



BEST SME BANK AWARDS 2025

ENTRY DEADLINE: JULY 24

CALL FOR ENTRIES



Submit your entry for *Global Finance's* fourth annual Best SME Bank Awards today.

Small and medium enterprises represent the majority of the global economy no matter the geographic region. Global Finance's Best SME Bank Awards honor banks that focus on this crucial segment and deliver for local clients on the ground, country-by-country and beyond.

The reach and impact of Global Finance's Best SME Bank Awards extends far beyond its readership in the corporate and financial sectors. These awards are amplified locally, regionally and globally through social media efforts, traditional media coverage and the marketing and promotion campaigns of winning organizations.

Global Finance's awards and recognition programs are the trusted standard of excellence for the financial industry. They are backed by a 37-year history of editorial accuracy and integrity. Global Finance's corporate and financial audience relies on these awards because they are credible, reliable and have stood the test of time.

PLEASE NOTE: This year's entry deadline is earlier than last year because the winners will be published in the November 2024 print and digital editions as well as online GFMag.com. The SME Bank Awards were previously published in December.



Global Finance will choose an overall global honoree for the World’s Best SME Bank. Winners will also be named regionally and in the countries, districts, territories and US regions listed here.

COUNTRY, TERRITORY AND DISTRICT AWARDS			
Argentina	France	Malaysia	Saudi Arabia
Armenia	Georgia	Mauritius	Singapore
Austria	Germany	Mexico	South Africa
Bahrain	Ghana	Moldova	South Korea
Bangladesh	Greece	Mongolia	Spain
Belgium	Guatemala	Morocco	Sri Lanka
Brazil	Hong Kong	Mozambique	Sweden
Cameroon	Hungary	Netherlands	Switzerland
Canada	India	Nigeria	Taiwan
Chile	Indonesia	Norway	Tanzania
Colombia	Ireland	Oman	Thailand
Costa Rica	Italy	Panama	Turkey
Côte d’Ivoire	Japan	Peru	United Arab Emirates
Czech Republic	Jordan	Philippines	United Kingdom
Denmark	Kazakhstan	Poland	United States
Dominican Republic	Kenya	Portugal	Uzbekistan
Ecuador	Kyrgyzstan	Puerto Rico	Vietnam
Egypt	Kuwait	Qatar	
REGIONAL AWARDS		US REGIONAL AWARDS	
Africa	Latin America	Mid-Atlantic	Southeast
Asia-Pacific	Middle East	Northeast	Southwest
Caribbean	North America	Northwest	West
Central America	Western Europe		
Central & Eastern Europe			

Entry Deadline: July 24, 2024

Send entries to: Ioana Gheorghe ioana@gfinance.co.uk +44 (0)20 3480 9782

METHODOLOGY

Global Finance will select the World's Best SME Banks 2025 based on independent research and entries submitted by banks. Global Finance's editors will consider and base their decisions on objective and subjective factors. Entries are not necessary in order to win. However, experience shows entries increase the chance of success. In many cases, entrants are able to present information and perspectives not readily available to the editors. All submissions are strictly confidential. Performance will be judged from April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024.

Global Finance will apply a proprietary algorithm to shorten the list of contenders. The algorithm weighs a range of criteria for relative importance, including knowledge of SME markets and their needs, breadth of products and services, market standing and innovation.

After narrowing the field, Global Finance will examine the final criteria, including the scope of coverage, size and experience of staff, customer service, risk management, range of products and services, execution skills and use of technology. In the case of a tie, the editors will lean toward local providers rather than global institutions. The editors will also favor private-sector banks over government-owned institutions. The winners will be the banks and providers that best serve the specialized needs of SMEs.

ENTRY PREPARATION

Take advantage of this opportunity to participate in the review process.

Global Finance maintains best journalistic practices to protect the confidentiality of information supplied. Global Finance will respect confidentiality requests for material not in the public domain. However, any information that is not for publication must be clearly identified as such in the entry. Please provide concise responses to the following:

1. Key financials: SME business as a percentage of total business; value of SME loans issued from April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024, and the total value of all SME loans issued.
2. Please submit data to describe the scale of your SME banking operations, including any league tables or other comparisons with competitors.
3. Details of SME offerings that include types of loans; business, financial and tax advisory services; operational outsourcing strategic alliances; and locally targeted programs, specifically in the past year.
4. Data indicating market knowledge such as: firm's market share of the SME market, tenure within the SME market, and number of SME clients served currently.
5. Description of innovative steps taken in the past year to improve the breadth and quality of SME services including: deployment of new technological platforms, AI implementation, strategic capital investments, and industry alliances.
6. Please include the following information as a cover sheet to your submission to ensure that it is processed properly:
 - Name of specific entity submitting (eg. parent or subsidiary) exactly as it should appear on awards-related announcements
 - Award(s) Being Submitted For
 - Submission Contact Name/Title/Email
 - Communications/Marketing Contact/Name/Title/Email

PLEASE NOTE: If you do not receive confirmation of receipt of this Call For Entries from the contact listed at the bottom of this page within 48 hours of sending, please resend AND notify them to ensure your entry has been received and is processed correctly.

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The Value and Importance of *Global Finance* Awards Logos

Global Finance's awards and recognition programs are backed by a 37-year legacy of editorial accuracy and integrity. Corporate and financial leaders rely on them as the trusted standard of excellence for the corporate and financial sectors. *Global Finance's* awards are credible, reliable and have stood the test of time.

The distinction of being a *Global Finance* award honoree is a powerful marketing advantage every winner can and should use to stand out from and above their competitors.

Some of the ways *Global Finance* award winners promote their status include:

- Recruitment and retention efforts
- Websites
- Investor relations information
- Conference and event signage
- Press and publicity efforts
- Internal communications
- Advertising
- Employee motivation programs
- Pitch books
- Branch signage
- Promotional videos
- Social media campaigns
- Email signatures
- Promotional materials
- Stadium, airport and outdoor signage
- Annual reports

Earning a *Global Finance* award also allows individual honorees as well as entire departments to stand out within their own organizations, leading to higher visibility across their industry sectors, improved staff retention and greater professional and personal recognition.

