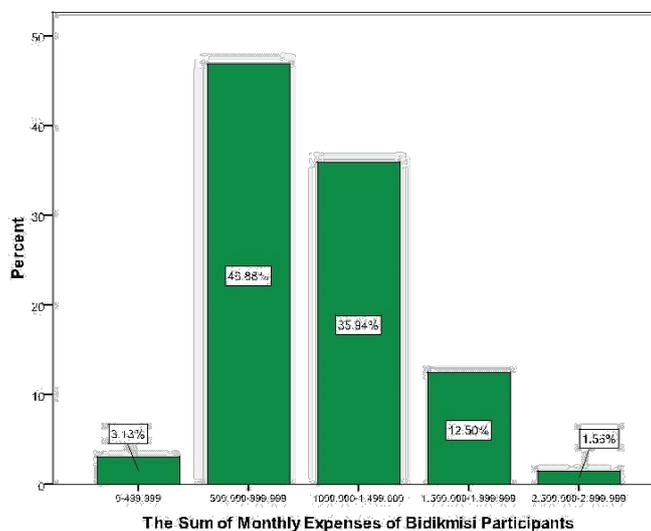


Figure 4 : The Sum of Monthly Expenses of Bidikmisi Participants

The average total expenditure of respondents were Rp. 1,255,206.25 with most of them (46.88%) had a total monthly expenditure for living at Rp. 500,000 – Rp. 999,999. Most others (35.94%) had a total expenditure of Rp. 1,000,000 – Rp. 1,499,999 and the next most numerous (12.5%) had a total expenditure of Rp. 1,500,000 – Rp. 1,999,999. There was one respondent (1.56%) who had a total monthly expenditure of Rp. 2,500,000 – Rp. 2,999,999

#### 4. DISCUSSION

In this study concerning the fulfillment of requirements of Bidikmisi scholarship participants, generally, the participants had fulfilled the requirements to become a participant of the Bidikmisi scholarship. Respondents of this study had an age range of 17 – 21 years old a most (90.76%) were from the province of West Java. All participants (100%) fulfilled the requirements such as age, year of graduation, participation in Bidikmisi, last education of parents/guardians, accreditation of school of origin, academic achievement, and color-blindness status. Afterward, in the data of the study, some respondents were found to have not satisfied the requirements of Bidikmisi scholarship program. All mismatch if requirements were found in the economical aspect, which is the total accumulated gross salary of parents/guardians (3.13% didn't fulfill the requirement) and total accumulated gross salary of parents/guardians divided by family members (12.5% didn't fulfill this requirement). This number didn't include some respondents (29.69%) who didn't provide complete information about the requirement of interview questions, and as such couldn't be made sure if these respondents (29.69%) had fulfilled the requirements or not. From the data above, a difference can be seen between the data and legal requirements with the fact in the fields, especially about the criteria of the economical aspect of the participants.

The aspect of aid in the program of Bidikmisi scholarship is also a component of this study. The amount of aid given to each student of the participant of Bidikmisi scholarship in a higher institute of learning is determined by a Decision Letter of the head of the institute, including in University Padjadjaran. According to interview done on respondents, all of them (100%) received aid for living cost from Bidikmisi scholarship of Rp. 500,000 a month through saving account. This

is not in accordance with the rules stated in the guidebook of Bidikmisi that at least Rp. 600,000 each month and determined by the Index of Living Cost in the area where the public institute is.<sup>5</sup>

Afterward the data of this study showed that average monthly expenditure was Rp. 1.255.206,25. Total calculation of this monthly requirement is a result of interview to respondents about the needs as ordained by the ministry of workforce and transmigration of the republic of Indonesia no. PER-17/MEN/VII/2005 about Components and Application of Steps to Achieve Proper Living which include food, drinks, clothing, housing, healthcare, transport, recreation, and savings.<sup>6</sup> From this data it was known that half (50%) of these respondents had total monthly expenditure of more than Rp. 1,000,000, and one respondent (1.56%) even had a total monthly expenditure in the range of Rp. 2,500,000 – Rp. 2,999,999. Only two (3.13%) respondents had a total monthly expenditure of below Rp. 500,000. From these respondents who had a total monthly expenditure of more than Rp. 1,000,000 (50%), most of them were from the batch of 2011 (16 individuals), including a respondent who had a total monthly expenditure in the range of Rp.2,500,000 – Rp. 2,999,999. Respondents of the batch 2012 had an average monthly expenditure of the lowest compared to the other 2 batches at Rp. 1,179,578.947. This can be affected by the facility of Bale Padjadjaran dormitory which charges nothing to Bidikmisi participants. More than that, the location of the dormitory Bale Padjadjaran which is not far from the campus of the Faculty of Medicine, Universitas Padjadjaran and had access to affordable food provides possibilities to reduce significantly the transport money needed by the respondents.

From the comparison of total income and total expenditure of the respondents, it can be concluded that the monthly aid by Bidikmisi scholarship (Rp. 500,000) is still not in compliance with the amount of expenditure by the respondents even though the aid given to students under the program of Bidikmisi should be compliant to the Index of Pricing in the area of the institute of higher learning.<sup>5</sup> The findings should be a concern because the participants of Bidikmisi program came from poor families, thus we can not sure that they could afford the needs that were not covered by the fund that came from Bidikmisi program. This research also revealed that there were serious problems in the selection process of Bidikmisi program in Universitas Padjadjaran. Stakeholders should implement transformations such as transparency of selection process and evaluate the amount of financial aid for Bidikmisi program participants.

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