

Making a Case for GSB: Leadership. Strategy. Results.

I'd like to request support to attend the Graduate School of Banking at UW–Madison—a proven program for developing strong, forward-thinking bank leaders.

Over 25 months, I'll complete projects tied directly to our bank's goals, gain real-world tools from expert faculty, and earn both a GSB diploma and a Certificate in Executive Leadership from the Wisconsin School of Business. It's a great opportunity to grow as a leader and bring immediate, practical value to our bank.

I hope we can discuss how this aligns with our priorities. Here are some key highlights:

1. Immediate Impact for Our Bank

- Real-world application: GSB's 'learn and apply' approach ensures I can immediately leverage tools and knowledge in my role.
- Interession Projects: I will apply classroom knowledge to some of our bank's complex, real-time challenges.
- Expert Instruction: Courses are taught by seasoned bankers and industry leaders with proven, practical insights.
- Bank Simulation. FiSim serves as the capstone that brings it all together—challenging me to make real-time decisions, solve problems, and run a bank in a competitive, risk-based environment.

2. Dual Credentials

- GSB Diploma certifies advanced banking education and brings an 80-year track record of success.
- Executive Leadership Certificate (through UW-Madison's Wisconsin School of Business) adds recognized leadership credibility and strategic development.

3. Financial Assistance and Institutional Support

- GSB offers more than \$175,000 in annual scholarships through the Herbert V. Prochnow Educational Foundation.
- Tuition for 2026 is \$5,650/year (plus \$350 registration)—this includes materials, lodging, and meals.

We face an increasingly complex competitive environment. Fintech innovation, AI, cybersecurity, digital currencies, and workforce transformation are just a few of the challenges we're confronting. GSB's evolving, innovative curriculum will give me the tools to bring even greater value to our bank.

Additionally, one of the most powerful aspects of GSB attendance is building lasting relationships with peers from a diverse range of banks across the United States. These connections offer a trusted network for sharing ideas, solving challenges, and staying ahead of industry trends—long after the program ends.

Thank you for considering this.