

54TH ANNUAL



**FLORIDA  
SCHOOL  
OF  
BANKING**

FLORIDA BANKERS ASSOCIATION

**AUGUST 4 - 10, 2024**

Reitz Student Union  
University of Florida  
Gainesville



**REGISTER ONLINE AT:  
[WWW.FLORIDABANKERS.COM](http://WWW.FLORIDABANKERS.COM)**



AUGUST 4 – 10, 2024 | GAINESVILLE, FL

## 54<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL FLORIDA SCHOOL OF BANKING

The purpose of the Florida School of Banking is to provide bank personnel at the supervisory and officer level the opportunity to increase their knowledge about the banking industry and the economy. It is conducted as a three-year program and annual sessions must be taken in sequence, and it is presumed that once students are enrolled in the first-year course, they will continue through the second and third years to graduation.

The School remains current and relevant, as attested by its over 3,000 graduates, and continues to offer an excellent educational opportunity.

### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The Registrar and the School Board of directors will decide on all applicants for admission. The following admission requirements are to be met by the first day of the School session. Special circumstances will be considered on an individual basis.

1. To receive the member rate, an applicant must be an employee of a member bank of the Florida Bankers Association, any other out-of-State Bankers Association or a regulatory agency.
2. The applicant must be a high school graduate.
3. The applicant must have had four years of banking experience prior to the opening date of the School. Two years of college education may be substituted for two years of banking experience.
4. All applicants must have the recommendation of a nominating officer authorized by the bank.
5. All incoming students will be required to complete a Banking 101 webinar series prior to commencing the School of Banking which will be provided.



## MEET OUR TEAM



**Susan Blackburn**  
Senior Class Director  
Regional Community Bank  
Director, Seacoast Bank



**Connie Nelson**  
Junior Class Director  
SVP & CFO, United Southern  
Bank



**Karen Sharp**  
Freshmen Class Director  
Director  
BankMiami (in organization)



**Alex Soto**  
Associate Class Director  
SVP & Head of Domestic  
Preferred Banking,  
International Finance Bank



**Marilyn Matherne**  
Director of Education,  
Florida Bankers Association



**Olga Williams**  
School Registrar  
Professional Development  
Coordinator, Florida Bankers  
Association



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**54<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL FLORIDA SCHOOL OF BANKING****ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS:**

All applicants will agree to attend all classes during the resident session and to complete the required work, including home study problems. Senior students may leave campus after the Graduation Ceremony Friday evening. Freshman and Junior students agree to participate in a final examination on Saturday morning. Participants are expected to attend all sessions.

Absences may be excused only because of illness, catastrophe or extenuating circumstances, based on a written statement submitted to, and approved by, the School Board prior to or during the School week, and last for no more than one day. Business appointments, member contacts, and travel convenience are not considered “extenuating circumstances”. In order to receive credit, absence must be excused. If your absence is unexcused, and you miss class, you will not receive credit for your school week.

**Final Exams:** An examination based on the lectures and prepared from questions submitted by the faculty will be taken by Freshman and Junior students on Saturday morning. Senior students will not take a final exam. The School Board has determined that it is more beneficial for the Seniors to concentrate completely on the bank simulation and their bank board presentations. Final exam grades will be mailed to students and their sponsoring bank or firm.

At the completion of your final year at the School, we will mail you an official transcript letter with your grades to the address you listed on your application. Should you need an additional copy for your employment records, you may request a letter by contacting the School Registrar.

**Home Study Problems:** Between your freshman and junior years, students will be assigned three home study problems (HSPs) to be submitted. HSPs are expected to be submitted on time. Students will be automatically dropped from the School if the HSPs are submitted thirty days past the assigned due date. Satisfactory completion of all home study problems is a prerequisite for readmission to the School. Should you need an additional copy for your employment records, you may request a letter by contacting the School Registrar.

**Executive Leadership Discussion Panel:** All Freshman will attend a Tuesday late afternoon session discussing current banking issues with executive bank officers followed by questions and answers from the students. Attendance for Juniors is optional.

**Bank Management Simulation:** Senior students will divide into “bank teams” as part of the bank management computer simulation. The simulation provides students with an opportunity to examine statistical data and make a series of decisions regarding the operation of a simulated bank. The simulation begins on Sunday afternoon from 1:15 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Sunday evening from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Attendance at the computer simulation is required of all Senior students.

**HOTEL INFORMATION**

Call the hotel and identify yourself with the FBA 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Florida School of Banking for the \$165 room rate.

**August 4 - 10, 2024**

Hilton University of Florida Conference Center  
1714 SW 34<sup>th</sup> Street, Gainesville, FL 32607  
Tel.(352) 371-3600

The hotel provides complimentary breakfast, self-parking and WIFI.

Online Hotel Booking Link – [Click Here](#)

Please make your reservations before 5:00 p.m. on July 4, 2024

**Graduation:** Graduation for the Senior students will be held at 7:00 p.m. Friday, August 9th. Friends, relatives, and business associates of the graduates are invited to attend. All Freshman and Junior students are expected to attend.

**Honor Graduate Award:** Each year, the School Board chooses one Senior class student to be singled out as the School Honor Graduate. Criteria for this designation includes: scholastic achievement during the three- year course of study, contribution to and participation in class, and overall personal contribution within the student body. The pool of eligible candidates is composed of those students in the top 10% of their class scholastically and who is employed by a member bank. The honor graduate award is announced at the graduation on Friday evening.

**Hotel/Housing:** Each student must make and pay for their own sleeping room reservation for the week at the School. It is recommended that students stay at the Hilton Conference Center, (1714 SW 34<sup>th</sup> St., Gainesville, FL, 32607, 352-371-3600, [www.uf.hilton.com](http://www.uf.hilton.com)) which is in close proximity to the Reitz Union and has accommodated our students for many years with much success and reliability. To make reservations call 800- 445-8667 and identify yourself with the Florida Bankers Association 2024, to secure the \$165 room rate. **The cut- off date to make a reservation is July 4, 2024 at 5pm.** Please note, however, that the decision of where to stay for the week is solely up to the student and their supervisor.

**Meals:** Lunch will be provided and located on the University of Florida campus. A variety of eating establishments from fast food to cafeterias will be available. The School will provide each student with a \$15 per day meal card as part of their registration fee, giving them access to establishments on campus. The first official function will be the banquet at 5:00 p.m. Sunday evening, August 4th. The last meal to be served will be a full breakfast on Saturday, August 10th.

**Registration Costs:****FBA MEMBER INSTITUTION**

By 4/4/24	\$1,495
After 4/4/24	\$1,695

Non-Member Institution	\$3,390
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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **How do I access the Online Student Portal?**

This online tool offers resources such as the ability to view grades, class course materials, a FAQ section that answers common questions and much more! The grades are updated in real-time and includes all HSP and exam results. If you need to reset your password, you may do so by clicking the “forgot my password” function on the home page.

### **I misplaced my Student ID. Where can I find my information?**

Your Student ID number is needed for all Home Study Problems and exams. Your ID can be found by logging into the Online Student Portal, clicking on Help Center and then clicking on “View Student ID”.

### **Do I get to see the questions/answers that I’ve missed on the Home Study Problems?**

To keep the integrity of the Home Study Problems and exams, we are unable to release the questions or answers that were missed.

### **If I submit my HSP assignment early, do I get my grade earlier?**

Unfortunately, no. We grade the HSP assignments once all the assignments are turned in by your classmates but, by having them turned in early, you do not have to worry about receiving a late penalty.

### **When do we get the results from our assignments and exams?**

Grades will typically be posted to the Online Student Portal within two weeks of the exam or due date but, staff will do its best to get the grades posted as soon as they are graded. Written assignments take on average 4-6 weeks to be graded. Once grades are uploaded to the Online Student Portal, you will receive an email notification.

### **FBA Education Contact:**

Olga Williams  
(850) 701-3501  
ojwilliams@floridabankers.com

Please register online at  
[www.floridabankers.com](http://www.floridabankers.com)



2023 Florida School of Banking Students

**Location:** The Florida School of Banking uses the J. Wayne Reitz Student Union facilities on the University of Florida campus in Gainesville. If traveling by car, exit off I-75 at SR 24 (#384, Archer Road), drive east to Gale Lemerand Drive, turn left, go to the light at Museum Road, and then turn right. The student union is one block down immediately on the left behind the parking garage.

**Attire:** The School is conducted in an informal workshop atmosphere. Casual clothes are recommended for wear throughout the week. Classrooms are air-conditioned so you should bring appropriate clothing. Seniors need to wear business attire on Friday, August 9th for their bank simulation board presentations as well as the graduation. Freshman and Junior students are expected to wear business casual at the graduation ceremony.

**Code of Ethics and Conduct:** The Florida Bankers Association (FBA) and the Florida School of Banking (FSB) recognize that it takes more than quality education and a commitment to the bankers that it serves to be successful in accomplishing our mission. We rely heavily on our solid reputation for honesty, fairness and ethical conduct to attract our students, recruit quality instructors and retain the high level of bank support and respect that we have worked so hard to achieve. Our reputation ultimately rests on the good judgment and personal integrity of everyone – staff, students, instructors, and all other individuals and organizations who are involved with the FBA/FSB. Any variance from the standards established by this code shall be unacceptable.

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