



To be a successful leader in today's organization, you have to do more than just "lead." You have to be a leader who can inspire teams to pull together, solve problems creatively and achieve amazing results.



Creative, Innovative & Passionate

Testimonial

"Applying to Banking Leadership Missouri was an excellent choice in my career development. From learning more about leadership skills and the Missouri banking climate to enjoyable networking events, I could not have asked for a better experience. The relationships I gained in Banking Leadership Missouri, both with peers from across the state and MBA staff, will benefit me greatly in my banking career. I encourage any banker interested in growth to consider joining the program."

—Chelsea D. Wichern

Chief Operating Officer, Executive Vice President
Alliance Bank
Jackson

**SUBMIT BANKING LEADERSHIP
MISSOURI APPLICATION BY
FRIDAY, MAY 1**

2025-26 TUITION: \$3,500

Applications at mobankers.com

Completed application must be received by
Friday, May 1, 2026, to Cheri Messerli at:
Missouri Bankers Association
PO Box 57, Jefferson City, MO 65102
573-636-8151
cmesserli@mobankers.com



About the Program

The Missouri Bankers Association's Banking Leadership Missouri program is designed to actively enhance the leadership, organizational and performance skills of highly motivated mid- to upper-level bankers. The program establishes a network of future bank leaders who understand and can respond to local and national issues affecting the banking industry and their communities. The 12-month program is practical, hard-hitting and quality driven.

We will focus on developing a solid understanding of the banking industry and the skills necessary for leadership that participants can put into practice immediately. A class of up to 25 Missouri bankers is selected to participate.

Who Should Apply

This leadership program is for high-potential bankers who have or are preparing to take on broader responsibilities, bankers who have experienced or will soon undergo the transition from a functional to a general management role, or bankers who have potential for senior management.



Class of 2026-2027

Attendance to all six sessions held at various locations across the state and MBA NextGen in Banking Conference is mandatory. The MBA Washington Legislative Visit/ABA's Washington Summit & Forums is optional. Registration fees and travel expenses are not covered in the Banking Leadership Missouri tuition.

SESSION 1 – 2026 ANNUAL CONVENTION

Date: June 10 – 12

Location: Hilton Branson & Hilton Branson Convention Center

Orientation- Leadership Styles, Skills & Personal Development

Class introduced to MBA membership

SESSION 2 – BETTER RESULTS WITH STYLE FOR EMERGING LEADERS

Date: September 23 & 24

Location: MBA Office, Jefferson City



NEXTGEN IN BANKING CONFERENCE

Date: October 27 & 28

Location: Ameristar Casino, Resort and Spa – St. Charles

Registration fee included in tuition.

SESSION 3 – LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE THROUGH EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

Date: November 19 & 20

Location: MBA Office, Jefferson City

SESSION 4 – DECISION MAKING, STRATEGY, GOVERNMENT RELATIONS & ETHICS IN BANK

Date: February 24 & 25

Location: MBA Office, Jefferson City

OPTIONAL MBA WASHINGTON LEGISLATIVE VISIT ABA'S WASHINGTON SUMMIT & FORUMS

Date: March/April

Location: Washington DC

Stipends from The Max & Cindy Endowment for Advocacy and Leadership Training will be offered to Banking Leadership Missouri class members to attend the American Bankers Association's Washington Summit and Emerging Leaders Forum in Washington, D.C. Participants will have the opportunity to engage firsthand in the advocacy process with MBA leadership and bankers from across the nation.

Participation in this visit is optional.

SESSION 5 – THE BANKING LEADERSHIP MISSOURI CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE

Date: April

Location: Whiteman Airforce Base

SESSION 6 – 2027 ANNUAL CONVENTION

Date: June 8 – 10

Location: Hilton Branson Convention Center Hotel

Class Graduation

Testimonial

"The Banking Leadership Missouri experience was a great opportunity for me professionally. In addition to session content, the ability to build a close professional relationship with 20 other bankers in the state is an invaluable resource that I have carried with me throughout my banking career. Banking Leadership Missouri is a 'must-do' for young Missouri bankers seeking leadership opportunities, which is why our bank identifies a banker to participate in the program nearly every session."

–Tom Klebba
President
Legends Bank
Linn





Banking Leadership MISSOURI

2026-2027 Application for Admission



Instructions: Applications must be printed neatly and signed. All sections must be completed. For the 2026-2027 session, your completed application must be received by **Friday, May 1, 2026.**

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Full Name _____ Nickname _____
Title _____ Email _____
Bank _____
Bank Address _____ City/State/ZIP _____
Office Phone Number _____ Cell Phone Number _____

CURRENT PRIMARY JOB FUNCTION

☐ Trust / Investments ☐ Finance / Accounting ☐ Human Resources ☐ Operations ☐ Lending - Commercial
☐ Lending - Real Estate ☐ Retail Banking ☐ Other - Please describe _____

COMMUNITY/LEADERSHIP

List all leadership or committee positions held by you in the past five years. (These may include but are not limited to church, local government, civic groups, trade associations, etc.) Describe your position or involvement and number of years held.

List any awards and/or recognitions received.

Give a brief description of yourself and why you would like to be selected for this leadership program. Please share the skills, talents and personality traits that best describe you.

I hereby apply for admission to the 2026-2027 session of the *Missouri Bankers Association's Banking Leadership Missouri Program.*

I am applying for the 12-month course of study and, if accepted, will attend the six sessions and will complete all the assignments, in addition to any other requirements of the program.

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____
Bank _____ City _____

THIS PORTION TO BE COMPLETED BY THE CEO

Please state your reasons below for recommending this applicant to the *Missouri Bankers Association's Banking Leadership Missouri Program.*

I have reviewed this application and authorize its submission to MBA for consideration.

CEO Name _____ Title _____
Bank _____ Phone _____
CEO Signature _____ Date _____

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