

# STUDENTS PERCEPTION ON LOGISTICIAN COMPETENCY

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## ABSTRACT

The purpose of this paper is to explore the student's perceptions on logistician competencies. The study targeted the population of local and private University in Malaysia. The survey questionnaires were distributed to respondents using online questionnaire and published a direct link to invite arbitrary users. A total of 126 usable questionnaires were returned. Data were analysed using the SPSS 19 software and thematic analysis techniques. It is found that all proposed skills are important for logistician competency.

This study's findings have implications for a number of parties, including employers, educators, students, professional organisations, as well as current and aspiring logistics executives. In addition, universities and other training institutions should focus on developing and providing specific courses, especially professional development courses, to prepare logistics professionals with a broader skill set for the future.

The major limitation of this research is that the revised Way (2002) framework has just been tested only in Malaysia. Future research direction is desired, e.g. conducting the study using the same instruments in other countries to increase the reliability and validity of the proposed revised framework.

Although this study was designed on the Way (2002) framework, it has gone further to elaborate the framework and incorporated a number of additional skills which are considered to be critical in the contemporary business

environment, and thus it helps to enrich the contemporary literature on logistics knowledge and skill set for logistics professionals. This study is also of benefit to managers in logistics firms as they can identify important skills and knowledge to improve on, while policy makers and educational and training bodies can also use the findings from this research to design and implement courses which are necessary to facilitate skill and knowledge development for logistics workforce.