



Community
Bankers School

*Building on Tradition.
Leading into Tomorrow.*

*2026 Community
Bankers School*

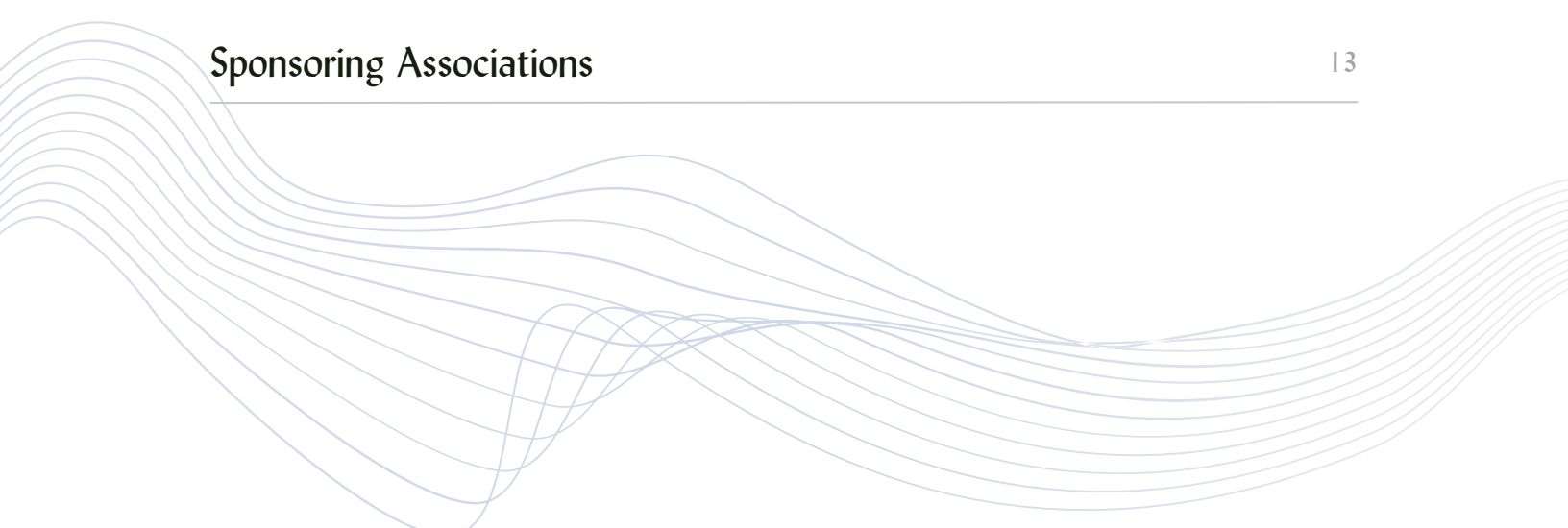
July 12-17, 2026

Illinois State University, Bloomington

AGENDA



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What Is The School?

The Community Bankers School is an intensive program designed for today's community bank professional. Created in 1987, the CBS is unique. A subcommittee annually evaluates faculty, curriculum and student comments to enhance the value of the CBS. Each year, the faculty has been improved and the curriculum updated to include timely topics and the latest learning techniques. New this year, the CBS is conducted in the state-of-the-art facilities of Illinois State University in Bloomington, IL.

Why Attend?

The Community Bankers School is an intensive program designed for today's community bank professional. Here is what students gain:

- Background and experience for broader responsibilities and greater effectiveness;
- A broad understanding of the overall deposit, credit and investment functions of a community bank;
- An appreciation for customer service and an active business-development program;
- Insight into a community bank's overall operations responsibilities and techniques for integrating technology into the bank's strategic plan;
- The opportunity to compare and share experiences with peers, instructors and senior bankers;
- The invaluable student notebook which contains course outlines, supplemental reading materials, as well as exhibits and sample forms; and
- The ability to immediately contribute to the overall success of the bank.



Should the Community Bankers School not measure-up to your expectations, call within two-weeks for a full tuition refund.



Attendance Requirements



To be admitted, applicants must meet the following qualifications:

- Current employee of a community bank;
- High school graduate with three years of banking experience; or college graduate and one year in banking.

Scholarships



Five tuition scholarships are available each year for CBAI member bankers to attend CBS. Contact Valerie at 800/736-2224 or valeriej@cbai.com for more details.

Orientation



On Sunday evening, an orientation is held where students are briefed regarding the week and then they network with other students during dinner. After dinner, both groups begin class.



Tuesday-Night Social



All students participate in a social event and tradition calls for Class II to produce “The Skit” for the entertainment. This will be held at the Bloomington-Normal Marriott Hotel & Conference Center.

Graduation



Commencement exercises are scheduled for 11:30 a.m. on Friday, July 17, and both classes are required to attend. CEOs and guests of graduates are encouraged to attend. The graduation is also livestreamed so fellow bankers, friends and family are able to watch the ceremony.

Manuals



The background materials are emailed to students about one-week prior to The School. If students would like to print the documents and bring a hard copy to take notes, please feel free. Students are encouraged to bring their own device to store the documents and follow along. Please ensure with your own IT department before arrival that the device is able to store those documents and can connect to outside Wi-Fi at the University.



Class One Agenda

Time	Sunday: 7/12	Monday: 7/13	Tuesday: 7/14	Wednesday: 7/15	Thursday: 7/16	Friday: 7/17
7:30		Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
8:00		Intro to Compliance: Bill Elliott	Analyzing Financial Statements: Jeff Johnson	Continuity Planning, Active Threats & Fraud Mitigation: Jim Rechel	Collections, Problem Loans, Management & Bankruptcy: David Kemp	Exam
8:30						
9:00						
9:30						
10:00		Exposure to Monetary Economics: David Kemp	Structuring Loans: Jeff Johnson	Intro to Auditing: Traci Lohse	Ownership Docs: Jennifer Lafferty	Case Presentations: David Kemp & Jeff Johnson
10:30						
11:00						
11:30						
12:00		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Graduation Luncheon & Dismissal
12:30						
1:00		Sales Training: Alex Cole-Murphy	Technology Trends: Matt Babicz	Bank Investments: Deon Perryman	Consumer & Commercial Loan Doc & Wrap-Up David Kemp & Jeff Johnson	
1:30						
2:00		Intro to Accounting: Jeff Johnson	Consumer Credit: David Kemp			
2:30						
3:00						
3:30						
4:00	Registration Check-In			Deposit Operations: Andrew Slotter	Group Prep for Presentation	
4:30						
5:00	Orientation & Dinner	Dinner	Free Time	Dinner	Dinner on Your Own	
5:30						
6:00						
6:30	Concepts of Investing: Kevin Day	Fintech & Innovation Trends: Greg Ohlendorf	Social Activity: Bloomington-Normal Marriott Hotel	Secondary Market: Sean Harper	Group Prep for Presentation	
7:00						
7:30				Group Prep for Presentation		
8:00						

Class Two Agenda

05

Time	Sunday: 7/12	Monday: 7/13	Tuesday: 7/14	Wednesday: 7/15	Thursday: 7/16	Friday: 7/17
7:30		Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
8:00		Community Bank Policies & Regulatory Relations: David Kemp	HR Management & Legal Issues: Robert Kearney	Asset/Liability & Investment Management: Deon Perryman	Exam	Strategic Management: Kevin Bender
8:30						
9:00						
9:30						
10:00		Federal Regulatory Update: Bill Elliott	Principles of Management & Networking Resources: Elaine Hand	Strategic Planning: David Kemp	Strategic Management: Kevin Bender	
10:30						
11:00						
11:30						
12:00		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
12:30						
1:00		Bank Financial Ratios: Archie Bransford	Principles of Management & Networking Resources: Elaine Hand	Risk Management: Traci Lohse	Strategic Management: Kevin Bender	
1:30						
2:00				Financial Advisor: Anne Schutt		
2:30						
3:00		Business Development & Establishing a Marketing Program: Alex Cole-Murphy	Loan Review: David Kemp	Bank Liability: Joseph Van Fleet		
3:30	Registration Check-In					
4:00				Strategic Management: Kevin Bender		
4:30						
5:00		Dinner	Free Time	Dinner		
5:30	Orientation & Dinner					
6:00			Social Activity: Bloomington-Normal Marriott Hotel	Strategic Management: Kevin Bender		
6:30	Credit Administration: Jeff Johnson	Future Trends in Technology: Andrew Maychruk				
7:00					Dinner on Your Own	
7:30						
8:00						

Enrollment Fees

Fees include registration, tuition, meals, manual, orientation and social events listed in the preliminary schedule. Housing is a separate fee; cost is dependent upon choice. Students are invoiced upon acceptance.

	Member Fee	Non-Member Fee
Class One <input type="checkbox"/> Class Two <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,499	<input type="checkbox"/> \$2,499
On-Campus Housing	<input type="checkbox"/> \$450	<input type="checkbox"/> \$900
University Fee* <small>*applies to students staying at a hotel or commuting</small>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$450	<input type="checkbox"/> \$900

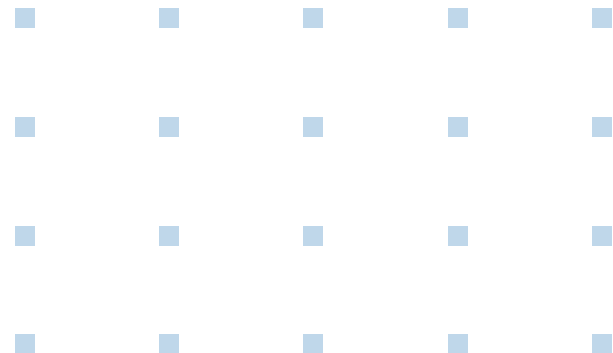


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"Attending the Community Bankers School was an incredible experience. You get to dive into everything from loans and deposits to compliance to fintech, gaining a holistic understanding of banking. The connections I made with other bankers were invaluable. Jeff and Dave are great at what they do, along with many other speakers. You will be grateful your bank took the opportunity to invest in you for this schooling. I can't wait to return next year!"

-Taylor Shanks, New Accounts,
Farmers State Bank of Alto Pass, Harrisburg

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On-Campus Housing

You may choose to stay on campus in the apartment housing, commute or make your own reservations at a hotel. Past graduates strongly recommend staying in the apartment style housing (especially for Class I students). The on-campus apartments include a kitchen, living room, private bathrooms in each apartment, and your own private bedroom with double bed. Past students of The School feel staying on campus is the best way to make life-long connections with other community bankers as you study together for the exam or work together on your team projects. Again this year, there will be only two people per apartment, so each person has their own private shower and bathroom. You will NOT need to share bathroom or bedroom facilities with other roommates.



Bloomington-Normal Marriott Hotel

If you cannot commute and do NOT want to stay on-campus, **you may make your own hotel reservation under our room block at the Bloomington-Normal Marriott Hotel**, 201 Broadway, Normal, IL or a hotel of your choice. The Marriott is directly across the street from Illinois State University. The room rate per night is \$154 and the room cutoff is 6/22/26. The number for reservations is 309/862-8013 or you can make your reservation through this link: [Book Your Group Rate Here](#).



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“I thoroughly enjoyed my experience with the Community Bankers School! The instructors are very knowledgeable and the materials are expansive to give you a good overview for any area of banking. I highly recommend this to bankers who are wanting to further their growth and knowledge in banking.”

-Ashley Chambers,
Retail Banking Officer/Financial Advisor,
Citizens State Bank, Lena

”

Matt Babicz: Babicz has nearly 10 years of information systems security and information technology audit and consultation experience serving financial institutions. Babicz has hands-on experience with cybersecurity framework implementations and audits, IT general control assessments, GLBA safeguards, privacy rule audits and remote deposit capture.

Archie Bransford Jr.: Bransford is the owner and operator of Bransford & Associates, LLC, Atlanta, GA, which provides regulatory consulting services to financial institutions. He worked with the OCC for 30 years and retired as the deputy comptroller for the agency's Southern District. He served as the deputy comptroller for the Southeastern District in Atlanta, district administrator for the Southeastern District, and examiner-in-charge for First Union Corporation in Charlotte, NC.

Kevin Bender: Bender is the chief banking officer with Exchange Bank, headquartered out of Santa Rosa, CA. He has over 40 years in the banking industry leading retail banking, digital banking, credit administration, central operations, loan operations, compliance, BSA and information technology. Prior to joining Exchange Bank, Bender held the positions of EVP, COO and CIO at American River Bank, Sacramento, CA. Bender earned his bachelor's degree and MBA from California State University, Sacramento, and is a graduate of the Pacific Coast Banking School at the University of Washington, Seattle.

Kevin Day: Day is the president and director of State Bank in Waterloo, with over 30 years of experience in banking. A graduate of Eastern Illinois University, Charleston in 1992, Day began his career as a credit analyst at Central National Bank of Mattoon. He held roles at First National Bank of Mulberry Grove, Independent Banker's Bank, and Midland States Bank, specializing in commercial lending. In 2011, he became SVP and CLO at St. John's Bank and Trust in St. Louis. Since 2013, Day has led State Bank, focusing on community, growth and customer service excellence.

Bill Elliott: Elliott, CRCM, is a senior consultant with Young & Associates of Kent, OH, a compliance consulting firm. He has over 45 years of banking experience, including 16 years of experience as a compliance and CRA officer, and was previously a lender for consumer, commercial and mortgage loans, and has managed the loan review, loan processing, loan administration, credit administration and collections functions.



Elaine Hand: Hand is the president of Innerview, Inc. She is a facilitator, trainer, speaker, leader and planner. Prior to creating Innerview, Inc., Hand worked in banking for 20 years. Her job responsibilities included recruitment and retention of employees, training, assessments, benefits planning, government regulations, retail and commercial development, marketing, sales and management. Hand has strategically aligned her company with key solutions providers in order to ensure the fast and efficient resolution to the people concerns that her clients face.

Sean Harper: Harper is an institutional sales director at the Federal Home Loan Bank of Chicago, where he leads initiatives to promote and market FHLBank Chicago products and services to depository clients. With over a decade of experience in financial services and risk management, Harper has held roles spanning institutional sales, mortgage operations and client relationship management.



Jeffery Johnson: Johnson is the president and founder of Bankers Insight Group, Atlanta, GA. Beginning as a management trainee, he was promoted to group vice president for Sun Trust Bank, Atlanta. He also served as senior vice president and commercial banking division manager for Citizens Trust Bank, Atlanta. A graduate of Morehouse College, Atlanta; John Carroll University in University Heights, OH; and the Prochnow Graduate School of Banking, Madison, WI; Johnson also received a graduate certificate in bank management from Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

Alex Cole-Murphy: Cole-Murphy's education in marketing and sales as well as experience in recruiting and HR for a national firm make her a great asset. She joined Anthony Cole in 2016, and helps with the creation and design of learning materials as well as delivering sales training to help banking clients build relationships and increase sales revenue. Cole-Murphy is a key part of the Community Bank Practice Team, helping bank clients sell, coach and hire better. She is a natural speaker, animated and interactive as well as an emerging leader within the organization.

Robert Kearney: At Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, Kearney teaches business and employment law. He has also taught in the College of Business Administration at the University of Illinois, Chicago, as well as the University of Michigan Business School, Ann Arbor. Kearney has written extensively in the area of employment law and on issues affecting the workplace, with articles appearing in several law journals. He is licensed to practice law in Illinois and admitted to several federal courts. He earned his J.D. at Notre Dame Law School, South Bend, IN.

Dave Kemp: Kemp is founder and president of Bankers Management, Inc., a nationally recognized financial management, consulting and training firm located in College Park, GA. He serves as lead faculty member for the Community Bankers School. He is a former vice president of corporate finance for Citicorp and a branch manager and commercial lender for the former First National Bank of Atlanta and Citizens and Southern National Bank. Kemp earned a bachelor's degree from Morris Brown College, Atlanta, and completed graduate courses in accounting corporate finance at Georgia State University, Atlanta, and Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.

Jennifer Lafferty with Wiplif LLP works with clients to assess the effectiveness of their compliance policies, procedures and practices. She is a member of the regulatory compliance team and has a strong background in Bank Secrecy Act (BSA) and deposit compliance as well as customer service, sales and marketing. With nearly 20 years of experience in banking, Lafferty is well-versed in the industry’s practices and procedures.

Traci Lohse is a manager with Wipfli LLP with over 20 years of experience. She is responsible for leading risk-based internal audits, trust audits and consulting engagements. Lohse’s experience enables her to evaluate controls within a process and provide practical recommendation to strengthen operation environments and mitigate potential risks.

Andrew Maychruk is a senior manager within Wipfli’s CIO advisory services practice, where he acts as a strategic technology quarterback and coach for clients across the financial services and nonprofit sectors. His role involves collaborating with executive and IT leadership teams to strategically plan, implement and maintain technology solutions. These efforts aim to enhance the impact of their services by ensuring technology and innovation investments are in complete alignment with their organizational strategic plans.



Greg M. Ohlendorf is the CEO of First Community Bank and Trust in Beecher, IL, where he has worked since 1985. He leads the bank’s strategic direction and is deeply engaged in community-bank-focused fintech, frequently writing, speaking and mentoring fintech entrepreneurs through The Venture Center’s programs. Ohlendorf serves on the ICBA ThinkTech Accelerator Selection Committee, is vice-chair of ICBA’s Operations and Payments Committee, and sits on CBAI’s Innovations Committee. An avid golfer, he completed Golf Magazine’s World Top 100 courses (2005–2013) and recently published Global Golf Travels. He holds a BS from Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, and an MBA from Governors State University, University Park.

Deon Perryman is a managing director with The Baker Group LP, one of the nation's largest independently owned securities firms specializing in investment portfolio management and interest rate risk management for community financial institutions. Perryman joined The Baker Group in 2014, and his focus is liquidity management, regulatory guidance and investment portfolio strategy. His expertise is in assisting institutions to develop an understanding of the current economic environment and to assist those institutions in utilizing that understanding to build business practices to best manage liquidity efficiently and improve value and earnings. In addition to advising institutions, Perryman is a frequent keynote speaker in this area. Prior to his time with The Baker Group, Perryman spent almost 10 years with the Illinois Treasurer's office where he was the manager of College Savings Programs administering the two Illinois 529 College Savings programs which served hundreds of thousands of account holders and billions of dollars in investments. He also served as a voting member of the Treasury Credit Subcommittee reviewing, evaluating and approving counterparties and broker dealers for investments in the Illinois Investment Portfolio and the Illinois Funds Money Market Portfolio, both multi-billion-dollar investment portfolios.

Jim Rechel is president of The Rechel Group, Inc., Cincinnati, OH, which specializes in security intervention solutions. As former director of bank protection for Fifth Third Bank in Cincinnati, he was responsible for the fraud-prevention and investigation program for the card portfolio. Rechel was also a special agent with the FBI and investigated white-collar crime, bank fraud, government corruption, bank robberies and narcotics cases.

As vice president of business development at Midwestern Securities Trading Co., **Anne Schutt's** focus is on building new relationships with financial institutions who are looking to grow. Schutt brings to her position a wealth of experience and expertise in sales, training, and leadership across multiple industries.

Andrew Slotter is a compliance consultant and a member of the Wipfli financial institutions practice's regulatory compliance team. He has over 15 years of community banking experience while holding roles including compliance officer, CRA officer, credit administration officer and assistant BSA officer. Utilizing his knowledge and experience, Slotter currently assists financial institutions in strengthening their regulatory compliance program and conducts routine BSA and compliance consulting and testing.

Joseph VanFleet is an attorney with Howard & Howard, who has concentrated his practice on banking, as well as other general business and commercial matters. Howard & Howard was founded over 150 years ago for the sole purpose of representing banks, and this remains the core emphasis of the firm today. VanFleet currently serves as chair of the firm's national banking and lending services practice group, as well as the managing attorney of the firm's Peoria, Illinois office. He represents lenders of all sizes and takes great pride in providing sophisticated cost-effective legal representation for the firm's broad spectrum of banks, in a manner custom-designed for each specific occasion.

Enrollment Form



Community Bankers School

July 12-17, 2026: Illinois State University, Bloomington, IL

Banker Name

Email

Bank Name

Title

Address

City/State/Zip

Area of Banking (i.e. compliance, consumer loans, commercial loans, human resources, etc.)

	Member Fee	Non-Member Fee
Class One <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,499	<input type="checkbox"/> \$2,499
Class Two <input type="checkbox"/>		
On-Campus Housing	<input type="checkbox"/> \$450	<input type="checkbox"/> \$900
University Fee* <small>*applies to students staying at a hotel or commuting</small>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$450	<input type="checkbox"/> \$900

Optional On-Campus Roommate Request (Please submit to Melinda (melindam@cba.com) by June 1, 2026.)

If you are paying via credit card, please complete the info below. (VISA, MC & Discover are accepted.)

Name on Card

Company Name on the Card

Billing Address on Card

Card Number

Expiration Date

CVV

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Melinda McClelland, Senior Vice President of Career Development & Training (melindam@cba.com)
Community Bankers Association of Illinois - 901 Community Drive, Springfield, IL 62703



800.736.2224



217.585.8738



www.cba.com

SPONSORING ASSOCIATIONS

The Community Bankers School is a collaborative event with other community banking associations across the United States which include the groups below. Our mission? Community banks!



Independent Banks of South Carolina

