

Oklahoma Bankers 2026 Hall of Fame Award Overview and Process for Nomination

The Oklahoma Bankers Hall of Fame has been created by the OBA's Board of Directors to honor individual bankers for their contributions to the banking industry and the State of Oklahoma. In addition, the Hall of Fame is intended to recognize bankers' achievements on behalf of the Association's member banks.

Bankers make a difference in their communities every day. To rise to the level required for induction into the Hall of Fame, the Nominating Committee will examine whether the individual banker has made a difference beyond their local community. The Hall of Fame will also preserve the unique history of Oklahoma's banking greats.

The following criteria will be considered by the Nominating Committee when selecting individuals to be nominated for selection to the Hall of Fame:

- Affiliation (past or present) with an Association member bank;
- Service on boards or committees of the Association;
- Participation in the activities of banker trade associations at the national level, such as American Bankers Association and Independent Community Bankers of America;
- Contributions to the development, improvement and growth of the banking industry in Oklahoma;
- Whether the individual has had a significant impact on the manner in which financial services are provided to consumers;
- The individual has demonstrated the importance of community involvement and participation in the work of various community groups at the local, state and national levels; and
- The number of years of service to the State and the industry.

Nominations for induction into the Oklahoma Bankers Hall of Fame may be made by any bank employee of an Oklahoma bank. There is no limit on the number of nominees who can be presented to the Nominating Committee in any given year. Nominees may be either living or deceased. ***Nominations must be given to OBA President and CEO Adrian Beverage (adrian@oba.com).***

The Process:

- Nomination forms are available on the Association's website and can also be obtained by calling the Association (405/424-5252) or emailing info@oba.com;
- Nominations will be accepted at any time, provided the nomination for induction at a December ceremony planned in any one year has been received by the deadline (for 2026 that date is Aug. 31) of that same year;
- ***Nominations must be given to OBA President and CEO Adrian Beverage*** (adrian@oba.com).
- Nominations received after the deadline of any year will be included for consideration for the following year; and

Note:

- **For 2026, the deadline for nominations is Aug. 31.**
- **Application materials will be available on the front page of OBA.com.**

- After discussion with leadership at the Oklahoma Hall of Fame about its processes, and learning about other methods from other organizations, the induction procedure for the Oklahoma Bankers Hall of Fame has been updated.
- After all nominations have been received by OBA President and CEO Adrian Beverage, he will forward those nominees to the OBA chair (currently, Priscilla Cude), who will convene a committee of 11 individuals in September to select the inductees. These 11 individuals will be made up of the OBA's [Executive Committee](#), who will join a banker selected by the OBA chair from each of the OBA's [six geographical groups](#), as well as a member of the OBA Emerging Leaders Division. The specific committee members will be completely anonymous to everyone outside of the current OBA chair.

- These committee members will select the final inductees from the group of nominees given. They will also discuss any possible posthumous inductees who may have not been nominated.
- Once the inductees have been selected, the OBA chair will inform Beverage and notification and preparations will be made by the OBA staff for the induction ceremony, which will be held this year in December at the Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City.
- Following the 2026 selections, the current selection committee will disband and a new committee will be picked the following year by the next OBA chair. Aside from the OBA chair and executive committee, the selection committee will remain anonymous with only the committee members from that specific year knowing their identities.
- A plaque will be on display at the Association maintaining an ongoing recognition of each Hall of Fame inductee; and
- The Association will include the names of honorees in a news release that will be distributed to media outlets across the state.