



Bank Partner Eligibility & Participation

Below is an overview of what participation entails for the community bank partner:

Eligibility

- The bank must qualify as a community bank based on the [FDIC's 2012 research definition](#).
- The bank should have the capacity and willingness to engage in interviews and provide necessary documentation for the case study.

Commitment & Process

Agreement & Legal Requirements: Once the faculty advisor and bank agree to partner, all parties (bank, students, and faculty advisor) must sign a legal disclaimer before beginning any interviews or sharing bank information.

Initial Meeting: CSBS recommends an initial meeting between the faculty advisor and bank management before engaging the student team. This ensures alignment on expectations, scope, and logistics.

Interviews & Meetings with Student Team: Banks should expect to meet with the student team three to five times throughout the competition period.

- Meetings typically involve key bank representatives, such as:
- Chief Loan Officer
- Bank President or Vice President
- Communications/Marketing Representative
- The interviews will help the student team collect data, insights, and real-world experiences to develop their case study.

Video Component: The case study includes a video component, which may require an additional one to two days for filming.

Recommendations for the Bank Partner:

- Designate a primary point of contact within the bank to facilitate scheduling and communications.
- Ensure key executives are available for interviews within the agreed timeline.
- Be prepared to share insights, operational perspectives, and experiences relevant to the case study focus.