



## 2021 Community Bank Case Study Competition

### Overview & Student FAQ

The Community Bank Case Study competition is an academic competition where undergraduate student teams partner with local community banks to conduct original case studies. For the 2021 competition, student teams will examine how community banks have responded to major forces that impacted the nation this year: the Covid-19 pandemic and a renewed commitment to diversity and inclusion.

The competition is facilitated by the Conference of State Bank Supervisors, the nationwide organization of banking regulators from all 50 states and the U.S. territories. The goal of the competition is to build a further understanding of the community banking business model and the role community banks play in local communities, to connect students with bank executives, and to highlight the ways community banks impact local economic development. The competition will provide an opportunity for students to sharpen their quantitative and qualitative analysis skills. Students on the first place team will:

- Receive a \$1,000 scholarship per student and faculty advisor;
- Be invited to present their research in front of regulators, academics and industry stakeholders the CSBS-Federal Reserve Community Banking in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Research and Policy Conference; and
- Be published in the CSBS Journal of Community Bank Case Studies.

Second and third place teams will also receive scholarships, and have their works published in the journal. Works of student team finalists will be considered for publication.

*For questions or comments contact [khoyle@csbs.org](mailto:khoyle@csbs.org) or call 202-808-3556.*

### Competition Timeline

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- **September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020** – The Case Study topic is released to the public, and the application portal can be found here: [www.csbs.org/bankcasestudy](http://www.csbs.org/bankcasestudy)
- **January 11, 2021** – To participate, faculty advisors must submit a Statement of Interest on the CSBS Community Bank Case Study Website by this date. Faculty advisors are **not** expected to have a full student team or community bank partner when the Statement of Interest is submitted. Teams without a Statement of Interest by this date will not be considered.
- **February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021** – Deadline for students to register and for community bank partnerships to be secured.
- **May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021** – Final papers and videos are due by 12:00 noon ET.

**Learn more about the Community Bank Case Study Competition at <http://www.csbs.org/bankcasestudy/>**



## Frequently Asked Questions:

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### Am I Eligible to Participate?

To be eligible to participate in the Community Bank Case Study Competition, you must:

- Currently be enrolled in a university or college as an undergraduate during the full case study competition timeframe (September – May);
- Be able to provide proof of college or university registration; and
- Be a part of a team consisting of 3-5 students with a school faculty member sponsor.

### How do I join a team?

In some cases, professors may already have students in mind that they think would make great team members for the competition. In this case, the professor will approach you. In other cases, it may be necessary for you to approach a professor to inform him/her about the competition, ask the professor to sponsor a team, and work with the professor to find other team members.

Professors must express their interest in participating in the competition by submitting a Statement of Interest on or before January 11, 2021. Student teams and community bank partnerships must be finalized by February 22, 2021.

### How do I register?

- **Your team's faculty advisor must submit a Statement of Interest** on behalf of the student team at <http://www.csbs.org/bankcasestudy>. You must have a faculty advisor to participate.
- After your advisor has submitted a Statement of Interest, the next step is to register as a student. The link for student registration will be active on the Community Bank Case Study website on January 11, 2021.

### What are the responsibilities of the team?

- Your team will be expected to submit a case study research paper no more than 25 pages in length and an optional video that is no more than 5 minutes.
- Your team should look to your faculty advisor to help establish a relationship with a local community bank for your project. If your team needs assistance with this, please contact Katie Hoyle ([khoyle@csbs.org](mailto:khoyle@csbs.org)).
- Your team is responsible for engaging the community bank, gathering data, and producing an original research paper and video.
- Your team is permitted to delineate responsibilities among team members as you see fit.



## What is the focus of the Case Study?

Under the direction of a school professor, the student team must conduct an original case study that examines how community banks have responded to major forces that impacted the nation this year: the Covid-19 pandemic and a renewed commitment to diversity and inclusion. [Click here](#) to view the full topic.

See the case study website for the 2021 Case Study Question here: [www.csbs.org/bankcasestudy](http://www.csbs.org/bankcasestudy)

## What is the competition timeline?

Competition deadlines and timeline is below.

- **September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020** - Applications become available for academics to submit Statements of Interest at [www.csbs.org/bankcasestudy](http://www.csbs.org/bankcasestudy).
- **September 2020 – January 2021** – Email notifications of acceptance sent to faculty.
- **January 11, 2021** - Competition closes for submission of Statements of Interest.
- **January 11, 2021** – Student registration opens.
- **September 2020 – February 2021** – Faculty sponsors should begin forming student teams and seeking community bank partnerships.
- **February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021** – Student team members and community bank partnerships must be finalized to continue in the competition.
- **September 2020 – May 2021** – The case study work period.
- **May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021** - Student teams must submit final papers and videos by Monday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 12 noon ET.
- **May 17<sup>th</sup> – June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021** – Judges will meet to evaluate and score case studies.
- **June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021** – 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> place teams will be announced.
- **October 2021 (TBD)** – Winning team attends 2021 CSBS – Federal Reserve Community Banking in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Research and Policy Conference.

With questions, please contact [khoyle@csbs.org](mailto:khoyle@csbs.org), and a staff member will assist.