CALL FOR ENTRIES

Best SME Bank Awards 2023

Entry Deadline Extended To August 31, 2022
Submit your entry for Global Finance’s second annual Best SME Bank Awards today.

Small and medium enterprises (SMEs) are the backbone of the global economy, representing approximately 90% of all businesses worldwide and employing more than half of the global workforce, and they are playing a critical role in recovery from the pandemic.

Global Finance’s Best SME Bank Awards honor the financial institutions that best supported their SME clients during uniquely tumultuous times and have prepared them to thrive in the new, post-Covid landscape.

The reach and impact of Global Finance’s Best SME Bank Awards extends far beyond its readership in the corporate and financial sectors. These awards are amplified locally, regionally and globally through social media efforts, traditional media coverage and the marketing and promotion campaigns of winning organizations.

Global Finance’s awards and recognition programs are the trusted standard of excellence for the financial industry. They are backed by a 35-year history of editorial accuracy and integrity. Global Finance’s corporate and financial audience relies on these awards because they are credible, reliable and have stood the test of time.

Winners will be published in the December 2022 print and digital editions as well as on GFMag.com. In past years, most Global Finance award winners have been honored at a series of award ceremonies around the world. If global conditions allow, Global Finance will host an event for the SME Bank Awards, and winners will be notified about the date and location as far in advance as possible.
The distinction of being a *Global Finance* award honoree is a powerful marketing advantage every winner can and should use to stand out from and above their competitors.

Use of a *Global Finance* Awards Logo is one of the most powerful ways to amplify the status of an awards distinction. Usage rights are available on a stand-alone basis or as part of larger marketing packages.

Some of the ways *Global Finance* award winners have leveraged their status include:

- Recruitment and retention efforts
- Email signatures
- Advertising
- Social media campaigns
- Websites
- Employee motivation programs
- Investor relations information
- Pitch books
- Promotional materials
- Conference and event signage
- Stadium, airport and outdoor signage
- Branch signage
- Press and publicity efforts
- Promotional videos
- Annual reports
- Internal communications

Earning a *Global Finance* award also allows individual honorees as well as entire departments to stand out within their own organizations, leading to higher visibility across their industry sectors, improved staff retention and greater professional and personal recognition.
Global Finance will choose an overall global honoree. Winners will also be named regionally and in the countries, districts, territories and US regions listed here.

### REGIONAL AWARDS
- Africa
- Asia-Pacific
- Caribbean
- Central America
- Central & Eastern Europe
- Latin America
- Middle East
- North America
- Western Europe

### COUNTRY, TERRITORY AND DISTRICT AWARDS
- Argentina
- Armenia
- Austria
- Bahrain
- Brazil
- Cameroon
- Canada
- Chile
- Colombia
- Côte d’Ivoire
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Dominican Republic
- Ecuador
- Egypt
- France
- Georgia
- Germany
- Ghana
- Greece
- Hong Kong
- Hungary
- India
- Indonesia
- Ireland
- Israel
- Italy
- Japan
- Jordan
- Kazakhstan
- Kenya
- Kyrgyzstan
- Kuwait
- Malaysia
- Mauritius
- Mexico
- Moldova
- Mongolia
- Morocco
- Mozambique
- Netherlands
- Nigeria
- Norway
- Peru
- Poland
- Portugal
- Puerto Rico
- Qatar
- Saudi Arabia
- Singapore
- South Africa
- South Korea
- Spain
- Sri Lanka
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Taiwan
- Tanzania
- Thailand
- Turkey
- United Arab Emirates
- United Kingdom
- United States
- Uzbekistan
- Vietnam

### US REGIONAL AWARDS
- Mid-Atlantic
- Northwest
- Northeast
- Southeast
- Southwest
- West

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Send entries to: Giulia Cattani  giulia@gfinance.co.uk +44-207-929-0777

NO APPLICATION FEE
METHODOLOGY

Global Finance editors select the winners for the Best SME Bank Awards based on entries submitted by banks and independent research, with input from industry insiders, executives, and technology experts. This year's ratings are based on performance from April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022.

Global Finance uses a proprietary algorithm with criteria—such as knowledge of SME markets and needs, breadth of products and services, market standing, and innovation—weighted for relative importance. When more than one institution earns the same score, the judges favor local providers over global institutions and privately owned banks over government-owned ones. The winners are those banks that best meet the specialized needs of SMEs in their markets.

ENTRY PREPARATION

Take advantage of this opportunity to participate in the review process.

It is not necessary to enter in order to win, but in many cases, entrants are able to present information that may not be readily available to the editors.

Global Finance maintains best journalistic practices to protect the confidentiality of information supplied. Global Finance will respect confidentiality requests for material not in the public domain. However, any information that is not for publication must be clearly identified as such in the entry.

Please provide concise responses to the following:

1. Key financials: SME business as a percentage of total business; value of SME loans issued from April 1, 2021, to March 31, 2022; SME NPL ratio; percentage of the notional value of all SME loans as a percentage of the notional value of all loans issued; and the total value of all SME loans issued.
2. Please submit data to describe the scale of your SME banking operations, including any league tables or other comparisons with competitors.
3. Details of SME offerings that include types of loans; business, financial and tax advisory services; operational outsourcing strategic alliances; and locally targeted programs, specifically in the past year.
4. Data indicating market knowledge such as: firm's market share of the SME market, tenure within the SME market, and number of SME clients served currently.
5. Description of innovative steps taken in the past year to respond to pandemic conditions and improve the breadth and quality of SME services, such as deploying new technological platforms, strategic capital investments, and industry alliances.
6. Please include the following information as a cover sheet to your submission to ensure that it is processed properly:
   - Name of specific entity submitting (eg parent or subsidiary) exactly as it should appear on awards-related announcements
   - Award(s) Being Submitted For
   - Submission Contact Name/Title/Email
   - Communications/Marketing Contact/Name/Title/Email

PLEASE NOTE: If you do not receive confirmation of receipt of this Call For Entries from the contact listed at the bottom of this page within 48 hours of sending, please resend AND notify them to ensure your entry has been received and is processed correctly.

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