



MIB GRADUATE BANKING SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP

2026 APPLICATION

*In order to help our member banks provide the highest quality education to their bank employees, the Montana Independent Bankers Association ("MIB") is pleased to offer a **\$2,500 scholarship** to an approved graduate-level banking school for the 2026 year.*

QUALIFICATIONS

The applicant must have **five years minimum banking experience** with competencies in accounting, corporate finance and economics, and be **currently employed by a MIB member bank**. The applicant must have no prior graduate-level banking school education, though possession of a four-year college degree in any field is encouraged. Applicant must be a U.S. citizen, or a permanent resident with a permanent resident ID card or current passport. Only one scholarship award per recipient will be granted. MIB requires that the scholarship be used during the year it was awarded.

NOMINATION

Nominations will be accepted by the Montana Independent Bankers until **April 30, 2026**. Nominees must submit both this application and proof of acceptance at the graduate banking school of their choice before consideration. Qualifying applications will be forwarded to a representative of Pinion, a disinterested third party, for review and selection, and nominees will be informed of their decision by **MAY 31, 2026**. Scholarship funds will be awarded by check payable to the winning nominee, and may only be applied to tuition, accommodations, meals, and classes at an approved banking school. The scholarship recipient is responsible for paying the remaining balance at their banking school.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND CONSENT

The completed application and associated documents become MIB property. By signing below, permission is granted to MIB and Pinion representative to request and/or verify information in this application.

I acknowledge that I meet each of the qualification requirements listed above. If I withdraw from the program BEFORE finishing, all scholarship funds are to be returned to MIB. I will notify MIB of any change in address, phone number, or email address. If selected, I consent that my image may be used for any purpose necessary to promote MIB's scholarship program.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: _____

Current Job Title: _____ Position Start Date: _____

Current Duties and Responsibilities: _____

Bank Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Name of Banking School Attending: _____

MAIL OR EMAIL APPLICATION TO:

Montana Independent Bankers, P.O. Box 4893, Helena, MT 59604-4893, Jbrown@mibonline.org, (406) 449-7444.

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please explain why you are interested in attending a banking school, and how your experience qualifies you. Include information about your career goals. Attach additional sheet if necessary.

INDUSTRY INVOLVEMENT

List all prior banking/financial industry positions you have held. Total time in banking: _____ years _____ months.

Position/Title: _____ From/To: _____

Position/Title: _____ From/To: _____

Position/Title: _____ From/To: _____

Position/Title: _____ From/To: _____

Please describe your involvement in MIB Association activities or other financial industry groups or education programs.

Please describe the ways you serve your community through volunteer work, community service, leadership, or other involvement.

ENDORSEMENT BY YOUR BANK *To be completed by your bank President and/or CEO.*

Our bank endorses this nominee and requests consideration of him/her for this year's Montana Independent Bankers Scholarship because:

Name: _____

Title: _____ Bank Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____