



GLOBAL
FINANCE

CALL FOR ENTRIES

Best Bank Awards 2026

Entry Deadline: February 9



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Enter Global Finance's 33rd Annual World's Best Bank Awards today.

The global banking sector is enjoying strong performance despite challenges presented by increased regulatory scrutiny, geopolitical uncertainty, and disruption from fintechs. Global Finance's Best Bank Awards 2026 will recognize financial institutions that are most effectively managing their assets and liabilities, while embracing digital and AI-driven innovation to best meet the needs and expectations of their customers.

For more than three decades, corporate and financial leaders have trusted Global Finance's World's Best Bank awards as the definitive evaluations of the world's financial institutions.

Global Finance will select the Best Banks by Region in Africa, Asia-Pacific, the Caribbean, Central America, Central & Eastern Europe, Latin America, the Middle East, North America, and Western Europe, as well as in more than 150 countries, territories, and districts, and in six US regional markets.

Global Finance's awards and recognition programs are the trusted standard of excellence for the financial industry. They are backed by a 39-year history of editorial accuracy and integrity. Global Finance's audience depends on these awards because they are credible, reliable, and have stood the test of time.

Winners will be published in the May 2026 print and digital editions, as well as online at GFMag.com. Honorees will be celebrated at an Awards Ceremony in Bangkok, Thailand, during the World Bank/IMF Annual Meetings. Date and location TBA.

Important Note - All Best Bank Awards 2026 entries will be considered and used as judging references for the following global awards, which are announced later in the year and published in October: World's Best Bank, World's Best Corporate Bank, World's Best Consumer Bank, World's Best Emerging Market Bank, and World's Best Frontier Market Bank.



CS Setty, Chairman, State Bank of India, the World's Best Consumer Bank 2025, address the crowd at Global Finance's Best Bank Awards Ceremony at the National Press Club in Washington, on October 24, 2025.



Hisham Ezz Al-Arab (left), CEO and Executive Board Member of CIB, the Best Bank in Egypt, accepts the Lifetime Achievement and Outstanding Contribution to Banking Award from Chris Giarraputo (right), Managing Director, Operations, Global Finance.



Marissa Pardo, Managing Director and Head, Public Sector Americas, BBVA, the World's Best Corporate Bank 2025.



Alexandre Fleury, Co-Head of Global Banking and Investor Solutions, Societe Generale, the World's Best Frontier Market Bank and the World's Best Bank 2025.



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REGIONAL AWARDS		US REGIONAL BANK AWARDS	
Africa		Mid-Atlantic	
Asia-Pacific		Midwest	
The Caribbean		Northeast	
Central America		Southeast	
Central & Eastern Europe		Southwest	
Latin America		West	
Middle East			
North America			
Western Europe			
COUNTRY, TERRITORY AND DISTRICT AWARDS			
Afghanistan	Bangladesh	Bulgaria	Croatia
Albania	Barbados	Burkina Faso	Cyprus
Algeria	Belarus	Cambodia	Czech Republic
Andorra	Belgium	Cameroon	Denmark
Angola	Belize	Canada	Djibouti
Argentina	Benin	Cape Verde	Dominican Republic
Armenia	Bermuda	Cayman Islands	DR Congo
Australia	Bolivia	Chile	Ecuador
Austria	Bosnia & Herzegovina	China	Egypt
Azerbaijan	Botswana	Colombia	El Salvador
Bahamas	Brazil	Costa Rica	Equatorial Guinea
Bahrain	Brunei Darussalam	Côte d'Ivoire	Estonia

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COUNTRY, TERRITORY AND DISTRICT AWARDS

Ethiopia	Kosovo	Nigeria	Sri Lanka
Finland	Kyrgyzstan	North Macedonia	Sudan
France	Latvia	Norway	Sweden
Gambia	Lebanon	Oman	Switzerland
Georgia	Liechtenstein	Pakistan	Taiwan
Germany	Lithuania	Palestine	Tanzania
Ghana	Luxembourg	Panama	Thailand
Greece	Macau	Paraguay	Togo
Guatemala	Madagascar	Peru	Trinidad & Tobago
Guinea	Malawi	Philippines	Tunisia
Guyana	Malaysia	Poland	Turkey
Honduras	Mali	Portugal	Turks & Caicos
Hong Kong	Malta	Puerto Rico	Uganda
Hungary	Mauritius	Qatar	Ukraine
Iceland	Mexico	Romania	United Arab Emirates
India	Moldova	Rwanda	United Kingdom
Indonesia	Monaco	Saudi Arabia	United States
Israel	Mongolia	Senegal	United States Virgin Islands
Iraq	Montenegro	Serbia	Uruguay
Ireland	Morocco	Sierra Leone	Uzbekistan
Italy	Mozambique	Singapore	Venezuela
Jamaica	Myanmar	Slovakia	Vietnam
Japan	Namibia	Slovenia	Yemen
Jordan	Nepal	South Africa	Zambia
Kazakhstan	Netherlands	South Korea	Zimbabwe
Kenya	New Zealand	Spain	
Kuwait	Nicaragua	Sri Lanka	

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METHODOLOGY

Global Finance editors select the winners for the Best Bank Awards with input from industry analysts, corporate executives and technology experts. The editors also use entries submitted by banks, as well as independent research, to evaluate a series of objective and subjective factors.

This year's ratings are based on performance over the period from the January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025. In cases where data may not be available, banks have the option to submit data from the fourth quarter of 2024 through the third quarter of 2025.

Global Finance uses a proprietary algorithm with criteria—such as knowledge of local conditions and corporate customer needs, financial strength and safety, market standing, compliance and excellence of customer service—weighted for relative importance. Entities are rated on each separate criterion. The algorithm incorporates those ratings into a single numerical score, with 100 equivalent to perfection. These calculations reveal a ranking that determines the ultimate winners. In cases where more than one institution earns a similar score, we favor local providers over global institutions, and privately owned banks over government-owned ones.

The winners are those banks that best meet the specialized needs of corporations as they engage in global business. These top-notch finance institutions are not always the biggest, but rather the best—those with qualities that companies should look for when choosing a provider.

Take advantage of this opportunity to participate in the review process. It is not necessary to enter in order to win, but submissions increase the chance of success. Entrants are able to present information that may not be readily available to the editors of Global Finance, and entries with detailed explanations of differentiation in services for corporate clients as compared with peers achieve better results. Global Finance adheres to journalistic best practices for protecting the confidentiality of information.

IMPORTANT NOTE

Global Finance takes pride in the integrity and value of its awards and rankings. For the 2026 Best Bank Awards, the editors are confident that accurate choices can be made for Ukraine, Israel and Palestine, so those countries have been added back to the program. Russia remains temporarily excluded.

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ENTRY PREPARATION

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

It is not necessary to enter in order to win, but submitting an entry significantly increases the chance of success. Submitters are able to make their case while presenting information and perspectives that may not be readily available to the editors of Global Finance.

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Global Finance maintains best journalistic practices to protect the confidentiality of information supplied. Any information provided that is not appropriate for the public domain should be clearly identified in a separate section of the entry.

Please review the countries and territories listed in this document as they may have changed from prior years. Those making submissions should provide concise information in the following areas:

1. Key financials, including total assets, asset growth, market share, ROE and earnings. Please submit data to describe the scale of your banking operations, including any league tables or other comparisons with competitors
2. Details of key capabilities and services offered
3. Geographical range
4. Details of any significant developments during 2025, such as mergers, acquisitions, new launches, etc.
5. Customer service—submit customer endorsements
6. Technology—examples of leading-edge technology deployment
7. CEO name and full contact details.
8. Please include the following information as a cover sheet to your submission to ensure that it is processed properly:

Bank Name (exactly as it should appear on awards-related announcements)

Award(s) Being Submitted For - **Please Be As Specific As Possible**

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

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

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.

